The University of Washington (UW) seeks a collaborative, visionary, and creative leader to serve as its next Dean of University Libraries (the Libraries). The next Dean will join the UW community at a critical moment for the nation and the globe; the University is focused on advancing innovation, enhancing population health, and accelerating systemic change toward justice and equity. UW aspires to grow academic programs of distinction, harnessing the creative power and energy of its community.

The Libraries is at the heart of UW’s academic life. A top 10-ranked public research library (Association of Research Libraries), the Libraries combines the richness of strong and deep collections with a mission of advancing discovery and enriching the quality of life by connecting people with knowledge. The next Dean will join a premiere comprehensive research university of exceptional intellectual breadth and learning located in one of the most vibrant cities in the world. The Dean will inherit a highly functional Libraries system with an incredibly talented staff and a total endowment of about $60 million, made up in large part by the Kenneth S. and Faye G. Allen1 endowment, currently valued at $31 million. This individual will leverage the University’s many assets, including the historic strength of the Libraries, while forging a new path that simultaneously respects the past and embraces the future.

The University of Washington is one of the world’s preeminent research universities and the oldest public university in the Pacific Northwest. As the state’s flagship university, it serves over 54,000 students across three campuses in the greater Seattle area.2 Under the leadership of President Ana Mari Cauce, the university has launched bold initiatives to address pressing societal challenges, many of which are centered around advancing principles of equity, justice, and inclusion.3 Originally created in 2015 and 2016, these multi-year initiatives are focused upon advancing the health of people around the world, combatting racism and inequities that exist at the university and throughout society, and enhancing innovation by providing space and opportunity for people from all backgrounds to connect, imagine, and discover. The University has deep and unwavering commitments in these areas, evidenced in part through this work, and aims to confront individual bias and racism, and transformation of institutional policies and practices to accelerate systemic change. In collaboration with others, the Dean will further these efforts, amongst others, and will build upon the Libraries many strengths while leading the Libraries through its next iteration of growth and distinction. In doing so, the Dean will address the following key opportunities and challenges:

- Create and execute on a strategic vision that reimagines the future of the Libraries;
- Continue to build an inclusive culture balanced with effective decision-making;
- Advance UW’s commitment to justice and equity;

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1In memory of Kenneth S. Allen’s service to the University Libraries, his son, Paul G. Allen, Microsoft co-founder, established the Kenneth S. Allen Library Endowment in 1989. In 2012, the endowment was renamed the Kenneth S. and Faye G. Allen Library Endowment in recognition and in memory of his parents, Ken and Faye Allen.
2For more information about the University of Washington, please refer to the appendix at the end of this document
3For more information on these specific presidential initiatives, please see: [https://www.washington.edu/leadership/initiatives/](https://www.washington.edu/leadership/initiatives/)

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• Address current physical and digital space and infrastructure needs;
• Generate resources while demonstrating prudent financial management; and
• Advocate for, represent, and promote the Libraries internally and externally.

A complete list of the desired qualifications and characteristics can be found at the conclusion of this document, which was produced with the support of Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm. All confidential applications, inquiries, and nominations should be directed to the parties listed at the end of this document.

About the University of Washington Libraries

The University of Washington Libraries is a user-centered academic library that welcomes over five million users annually to 16 libraries on three campuses and one island from Friday Harbor to UW Tacoma. The Libraries provides 24/7 online reference help by partnering with academic libraries around the world and use assessment tools with feedback from students, faculty, and staff to shape collections and services. With rich collections, the Libraries is home to the largest library collection in the Pacific Northwest with over nine million books, journals, millions of microforms, thousands of maps, rare books, film, audio and video recordings, and provide online access to thousands of academic ejournals, ebooks, databases, streamed audio and video, and datasets.

The Libraries supports the work of the University with world class collections that are particularly strong in STEM disciplines, Health Sciences, Asian Studies, International Studies, Book Arts, and Pacific Northwest history and culture, as well as other physical and online collections. The Libraries has collaborations and partnerships with the Writing and Research Center in Odegaard Undergraduate Library to provide one-on-one help sessions with students and is home to an interactive and technology-rich space, the Research Commons, for inquiry and presentation for students across diverse disciplines. The Libraries also collaborates with faculty in active learning classrooms where students are engaged through a new teaching model, and is a member of Association of College and Research Libraries, Association of Research Libraries, HathiTrust, and the Orbis Cascade Alliance.

Most recently, the new virtual Open Scholarship Commons (OSC), launched in October 2020, brings together Libraries consultation services, workshops, and events on a range of topics, and will provide a hub for cross-disciplinary knowledge creation and dissemination.

In addition, the University of Washington Press, the oldest and largest publisher of scholarly and general interest books in the Pacific Northwest, also falls under the Libraries purview. It is a founding member of the Association of University Presses and publishes compelling and transformative work with regional, national, and global impact. The Press is committed to the idea of scholarship as a public good and works collaboratively with authors from across the university, region and country, to produce books that meet the highest editorial and design standards, while valuing and promoting equity, justice, and inclusion in all its work.

The Libraries has about 350 FTE employees, including 148 librarians, 192 professional and support staff, and 100 student employees. Additionally, the Libraries has:

• 8.15 million print volumes
• 1.35 million electronic books; 1.1 million e-book uses
• 90,000 electronic journals; 7 million Libraries licensed journal articles downloaded
• 620 databases; 7.4 million searches
• Over 1.2 million locally digitized items; 2.4 million downloads
Search for the Dean of University Libraries
University of Washington

- 92,000 items provided through Interlibrary Loan.
- 5.5 million annual library visits
- 2.5 million visits to Suzzallo and Allen Libraries – largest libraries on campus
- 1.5 million visits to Odegaard Undergraduate Library
- 343,000 visits to UW Bothell Library
- 227,000 visits to UW Tacoma Library

The Libraries Context

As the Libraries envisions its future, it reaffirms its commitment to providing an intellectual environment that enhances discovery and supports research and learning. In the interdisciplinary University of the future where knowledge is created both within and at the edges of disciplines, the Libraries plays an important role as an intellectual commons that functions both physically and virtually.

The Libraries is an international leader in imagining, creating, and realizing the promise of the 21st century academic research library. As the intellectual and physical commons of the University, the Libraries advances discovery, encourages the growth of knowledge, and anticipates and meets the information needs of the diverse communities in which it serves. The Libraries prepares students for success in life as information smart global citizens.

The Libraries continues to create the “Any Time Any Place” Library as a component of its academic business plan, which is designed to provide a sustainable level of access to resources and services for the future. By providing an integrated environment of content, tools, and services to address a wide range of needs, far-flung locations, and different learning styles, the Libraries supports discovery and research by faculty, staff, and students throughout the three campus University. At the same time, the Libraries is committed to maintaining comfortable and inviting information spaces at all three campuses where interaction, consultation, and learning are supported.

The Libraries is committed to maintaining excellence in information resources and digital scholarship. To remain a world class library, the Libraries develops and maintains collections at the highest level possible across all relevant subjects and across an ever-broadening spectrum of formats and intellectual areas, and participates in consortia and other partnerships to leverage purchasing power and share resources most effectively. The Libraries meets the information needs of all the University’s disciplines at all three campuses and establishes repositories that preserve digital scholarship and the University’s knowledge assets. The Libraries also uses digital technologies to make the unique collections freely available to the world.

The Libraries promotes the creation of an information smart community. Librarians, through collaborations with other educators on all three campuses and beyond, ensure that graduates are information literate, able to find, select, and assess information, and therefore prepared to succeed in a global, diverse, knowledge society. Librarians continue to have a significant teaching role, working closely with faculty partners in curriculum development and delivery as well as helping with digital tools, enhancing the library as a learning place.

One Library: Three Campuses

The University of Washington Libraries operates as one library serving three campuses. 2020 marked the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Bothell and Tacoma campuses; looking to the future, the Libraries seeks to maintain and extend its role in the three campus libraries. Libraries staff are key to implementing the principle of One Library: Three Campuses and participate through a variety of collaborative approaches.
In order to facilitate access to the intellectual resources necessary for the exploration and creation of knowledge at all three campuses, the University of Washington Libraries is committed to providing comparable access to Libraries resources by all UW students, faculty and staff. To make such access possible, the Libraries shares relevant costs fairly and equitably among the three campuses and maximizes the value of its investment in its resources. Examples of functions and processes supported centrally whose costs are shared among the campuses include: licensing of electronic materials, integrated library system, acquisitions, cataloging, technical processing, interlibrary loan and document delivery, personnel, and administrative services. Such collaboration facilitates and enhances the development and maintenance of three distinctive campuses with complementary strengths.

It should also be noted that *U.S. News and World Report* ranks UW Information School’s Master of Library and Information Science number two in the country.

*Leadership Groups*

The **Libraries Cabinet** is made up of nine individuals and is the University Libraries’ senior leadership group. Cabinet members exercise their individual knowledge, strengths, and perspectives to provide leadership and advocate for the entire Libraries organization. Cabinet members are also responsible for ensuring that the Libraries fulfills its commitment to provide equitable resources and services to the University's three campuses.

The Cabinet functions as a collaborative team that advances the mission, vision, and values of the Libraries. The Cabinet sets, affirms, and adjusts as needed, the strategic directions of the Libraries as part of the strategic planning process and ensures that resources and structures are aligned with the strategic priorities. The Cabinet accomplishes this by making informed decisions as to policy and priorities, allocating resources, and communicating with Libraries staff, the University, and the external community.

The University of Washington **Libraries Council** serves as a forum for communicating information, discussing and reviewing system-wide initiatives, and participating in the development of the Libraries budget and other plans. The Council also reviews and makes recommendations on issues that impact the Libraries as identified by the Dean, the Libraries Cabinet, Libraries committees, and others. It serves as a sounding board for new initiatives or opportunities presented to the Libraries and contributes to the ongoing development, review, and implementation of the Libraries’ strategic plan and the Libraries’ Diversity Plan. For more information, including a membership list, visit: https://lib.uw.edu/dean/leadership/council

**The Faculty Council on University Libraries** is responsible for all matters of policy relating to libraries such as, but not limited to, collection development; services to students, faculty, and others; the system of libraries, including branch libraries; space needs; and budgetary requirements.

For more information on the University Libraries, visit: https://www.lib.washington.edu/

**The 2018-2023 University Libraries Strategic Plan**

The 2018-2023 Libraries Strategic Plan establishes the goals, guides decision-making, and shapes budgeting and resource allocation. The plan defines the key priorities, allowing the Libraries to rationalize what successful pursuits should continue, what new initiatives to begin, and what activities to modify or suspend in the interest of maximizing institutional and community impact.

In its commitment to provide comparable experiences for all UW students, faculty, and staff, the University Libraries operates on a principle of One Library: Three Campuses that involves collaborative planning,
centralized work functions, and shared outcomes that balance priorities in common with unique, local needs across the Bothell, Seattle, and Tacoma campuses.

The five pillars of the strategic plan are:

- Advance Research for the Public Good
- Enrich the Student Experience
- Enhance Equitable Environments for Research, Learning, and Working
- Accelerate Scholarship and Learning through Responsive Collection
- Grow as a Learning Organization

For more information on the strategic plan, visit: https://www.lib.washington.edu/about/strategicplan/pdf

Role of the Dean of University Libraries

Reporting to the Provost, the Dean of University Libraries serves as the chief executive officer and primary advocate for the University Libraries, is the head of the Libraries cabinet, member of the Libraries Council, member of the Board of Deans and Chancellors, and president’s designee of the Faculty Council on University Libraries.

Reporting to the Dean is the Libraries cabinet, which includes: Associate Dean of University Libraries/Director of the UW Bothell & Cascadia Library; Associate Dean of University Libraries/Director of the UW Tacoma Library; Associate Dean of University Libraries for Distinctive Collections; Assistant Dean of University Libraries for Administrative Services; Associate Dean of University Libraries for Collections and Content; Associate Dean for Research and Learning Services; Assistant Dean of University Libraries for Advancement; Associate Dean for Health Sciences; and the Director of the Press.

The Dean will oversee about an $89.5 million biennial budget and about a $60 million Libraries endowments.

Key Opportunities and Challenges for the Dean

The Dean is responsible for the leadership and administration of the University Libraries, overseeing innovation and development in the areas of user services, collections and resources, management and infrastructure, cooperative initiatives and outreach, and support and funding. The Dean will articulate a clear vision for the role of the academic research library; will continue to oversee the implementation of the Libraries strategic plan that supports the University’s academic priorities, curricula, and research; and will represent the Libraries to campus administration and external audiences, including capitalizing on development opportunities and expanding donor support.

Specifically, the Dean must address the following key opportunities and challenges:

Create and execute on a strategic vision that reimagines the future of the Libraries

The next Dean must have a deep understanding of the changing role of academic libraries in the 21st century, including student success, online learning and innovation, open access with respect to digital content and physical spaces, scholarly publishing reform, knowledge curation, and the continued development of both print and digital collections. With the current Libraries strategic plan winding down, the Dean must assess what has been accomplished and what still needs to be achieved and develop outcomes driven metrics as they embark on the next iteration of planning. At the same time, the next Dean must also
preserve the key services that a library traditionally provides, and value the continued need for the Libraries as a convening and study space.

The next strategic plan must include how to continue to build out the Libraries’ digital infrastructure, support digital literacy and citizenry, and leverage technology in new and exciting ways. The Libraries must build off the innovative work that is already occurring in this arena\(^4\) and continue to provide access to novel specialty specific resources. The next Dean must proceed incrementally, preserving print resources and highly valued special collections of the past with an eye towards innovation that adopts and implements the emerging technologies of the future.

**Continue to build an equitable and inclusive culture balanced with effective decision-making**

The Libraries prides itself on a culture of collaboration and consultation. This transparency has added to the positive culture in the Libraries and has contributed to the cooperative spirit that exists among the staff. There is a strong sense of shared ethos, characterized by a commitment to inclusive excellence as well as the Libraries’ service to the University, its users, and the state. The next Dean will believe in and support this type of working environment, while pushing the organization forward through calculated risk-taking. This individual will continue to promote an already well-established culture of service, leading an enthusiastic library staff in the direction of a shared and well-articulated vision of the future and will be a strong advocate for the library staff and their part in that future.

**Advance UW’s commitment to justice and equity**

The University enrolls a talented and diverse student body and is proud of its efforts to enhance and sustain diversity in its myriad forms, including race, gender, sexual identity, sexual orientation, class, religion, disability, and veteran status. The next Dean must support, broaden, and enrich the educational and co-curricular experience to ensure that all students, faculty and staff, and the broader community, feels part of and can contribute to these efforts. The Dean will recruit, retain, and develop a diverse and inclusive libraries staff and aim to build a more equitable environment, pushing against systemic or structural barriers to this work. Furthermore, the Dean will ensure the Libraries will continue to serve the diversity of the greater community at large, and will work to further diversify and make accessible its collections for the public. These are core commitments for UW and central to the day-to-day functioning of the library. As such, the Dean must clearly embrace and embody them.

**Address current physical and digital space and infrastructure needs**

The next Dean will lead a process of identifying creative use and reuse of library spaces, mindful of the evolution of needs and space while also supporting the seamless integration of study, teaching, and research with library collections and services. The Dean will partner with University administration to tackle some of the deferred maintained issues as they look to improve facilities. This person will capitalize on the progress already being made, including the $8M renovation project of the fourth floor of the Sand Point Shelving Facility. The Dean will oversee major space decisions and create funding mechanisms for desired projects.

The Dean must also continue to create and maintain technology infrastructure. This person will be a systems thinker in the technology domain, understanding the breadth of technology needs in a research library environment and campus setting with collaborative partnerships.

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\(^4\)One example is the Translational Research and Information Lab (TRAIL), a multi-unit partnership that provides services to healthcare researchers. For more information, visit: [https://hsl.uw.edu/trail/](https://hsl.uw.edu/trail/)

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Generate resources while demonstrating prudent financial management

The Libraries has a substantial budget that requires strategic and judicious management. In the current fiscal climate, all resources must be used wisely and thoughtfully; therefore, this role requires a Dean who is talented and skilled in both leveraging existing funds as well as procuring new resources. The Dean will continually make strategic budget decisions that addresses current and emerging challenges, such as the rising cost of electronic resources.

The next Dean will also successfully develop opportunities for individual giving and grants. The Libraries has a strong track record of fundraising, particularly in recent years, punctuated by the transformational Allen endowment, now valued at over $50m. The new Dean will embrace fundraising, playing a key leadership role in a team-based approach, working with library advancement and other library units, as well as the Friends of the Libraries Board and volunteers to continue to add financial support.

Advocate for, represent, and promote the Libraries internally and externally

The Dean must be a dynamic and tireless advocate for the library on all matters. On campus, this includes lobbying for resources, securing involvement in University initiatives and collaborations, and promoting the Libraries and its services broadly to the campus and broader community. The Dean will be a collaborative partner with the other deans, ensuring strong tri-campus coordination and support.

It is also imperative that the next Dean plays a strong external leadership role in developing collaborative community partnerships in an equitable and inclusive way, including local government and statewide relations, professional organizations, the regional health sciences network5, etc. These partnerships must advance the Libraries and ensure that UW has a seat at the table in shaping the future direction and role of libraries while simultaneously providing support and benefit to the community beyond the university, including public scholarship. The Dean will present a clear, compelling vision for the Libraries and will skillfully and passionately educate the external community about its value.

Qualifications and Characteristics

The University of Washington seeks a Dean of University Libraries who is a dynamic and resourceful leader with relevant academic library experience and strong administrative and interpersonal skills. MLIS or equivalent degree from an ALA-accredited program is required; additional Master’s degree or PhD is desirable. Experience with complex libraries is expected. While no one person will likely embody all of the professional qualifications, skills, experiences, and personal qualities desirable in this role, the successful candidate will bring many of the following:

- Strong executive leadership background with substantial management experience in strategic planning, change management, budget, and human resources.
- A deep understanding of the changing role of academic libraries in the 21st century, including open access with respect to digital content and physical spaces, student success, online learning and innovation, open educational resources, scholarly publishing reform, knowledge curation, and the continued development of both print and digital collections.
- A leadership style that fosters collegiality, cooperation, and consensus building.

5The WWAMI Network (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho) is a group of family medicine residency programs related to each other by geography and university affiliation.
Search for the Dean of University Libraries  
University of Washington

- Proven experience crafting more equitable, diverse, and inclusive organizations and programs, including a deep understanding of the social mission for the libraries and outreach to and involvement with local and statewide communities.
- Proven experience or a desire to engage in development, fundraising, community engagement, and public relations in an academic library setting.
- Demonstrated skill in envisioning, developing, and advocating for the library’s role in campus, statewide, regional, national and/or international initiatives.
- A record of professional accomplishment through research, publication, service, and leadership in areas that affect and inform libraries.
- A user service mentality, including the creation of processes to understand and communicate with faculty, students, and staff in terms of their user experience.
- The ability to write and communicate effectively with a variety of audiences.
- Unquestioned integrity and ethics.

Location

The University of Washington, the main campus of which is located in Seattle, acknowledges the Coast Salish peoples of its land, the land that touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Suquamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations. The city of Seattle is home to many Indigenous, Asian, East African, African American, Latinx, and Filipinx populations which feed great art and culture, a vibrant multicultural community, and unique mix of restaurants, coffee houses, retail shops, and other services.

Seattle is considered to be one of the most livable cities in the U.S. and is renowned for its natural beauty and cosmopolitan amenities. It is an innovation hub and hosts the headquarters of many world-class companies such as Starbucks, Boeing, Microsoft, Amazon, PACCAR, Nordstrom, and REI. It also boasts world class restaurants, museums and performing and visual arts organizations. Furthermore, Seattle is known for its outdoor recreational opportunities (sailing, hiking, biking) and attractions including the 534-acre Discovery Park, Mount Si, and the iconic Mount Rainier. Additionally, Bainbridge Island and Bremerton are a short ferry ride away from downtown Seattle. For more about Seattle, please see http://www.seesattle.org and for more about Washington, please see http://www.experiencewa.com.

UW also has campuses in Bothell (20 miles north of Seattle) and Tacoma (34 miles south of Seattle). The co-located UW Bothell and Cascadia College campus is in Bothell, Washington, a community of 45,533 with the advantages of a larger city, the charm of a smaller town, and highway and public transit connections to Everett, Seattle, Bellevue, and Redmond. Amenities include family neighborhoods and apartment living, a bustling downtown featuring coffee houses and award-winning restaurants, the Burke-Gilman Trail and parks alongside the Sammamish River, and a highly rated public school district. The campus also includes the 58-acre North Creek Wetlands featuring restored floodplains to explore through a boardwalk and paved regional trail.

Tacoma (pop. 216,279) is a beautiful mid-sized urban port city on Washington’s Puget Sound. Tacoma is an urban success story: like most industrial cities, it suffered a prolonged decline in the mid-20th century, but recently the city has been undergoing a tremendous renaissance and is known for its progressive politics and burgeoning art and restaurant scene. The city has invested heavily in the downtown core, with impressive museums and a free light-rail, and has reclaimed much of its shoreline; a waterfront park runs the length of Ruston Way just north of downtown. Walkers, joggers, cyclists, and in-line skaters all flock to the paved trail that runs through this park, and several excellent waterfront restaurants are located along the park’s length.
Applications, Inquiries, and Nominations

Nominations, applications, and inquiries are being accepted for the position. Consideration of candidates will continue until the position is filled. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and applications should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website for the search: www.imsearch.com/7819. Electronic submission of materials is required.

Complete applications will include a CV, cover letter, and a separate diversity statement that describes past activities to promote equity, diversity, and inclusion and plans for future contributions.

The University of Washington is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity and strongly encourages applications and nominations of women, individuals with disabilities, veterans and individuals from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds.

The University of Washington is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.
Appendix: About the University of Washington

The University of Washington has an outstanding faculty and recognition as one of the top 25 universities in the world. In addition to its main campus in Seattle, the University has campuses in Tacoma and Bothell, as well as robust professional and continuing education programs that provide access to students across the state and beyond. The University employs more than 4,724 faculty members, has an endowment of roughly $3.46 billion, and generates nearly $1.58 billion in research funding annually.

The UW is a multi-campus university comprising UW Seattle, UW Tacoma, and UW Bothell, as well as a world-class academic medical center. As of 2020, UW enrolled approximately 48,103 students at UW Seattle, 5,936 students at UW Bothell, and 5,352 students at UW Tacoma. UW Bothell is located about 20 miles northeast of Seattle; UW Tacoma is located approximately 34 miles south of Seattle.

In 2010, the University started its $5 billion capital campaign “Be Boundless – For Washington, For the World”, launching publically in 2016. In October 2018, it met its goal two years ahead of schedule thanks to more than 380,000 donors, nearly 70 percent of whom gave less than $500. It is one of the largest campaigns of any public university. The campaign continued through 2020 as planned, with a focus on investments in people – including scholarships, fellowships and financial aid for undergraduate, graduate and professional students – as well as support for the work of faculty, staff and clinicians as they advance the UW’s public mission.

Leadership

Ana Mari Cauce is the 33rd President of the University of Washington. A member of the faculty since 1986, she became President in October 2015, having previously served as provost and executive vice president. President Cauce is a professor of Psychology and American Ethnic Studies, with secondary appointments in the Department of Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies and the College of Education. She maintains an active research program, focusing on adolescent development, with a special emphasis on at-risk youth. She is also a strong advocate of women and underrepresented minorities pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. President Cauce remains active in the classroom and continues to teach and mentor undergraduate and graduate students.

Mark Richards assumed the role of Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs on July 1, 2018. Professor Richards, a geophysicist, comes to the UW from the University of California, Berkeley, previously serving as Dean of Mathematical and Physical Sciences as well as Executive Dean of the College of Letters and Science. Provost Richards is a national leader in STEM diversity, especially in terms of graduate education. His research focuses on dynamic processes in the interior of the Earth and the terrestrial planets, including observational, experimental, and computational methods. He also holds a faculty appointment in the Department of Earth and Space Sciences in the College of the Environment.

For more information about the University of Washington’s leadership team and cabinet, please see http://www.washington.edu/leadership/.

Academics

UW Seattle (UW) offers more than 600 degree options through its 16 schools and colleges. The schools and colleges include: College of Arts & Sciences, College of Built Environments, Michael G. Foster School of Business, School of Dentistry, College of Education, College of Engineering, College of the Environment, Graduate School, Information School, School of Law, School of Medicine, School of Nursing, School of Pharmacy, Evans School of Public Policy and Governance, School of Public Health,
and the School of Social Work. UW Seattle students can choose from 239 programs offering 496 degree options and more than 500 student organizations.

UW Bothell and UW Tacoma also have degree programs independent of those offered at UW Seattle. For more information, visit: https://www.uwb.edu/degrees and https://www.tacoma.uw.edu/about-uw-tacoma/uw-tacoma-academic-listings

Research

With strong foundations in engineering, forestry, aerospace, marine sciences, and health sciences, the University received $1.58 billion dollars in public and private grant and contract support for research and training every year. UW receives more federal research funding than any other public university in the country and receives the second-most federal research funding of all universities in the country. In addition, UW is a proud participating member of the Association of American Universities (AAU). Admission to the University of Washington is highly competitive, and according to U.S. News & World Report, 18 graduate programs are top five for their fields and more than 40 UW graduate programs (including more than 20 STEM programs) are among the nation’s top 10 in their field.

Faculty and Staff

The University of Washington recruits some of the best, most diverse and innovative faculty and staff from around the world. UW is home to approximately 26,136 staff members and over 4,724 faculty members. Among the faculty, there are 183 members of American Association for the Advancement of Science, 177 members of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; 97 members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 53 members of the Institute of Medicine, 189 fellows in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, seven Nobel Prize laureates, two Pulitzer Prize winners, one winner of the Fields Medal, 29 winners of the Presidential Early Career Awards in Science and Engineering, 15 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigators, 17 MacArthur Fellows, five winners of the National Medal of Science, six winners of the Albert Lasker Award for Clinical Medical Research, four members of the American Philosophical Society, two winners of the National Book Award, among numerous other accolades.

Students and Alumni

As of 2020, the University of Washington has 59,391 students across all three campuses, making it one of the largest universities (in terms of student population) on the west coast. The incoming first-year acceptance rate is 52 percent of applicants and the average high school GPA of incoming first-years is 3.72-3.95. The average SAT Composite of the entering class is 1,240-1,440 (out of 1600).

Committed to becoming global citizens, more than 2,100 undergraduate students participate in study abroad programs each year. Nearly 75 percent of UW graduates remain in Washington after graduation, thus providing the state a well-educated workforce and positively contributing to the state’s economy. The University of Washington’s talented alumni population includes 500 Fulbright Scholars, 37 Rhodes Scholars, eight Marshall Scholars, and seven Gates Cambridge Scholars. According to the 2014 UW Economic Impact Report, the UW is one of the top five largest employers in Washington, supporting over 79,000 jobs, with an annual economic impact of $12.5 billion. Additionally, over the last ten years, the UW has produced more Peace Corps volunteers than any other U.S. university.