

Faculty Director of Technology Transfer, Commercialization and Social Impact

OVERVIEW

DePaul seeks an individual with a proven record of collaborative leadership in research, innovation and entrepreneurship to serve as the Faculty Director of Technology Transfer, Commercialization and Social Impact. As part of the Grounded in Mission Plan's strategic initiatives, the Director will expand the university's capacity to elevate innovative and entrepreneurial activities and accelerate discovery at the intersection of academic research, innovation, and commercialization. The position focuses on developing, managing, and continuously improving the technology transfer and commercialization process with a focus on social impact.

Duties & Responsibilities

Reporting to the Associate Provost for Research, the Director will primarily be in charge of the day-to-day operations of the office and management of faculty training, agreement processing, intellectual property protection, marketing, outreach, and licensing. The Director will continue to be engaged in teaching, research, and service as part of the position. The Director will have the duties and responsibilities outlined below:

Strategic

- Develop and implement a strategic plan to facilitate productive research-based partnerships with a focus on technology transfer and commercialization.
- Engage, foster, develop and grow strategic partnerships and collaborations that enhance the University's research competencies, reputation and social impact.

Operational

- Create a formal assessment of disclosed innovations related to IP potential, marketability, and social impact.
- Develop a support infrastructure to facilitate patent applications and licensing.
- Expand efforts to license promising inventions by improving marketing efforts, leveraging alumni resources and exploring creative business creation models.
- Identify commercialization partners to license technologies.
- Assist in negotiating license agreements (legal approval through DePaul Office of General Counsel).
- Managing ongoing active licenses.
- Provide leadership and oversight of innovation and commercialization operations for the university.
- Collaborate with the Offices of Research Services and Advancement to assist with proposals for extramural funding.
- Establish and track metrics that illustrate DePaul's support and successes in technology transfer and commercialization.

Marketing & Communications

- Develop and maintain relationships with external public- and private-sector entities including federal and state agencies, national research centers, foundations, business, and industry.
- Develop and disseminate mobile/web-based materials for faculty and staff highlighting services in technology transfer and commercialization.

Partnerships & Ecosystem Building

- Lead outreach efforts to faculty, staff, students and others to identify and market opportunities; create systematic ways to reach important constituents with regular updates.
- Represent the university to external agencies and constituents.
- Attend and represent the university at national meetings concerning technology transfer, commercialization, licensing and intellectual property.
- Provide input representing the university on proposed regulations and monitor national trends in research, benchmark peer institutions' interpretation of regulations and methods of meeting similar obligations.
- Work in partnership with other offices and provide leadership across the university to develop integrated approaches to technology transfer, commercialization, licensing and intellectual property.
- Partner with DePaul marketing and communications staff to enhance internal and external communications about the university's commercialization and technology transfer processes and successes.
- Supports translational research through obtaining proof-of-principle funding and small business innovation research (SBIR) funding and small business technology transfer research (STTR) funding.

Training, Consultation & Coaching

- Design and deliver training in technology transfer and commercialization for faculty and staff.
- Develop and implement an individual consultation/advising service for faculty and staff.
- Create and manage a coaching program for AGIF awardees to facilitate technology transfer and commercialization.
- Provide technical assistance to faculty and staff interested in spinning off companies arising from innovations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must be dedicated to improving DePaul's research, innovation, technology transfer, and commercialization infrastructure and committed to working in a collaborative, cross-disciplinary environment. Successful candidates are self-driven and highly motivated individuals with an entrepreneurial spirit that:

- Are tenured faculty from any academic discipline.
- Have strong research experience and demonstrated expertise in innovation, technology transfer and commercialization, broadly defined.

- Demonstrate alignment between this Director position’s responsibilities and personal, career, and/or professional goals.

APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION

The Director appointment is a three-year (12-month) appointment beginning January 3rd, 2022. As compensation, the Director will receive a total of four (4) course releases per academic year and an annual stipend (\$20,000).

APPLICATION

Required content

1. A cover letter that highlights:
 - I. The applicant’s interest in becoming the Faculty Director of Technology Transfer, Commercialization and Social Impact.
 - II. The applicant’s professional goals, vision, and qualifications for the position.
2. A current curriculum vitae (highlighting research and innovation, technology transfer and commercialization accomplishments)
3. A letter of support from the applicant’s department chair/director
4. A letter of support from the applicant’s dean

The full application package should be emailed by the applicant as a single PDF to the Associate Provost for Research at academicinnovation@depaul.edu.

Deadline

The Deadline for receipt of the complete application is Friday, November 19th, 2021 by the end of the business day.

SELECTION PROCESS/TIMELINE

The Selection Committee will include the Provost, the Associate Provost for Research, and select members of the Provost’s Council, President’s Office, and the Office of Research Services (ORS) leadership. Finalist Interviews will be conducted in late November/early December. The selection of the Director will be announced on or about December 15th, 2021. The appointment will begin on January 3rd, 2022.