



Faculty Director, Translational Data Analytics Institute Position Description

The Ohio State University invites applications and nominations for the position of Faculty Director of the Translational Data Analytics Institute. Candidates should have an exceptional research record in data science or related fields; scientific leadership and vision; experience and capability to manage an academic unit or university-level center, including the ability to develop and execute a strategic vision; develop new projects and programs; mentor early career faculty and junior researchers, and administer the Institute; and an ability to connect to a wide range of constituents in academia, industry, foundations, and government. Candidates could come from a wide range of professional backgrounds that involve data science.

The Faculty Director will be expected to work with TDAI leadership to envision, build, and sustain multi-disciplinary research partnerships and initiatives within the university and in the wider entrepreneurial ecosystem. The ideal Faculty Director will enhance Ohio State's prominence as a leader in data science research and education across a range of rapidly evolving fields.

Translational Data Analytics Institute

The [Translational Data Analytics Institute](#) (TDAI) began in 2014, with a mission to realize the university's commitment to make Ohio a global hub for the development, application and study of data analytics solutions. TDAI is a cornerstone of the university's Discovery Themes initiative, an investment of \$500 million in new talent and resources to provide solutions to the globe's most pressing challenges. TDAI is the largest Discovery Themes initiative, and to date has hired more than 50 faculty as joint appointments to TDAI and academic departments. The university plans to continue to hire additional faculty to expand Ohio State's expertise in the foundational data science disciplines and applied domains, including core data and decision science, precision agriculture, population health, and digital humanities. TDAI strategically complements the expertise of its established faculty throughout Ohio State's six campuses, 15 colleges, 105 departments, and more than 220 centers and institutes.

TDAI aims to build a renewable core of data science and analytics scholarship, to enable collaboration and innovation in translational data analytics, to co-develop externally responsive translational data analytics solutions with industry and community partners, and to expand the workforce capable of delivering translational data analytics solutions. TDAI has been a national leader in helping to define the meaning of "translational" in data science; in June 2017, TDAI co-chaired the NSF's inaugural Workshop on Translational Data Science.

In August of 2018, TDAI moved into new its new home in renovated [Pomerene Hall](#), offering 21,000 square feet of research, teaching, and innovation space. This transformation of a campus landmark is the result of a \$42 million investment. Set on the edge of Mirror Lake, the building houses spaces designed to spur discovery in the laboratory and the classroom, including open team environments; configurable project rooms; and unique laboratories for hardware, software, and visualization development.

The Position

The Faculty Director of the Translational Data Analytics Institute reports jointly to the TDAI Lead Dean and executive dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, and to the senior associate vice president for research at The Ohio State University. The Faculty Director will be expected to shape institutional priorities within a dynamic environment that values nimble adaptation, academic innovation, and commitment to excellence. The Faculty Director manages, oversees, and has budgetary oversight of TDAI.

The Faculty Director has responsibilities in the following areas:

- **Thought Leadership:** work collaboratively with the TDAI team, faculty and administration to further shape and enhance data science and analytics research at Ohio State;
- **Faculty Affairs:** recruit, retain, mentor, and evaluate TDAI-supported faculty, working in coordination with respective department chairs/directors and deans;
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** foster a culture that values, enhances, and promotes faculty, staff, students, and trainee diversity;
- **University Relations:** sustain ties and develop programmatic collaborations with other schools and units at the university; contribute to the development of university priorities and initiatives related to TDAI, including the formation of research teams and interdisciplinary research and learning programs;
- **Partnerships:** work with the TDAI Managing Director to develop appropriate and relevant industry partnerships, locally and nationally; form and lead advisory boards, as appropriate, to provide guidance and input on strategic opportunities;
- **Funding & Advancement:** identify and pursue extramural funding opportunities; engender support, secure external resources and promote the institute to university alumni, volunteers, and friends, in alignment with college-centric advancement goals;
- **Visibility:** initiate and promote internal and external outreach, engagement, marketing, and communication activities in support of TDAI; serve as the primary representative of TDAI at the university, regional, national, and international levels;
- **Academic Quality:** create and maintain a superior, innovative curriculum, including mentored research and research apprenticeships;
- **Student Experience and Success:** develop and sustain an inclusive and supportive learning environment; forge and foster community and corporate ties; create opportunities for students to engage in a purposeful educational experience within the data sciences;
- **Management:** oversee the Institute's operation including budget, staff, space, and shared resources to achieve the Institute's mission; ensure a financial return on investment.

Qualifications

Competitive candidates will have the following professional qualifications and personal characteristics:

- **Research Stature:** distinguished research accomplishments, commensurate with appointment at the rank of professor in an AAU institution;
- **Program Leadership:** proven ability in and a strong commitment to fostering team-based research, education, and translational activity in data science, including working with / overseeing professional and technical staff;
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** demonstrated record of increasing diversity and advancing a culture of inclusivity at every level of their current institutions: i.e., faculty, staff, and students;
- **Institutional Experience:** ability to navigate complex organizational structures with multi-faceted strategies, and especially the ability to work effectively with diverse groups of people, the capacity to listen, and the ability to gain trust and inspire others across the full spectrum

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of academic disciplines to further the Institute’s mission and programs;

- **Rainmaking Skill:** experience in identifying opportunities for and the garnering of resources— institutional, sponsored or philanthropic—and leveraging those to foster and multiply the impact of TDAI activities; ability to draw upon and build strong networks among translational data scientists;
- **Impact:** proven success in translating technical, social, and policy aspects of data analytics to solve real-world and global challenges;
- **Administrative Skill:** fiscally responsible and able to lead decision-making in finance, space, and related resources.

The University

The Ohio State University ranks among the nation’s top public research universities and has been a member of the AAU since 1916. The University enrolls 59,000 students at its main campus in Columbus and has approximately 200 undergraduate majors and more than 250 masters, doctoral, and professional degree programs. Ohio State is one of only a few universities in the U.S. that, in a single location, houses 15 different colleges, including seven health sciences colleges and a college of agriculture. The University is further recognized by a top-rated academic medical center and a premier cancer hospital and research center. As a land-grant university, Ohio State has a physical presence throughout the state, with campuses and research centers located around Ohio. Total annual research expenditures at the university are approximately \$865 million, of which \$465 million come from federal sources. Ohio State ranks fourth among all universities, and second among public universities, in industry-sponsored research. The university’s endowment exceeds \$4.25 billion.

The next Faculty Director will join Ohio State at a time of considerable achievement as well as opportunity. In 2016, the university completed its *But for Ohio State* capital campaign, raising more than \$3 billion against an original goal of \$2.5 billion, including funds for 39,000 student scholarships, 96 endowed chairs & professorships, and \$1 billion to support research. After the campaign concluded, President Michael V. Drake led the whole university community—faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends—through a process to discern OSU’s next institutional priorities. In August of 2017, the Ohio State University Board of Trustees endorsed a new [strategic vision](#) for the future of the university that builds on historic university highs in applications, graduation rates, academic excellence, diversity and donor support. The plan’s five pillars are:

- **Teaching and Learning:** Ohio State will be an exemplar of the best teaching, demonstrating leadership by adopting innovative, at-scale approaches to teaching and learning to improve student outcomes.
- **Access, Affordability and Excellence:** Ohio State will further its position as a leading public university offering an excellent, affordable education and promoting economic diversity.
- **Research and Creative Expression:** Ohio State will enhance its position among the top national and international public universities in research and creative expression, both across the institution and in targeted fields – driving significant advances for critical societal challenges.
- **Academic Health Care:** The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center will continue its ascent as a leading academic medical center, pioneering breakthrough health care solutions and improving people’s lives.
- **Operational Excellence and Resource Stewardship:** Ohio State will be an exemplar of best practices in resource stewardship, operational effectiveness, and efficiency and innovation.

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Guided by this vision, the university continues to re-invest in itself. In FY 2019, Ohio State projects revenues will grow to \$7.5 billion, an increase of 4.7% compared with Fiscal Year 2018. The growth is driven primarily by patient care at the Wexner Medical Center, which now represents 52% of the consolidated budget excluding investment income. For the academic enterprise, tuition and fees support 75% of the cost of instruction, with the remaining 25% funded through the State Share of Instruction. In all, the budget calls for \$6.9 billion in spending.

The City

The Columbus region is a dynamic and diverse 11-county metropolitan area in the midst of unprecedented economic growth. Home to 14 Fortune 100 and 5 Fortune 500 companies, Columbus is located at the heart of the most densely populated area of the United States and is a key point of access to U.S. businesses, supply chains, and consumers. Winner of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Smart City Challenge, the region is a living laboratory and stands at the forefront of emerging technologies, from advanced manufacturing to smart mobility research and development. Columbus is the largest city in Ohio, with a vibrant blend of arts and culture; inspired culinary, fashion, music and entertainment scenes; exciting collegiate and professional sports; and an open, entrepreneurial spirit. With a burgeoning downtown, lively urban districts and a diverse array of welcoming neighborhoods, the city has the 8th highest concentration of millennials in the nation and is the 14th largest city in the US. The Columbus region is also home to Battelle, the world's largest contract research and development organization; OCLC, a major provider of library services; the Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital, and the Transportation Research Center. For more information on the city and its potential, see: <https://columbusregion.com/>

The Search

Inquiries, nominations, and applications are invited. Although the search will remain open until the position is filled, candidate materials should be received as soon as possible. Candidates should provide a curriculum vitae, a letter of application that addresses the responsibilities and requirements described herein, and the names and contact information of five references. References will not be contacted without prior knowledge and approval of the candidate.

Materials should be sent electronically via e-mail to the University's consultant, Dr. Jonathan Fortescue of Park Square Executive Search, at 92340@parksquare.com. Documents that must be mailed may be sent to Jonathan Fortescue, Ph.D., Managing Partner, or Kyle Meingast, Principal, Park Square Executive Search, LLC, 125 Summer Street, 18th Floor, Boston, MA 02110. Phone: 617-401-2991.

The Ohio State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer committed to recruiting, supporting, and fostering a diverse community of outstanding faculty, staff, and students. All applicants who share this goal are encouraged to apply.