



McAfee School of Theology on Mercer University's Cecil B. Day Campus in Atlanta

MERCER UNIVERSITY

announces a National Search for the
**Dean of
James and Carolyn McAfee
School of Theology**

Dean of the James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology

Mercer University invites applications and nominations for the **Dean of the James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology** in Atlanta, Georgia. The successful candidate will begin July 2015. This leadership position provides an exceptional opportunity for an experienced academic administrator to guide this independent theology school in its commitment to preparing men and women to serve in Christian ministry globally.



THE OPPORTUNITY

After serving nearly 20 years as the founding dean of McAfee School of Theology, Dr. Alan Culpepper has announced plans to step down from the deanship in 2015. Under his distinguished leadership, McAfee has established a solid foundation of theological education of both graduate and doctoral programs, attracted nationally recognized faculty, and graduated more than 600 alumni, who are making an impact for the Kingdom of God.

Mercer seeks a theology leader who will continue to advance the School to its fullest potential in accomplishing

its mission. The next dean will have a heart for preparing men and women for ministry while embracing diversity, collaboration, collegiality and a global vision.

Responsibilities will include:

- Supervise the development, planning, implementation, administration, and continuous improvement of all academic curricula and programs, support services and administrative functions of the School, including operating policies and procedures and student recruitment
- Advance research, scholarly and creative activity within the School,



in keeping with institutional initiatives and resources

- Cast a vision for the School, developing long-term goals and strategic plans
- Develop and manage budgets for the School
- Advance excellence in teaching by supporting, encouraging, and managing faculty development and evaluation

QUALIFICATIONS

A Ph.D. or Th.D. from an accredited institution and at least five years of distinguished teaching experience that includes at least three years

Mission Statement

The Mission of the McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University is to extend the mission of the Church in the world by equipping women and men called of God for authentic ministry, the pursuit of spiritual maturity, and the lifelong process of theological inquiry. We are a community:

Centered on God in Jesus Christ,
Led by the Holy Spirit,
Guided by sacred Scripture,
Founded on the heritage of Baptists,
and Committed to the ministry of the Church.

Vision Statement

Our vision is to graduate ministers whose passion for God and neighbor leads Christian communities to integrate head and heart, worship and witness, tradition and innovation, responsible theological inquiry and prophetic vision.



of administrative experience are preferred. A demonstrated history of academic leadership, budget accountability, student recruitment, and a commitment to fundraising are also preferred. Candidates must have the ability to manage people well while articulating a strategic vision for the future.

While being a member of a Baptist church is not required, the successful candidate must have a deep understanding of and appreciation for the Baptist tradition and be fully committed to the founding principles of the School. (See page 4.)

Other qualifications include:

- Ability to cultivate relationships with churches, organizations, and educational programs that will benefit the School's teaching, research, and outreach programs
- Exceptional oral and written communication skills
- Commitment to diversity, with enthusiasm to reach out to under-represented populations
- Influence to attract nationally recognized faculty and speakers
- Successful fundraising and resource development experience
- Ability to develop new relationships

and partnerships and nurture present ones that support the School's vision, mission, and goals

McAFEE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Founded in 1996, The James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology offers degree programs leading to a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry, Master of Divinity, and Doctor of

Ministry. The School also offers several joint programs: an M.Div.-Master of Business Administration, M.Div.-Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, and M.Div.-Master of Science in Organizational Leadership with a Concentration in Non-Profit.

The faculty is committed to nurturing the spiritual life and character of students in a community that values both authentic scholarship and authentic piety. The School equips students for Christian leadership through personal mentoring, challenging courses, community worship, and the integration of scholarship and experience in the practical tasks of ministry.

Fall 2014 enrollment is 209 students, with 15 in the graduate program and 194 in the professional. While 54 percent of the students are Baptists, other denominations represented include Methodist, Presbyterian, African Methodist, Church of God, Assembly of God, Seventh-Day Adventist, Pentecostal, Lutheran, Evangelical, and Episcopal.

McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University offers a fully integrated program of study that places theological education in the twin contexts of a

strong university and vibrant partner-churches. The curriculum is planned around the three convictions that a minister needs 1) to know certain things, 2) to be prepared to do a wide variety of practical tasks, and 3) to be a person of spiritual depth and maturity. Each course in the curriculum are planned around these needs, as well as integrated with the other disciplines of the theological curriculum.

McAfee is home to three distinct Mercer Centers:

The Baugh Center for Baptist Leadership offers academic programs and promotes research initiatives that bring students, professors, pastors, and other Baptist leaders into collaborative relationships.

The Center for Theology and Public Life promotes public dialogue, research, and constructive solutions related to important public issues to which theology and ethical reflection can make a significant contribution.

The Center for Teaching Churches is a pioneer effort to fill the transitional and educational need for McAfee's newly graduated ministers. It is also an opportunity for churches to extend their ministries by partnering with McAfee in the training of ministers.

MERCER UNIVERSITY

Mercer University is one of America's oldest and most distinctive institutions of higher learning, offering rigorous programs that span the undergraduate liberal arts to doctoral-level degrees.

Founded by Baptists in 1833, Mercer today is an independent university that remains grounded in a tradition that embraces freedom of the mind and spirit, cherishes the equal worth of every individual, and commits to serving the needs of humankind.

Dean of the James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology



Mercer has more than 8,500 students from 43 states and 64 foreign countries enrolled in 12 schools and colleges on campuses in Macon, Atlanta, and Savannah; three medical school sites in Macon, Savannah, and Columbus; and at four Regional Academic Centers around the state. In 2013-2014, the University awarded 2,318 degrees.

The University is consistently ranked among the nation's leading institutions by such publications as *U.S. News & World Report*, which in 2014 named Mercer as the No. 1 Best Value in the South. Mercer's more than 71,000 alumni are making important contributions to their professions and communities throughout Georgia, the Southeast, and the world.

The Ten Founding Principles of the McAfee School of Theology

Based on Jesse Mercer's vision, the McAfee School of Theology is founded on ten principles that have guided its inception and will continue to guide its formation and character:

1. The School shall be founded upon the belief that Jesus Christ is the Word of God, the center and focus of faith.
2. The School shall spring from Mercer University's conviction about its own vocation as an institution, borne and nurtured by Baptists and Baptist churches and committed to undergirding the work and witness of the church as a community of faith.
3. The School shall seek to educate students who are:
 - literate and disciplined in the study of sacred scripture;
 - articulate in understanding the historical and theological issues of faith;
 - effective preachers and interpreters of the Christian gospel;
 - wise and compassionate in personal and social ministry;
 - prepared to integrate faith and life in the spiritual formation of congregations.
4. The School shall be devoted to the preparation of men and women who combine the call of God's spirit with the intellectual gifts, the emotional maturity, and the spiritual discipline to become effective and responsible pastors and leaders in ministry.
5. The School shall be inclusive in spirit and practice, affirming the open search for truth, and fostering tolerance for religious and intellectual diversity.
6. By underscoring both scholarly discipline and the experience of ministry, the School shall seek to break through the dichotomy of theory and practice, claiming both reason and compassion, the mind and the heart as gifts of God and conceiving ministry as bringing the sacred to bear upon every dimension of human experience.
7. The School shall hold steadfastly to the high and defining traditions of Baptists, including the priesthood of believers, the separation of church and state, the autonomy of the local congregations as the context for mission and ministry, the centrality of scripture to the life of faith, and the resolve that neither creeds nor human affirmations of faith should stand as tests of orthodoxy.
8. While holding firmly to its high calling and to its specific responsibility for theological education among Baptists, the School shall also accept its responsibility to embrace the whole world as the creation of God and to serve the wider Christian community as the people of God who are called to live out God's purpose and presence in the world.
9. The School shall embody the historical traditions of Mercer University, valuing both intellectual freedom and the affirmation of faith as the foundations of the University.
10. The School shall serve as a continuing resource to churches, pastors, and professionals in ministry for their continuing education and as a reference and placement service for churches, pastors, and other church leaders.

ABOUT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

McAfee School of Theology is located on Mercer's Cecil B. Day Graduate and Professional Campus. The campus is also home to the College of Pharmacy, the College of Health Professions, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing and Penfield College, along with programs of the Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics, Tift College of Education and the English Language Institute.

Downtown Atlanta is only 13 miles south on I-85. Despite a metropolitan population of more than five million and one of the world's busiest airports, Atlanta is known for its friendly Southern hospitality, rolling hills, and beautiful trees.

Considered a top business and transportation hub, the city has the third largest concentration of the nation's *Fortune 500* companies, including the world headquarters of The Coca-Cola Company, Delta Air Lines, and United Parcel Service.

Complementing its vast business community, Atlanta is a major center for cultural, entertainment, and athletic activities. Live theatre, opera, ballet, symphonies, concerts, and festivals are among the offerings of the city. Sports fans enjoy a full range of activities from major league baseball, football, basketball and hockey to PGA golf tournaments and the annual world renowned Peachtree Road Race.



Administration and Conference Center on the Cecil B. Day Campus in Atlanta

NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATION PROCESS

Confidential inquiries are welcomed; nominations are invited. They should include the name, current position, e-mail address, and telephone number of the individual being nominated.

An application should include a letter describing relevant experiences and interest in the position; a curriculum vitae; a statement of leadership vision; and five professional references. References will not be contacted without consent from applicant.

Nominations and application materials must be submitted to:

Mercer-Theology@myersmcrac.com

For best consideration, materials should be submitted by March 13, 2015.

Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting is assisting Mercer University with this search. The consultants are:

Emily Parker Myers, *President and CEO*

Hunter Godsey, *Vice President*



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EXECUTIVE SEARCH AND CONSULTING

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