Main Campus in Lisle

Mesa Branch Campus

Dean, College of Liberal Arts
Benedictine University (BenU) announces the search for their next Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and invites applications and nominations for the position.

Benedictine University Mission
Benedictine University is an inclusive academic community dedicated to teaching and learning, scholarship and service, and truth and justice, as inspired by the Catholic intellectual tradition, the social teaching of the Church, and the principles of wisdom in The Rule of St. Benedict.

Benedictine University Vision
Benedictine University aspires to be a thought leader in Catholic higher education. We seek to provide a transformative and integrative educational experience grounded in Benedictine values, helping students shape lives of meaning and purpose as engaged citizens who care for the earth, welcome people of diverse faiths and cultures, and promote the common good.

Commitment Statement
Our values are conveyed in the “Ten Benedictine Hallmarks”
- love of Christ and neighbor;
- prayer: a life marked by liturgy, lectio and mindfulness;
- stability: commitment to the daily life of this place, its heritage and tradition;
- conversatio: the way of formation and transformation;
- obedience: a commitment to listening and consequent action;
- discipline: a way toward learning and freedom;
- humility: knowledge of self in relation to God, others and creation;
- stewardship: responsible use of creation, culture and the arts;
- hospitality: openness to the other; and
- community: call to serve the common good.

Inspired by these hallmarks, and convinced of the harmony of faith and reason, Benedictine University cultivates virtues of intellect and character, encouraging people to study, listen, and engage the ideas of a variety of persons, cultures, and disciplines, while imparting “the love of learning and the desire for God” to guide a lifelong pursuit of knowledge and wisdom.

Motto
Ut in omnibus glorificetur Deus
That in all things God may be glorified.

History of Benedictine University
In 1887, the monks of St. Procopius Abbey founded Benedictine University. They have been active sponsors of the institution throughout its history, first as St. Procopius College, later as Illinois Benedictine College, and today as Benedictine University. The monks base their lives on The Rule of St. Benedict, written in the sixth century. They share the Benedictine charism with all who embrace the University’s Catholic and Benedictine mission.

The first building on the Lisle campus was dedicated in September 1901. That building was expanded into the 1920s, with new buildings added in 1950. The University was originally founded to educate men of Czech and Slovak descent, and in the early years most of the students were from those ethnic groups. The University became coeducational in 1968.

In 2004, Benedictine collaborated with Shenyang University of Technology and Shenyang Jianzhu University in China to bring M.B.A. and M.S. in Management Information Systems programs overseas where there is a great demand for American business programs.

Also in 2004, the University partnered with the Village of Lisle to construct the Village of Lisle-Benedictine University Sports Complex, a multi-purpose facility featuring lighted athletic fields with a nine-lane track.

The University added the Kindlon Hall of Learning and the Birck Hall of Science in 2001. In 2015, Benedictine unveiled the four-story, 125,000-square-foot Daniel L. Goodwin Hall of Business, which features a 600-seat auditorium.

A renovated quad area, which includes landscaped walkways, gothic-style lighting and rain gardens, connects the front entrance of Goodwin Hall with other academic, enrollment, and student life buildings.

In 2012, the University partnered with the city of Mesa, Ariz., to establish a branch campus in that community. Benedictine University at Mesa welcomed 93 students into its inaugural class in September 2013.

Recognizing the social, economic, and building changes taking place around the University community (which in its earliest days had a significant agricultural character), the University added necessary buildings and facilities to accommodate the needs of contemporary students including residence halls, independent living apartments, a fitness center, and state-of-the-art athletic fields.

Benedictine University Today
Benedictine University offers 41 undergraduate majors, 22 graduate programs, and 5 doctoral programs.

Locations include the main campus in Lisle, a branch campus Mesa, Arizona, and 11 additional Illinois delivery sites. There are also four class sites in China and two in Vietnam. In addition to our on-site programs, we offer online programs that reach students across the United States and internationally.

Students come to us from different walks of life. They come from different racial and ethnic backgrounds. They have different religious beliefs and value systems. They are introduced to customs, religions, ethnicities or
backgrounds they might not have been exposed to before. They see a full representation of the world. They have the opportunity to study abroad, and study with students from 47 states and 9 countries.

**Leadership**
Benedictine University is led by President Charles Gregory who began his leadership role in August 2018. President Gregory has announced his plans to retire in August 2023. The Board of Trustees is currently conducting a search for a new president.

Dr. Kenneth Newbold serves as Provost and Chief Academic Officer joining Benedictine in May 2020.

**Academic Structure**
Undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and certificate programs are housed in the Daniel L. Goodwin College of Business, the College of Science and Health, and the College of Liberal Arts.

**Educational Programming**
Benedictine fulfills its commitment to the liberal arts, teacher education and professional programs through excellence in teaching and interaction between students and faculty.

A liberal arts core prepares all undergraduate students to participate fully in a diverse and dynamic society, balancing their rights and duties as individuals with the demands of the common good. Professional education infused with Benedictine values at the traditional and adult undergraduate, graduate, and certificate levels builds on the liberal arts background of students, is multidisciplinary in nature, and prepares graduates for roles of leadership and social responsibility.

**Campus Life**
The Benedictine tradition celebrates community as a gathering of people who share a commitment to a common mission, and Benedictine University is dedicated to the academic success, social development and personal growth of every student. At Benedictine, we value each student and provide the resources necessary to help guide their success. Varied and demanding academics, successful athletics, and extensive extracurricular activities are essential elements for their development. We also believe that community service is an integral part of the college experience and provides service-learning opportunities that combine formal instruction with a related service in the community.

**Main Campus in Lisle, Illinois**
Benedictine University is located 25 miles outside of Chicago in suburban Lisle, Illinois. This location allows faculty, staff, and students to experience the amenities of suburban life and the close availability of metropolitan life in Chicago. The main campus in Lisle features 22 buildings. Approximately 550 students live on campus. Benedictine offers 60 student clubs and organizations, 19 athletic teams, and many extracurricular activities such as concerts, Homecoming, service opportunities, lectures, seminars, and Family Weekend. The campus is also close to shopping, dining and entertainment, including picturesque downtown Naperville, the third-largest city in Illinois.

**Branch Campus in Mesa, Arizona**
In its eighth academic year in operation, the Benedictine University Mesa branch campus continues to grow its academic and athletic programs. BenU Mesa prepares students for the workplace through hands-on, interactive, and team-based learning in a technology-enhanced environment. Majors are offered in Accounting, Communication Arts, Computer Science, Criminology, Entrepreneurship, Fine Arts, Graphic Arts and Design, Health Science, Health Education & Promotion, Management and Organizational Behavior, Nutrition & Allied Health, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish, and Theology. A minor in Religious Studies is also available. As the third largest city in Arizona, Mesa is surrounded by the natural Sonoran Desert and is home to the largest arts and cultural complex in the Southwest. Benedictine University Mesa is located in downtown Mesa.
Asia
Benedictine University operates degree programs in both China and Vietnam with partner universities for the Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Management Information Systems, Master of Public Health, and Master of Arts in Linguistics with TESOL Concentration. The university also offers undergraduate business coursework.

Benedictine University currently partners with Shenyang University of Technology and Shenyang Jianzhu University in Shenyang, China, Dalian Medical University in Dalian, China, Changchun Financial College in Changchun, China, and the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Coursework is offered by Benedictine University faculty.

Lisle, Chicago and the western suburbs
Benedictine University is located in suburban Lisle, Illinois, in prosperous DuPage County. Lisle is situated in the heart of a major transportation network that serves the area’s extensive inventory of corporate headquarters and regional offices.

With a population of 22,912, an average household income of $100,539 and a median value of housing at $290,374, Lisle has a wide range of housing options including expansive executive estates, single and multi-family homes, townhomes, condominiums, apartments and starter homes. Lisle schoolchildren are primarily served by two public school districts: Lisle Community School District 202 and Naperville Community School District 203. In addition, two highly regarded private schools, Benet Academy (one of the premier high schools in Illinois academically and athletically) and St. Joan of Arc Elementary School are located in Lisle. Known as the “Arboretum Village,” Lisle is home to the world-renowned Morton Arboretum, which encompasses 1,700 acres of woodlands and wetlands.

Just 25 miles to the east of the main campus is Chicago, which lies along the shores of Lake Michigan and is known for its vibrant arts scene, numerous cultural attractions, excellent shopping, and interesting architecture. The city is home to the Chicago Bears, Cubs, White Sox, Bulls, and Blackhawks. Some of the top tourist attractions are Navy Pier, Grant Park, The Second City, Lincoln Park Zoo, Chinatown, Old Town, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Field Museum, and the Museum of Science and Industry.

External Recognition

In 2019, Benedictine was named to U.S. News and World Report’s list of best national universities. The University was ranked 66th in the nation for social mobility (which measures how well schools graduate students who receive federal Pell Grants) and 119th on the list of the most ethnically diverse schools.

Forbes magazine named Benedictine among “America’s Top Colleges” for the ninth consecutive year in 2019.

Benedictine University was among the “Best Bang for the Buck” Colleges in the Midwest in 2019.

Benedictine is a select “Yellow Ribbon School,” a top military friendly school by GIJobs.com.

In 2020, Gradreports.com listed Benedictine as in the 25 Best Master of Public Health (MPH) Programs in the US.

In 2013, Benedictine’s Police Department became the first private University law enforcement agency in Illinois to earn accreditation through the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.
Benedictine at a Glance

**Endowment:** Approx. $40M

**Budget** 2021-2022: Approx. $70M

**Tuition** 2021-2022:
- Traditional Undergraduate Lisle: $34,290
- Traditional Undergraduate Mesa: $22,400

**Student Enrollment** Fall 2021 (IPEDS snapshot 10/15/2021)
- Total: 3,378
- Undergraduate: 2,185
- Graduate: 1,193
- International:
  - 211 students studying in Benedictine graduate programs in China and Vietnam
  - Students in United States: 55

**Alumni:** Approx. 40,000

**Number of Faculty** Fall 2021
- Total: 132
  - Professor: 44
  - Associate Professor: 32
  - Assistant Professor: 42
  - Instructor: 14
  - Adjunct: 200

**Student/Faculty Ratio** Fall 2021: 13:1


**Library Volumes**
- More than 475,000 items in the collection (print and electronic)
- Access to more than 35,000 periodicals (print and electronic)
- More than 70 different databases in a variety of subject areas, most accessible from off campus
- Instructional Materials Collection
  - juvenile books, teacher's kits, multimedia resources, videos/DVDs, CDs & phonograph disks
- Copies of theses and dissertations completed at Benedictine University
- Archives and Special Collections
- Institutional Repository

**Mesa campus:**
- NAIA affiliation in 11 men's (baseball, basketball, golf, soccer, volleyball) and women's (basketball, golf, soccer, softball, volleyball, beach volleyball) sports.
- In 2019, BenU at Mesa's men's volleyball team won the NAIA National Championship.
- Number of student athletes: 268
- Nickname: Redhawks
- Mascot: Rico the Redhawk

**Athletics**

**Lisle campus:**
- NCAA Division III affiliation in 19 men's (baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer, volleyball, indoor and outdoor track and field) and women's (basketball, cross country, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, indoor and outdoor track and field, volleyball) sports.
- In 2016, Benedictine University's men's basketball team finished 33-1, participated in NCAA Division III Championship game.
- Number of student athletes: 450
- Nickname: Eagles
- Mascot: Ernie the Eagle
Mission Statement
Committed to inclusion and equity, the College of Liberal Arts is the intellectual home of dialogue across difference. As stewards of the Benedictine tradition, we cultivate wisdom and prepare students for meaningful life and work. We make an exceptional education in the arts, humanities, and social sciences accessible to all.

Vision Statement
The College of Liberal Arts strives to:
• **EMPOWER** students through a transformational education
• **EQUIP** students with skills to thrive in their careers and personal lives
• **ESTABLISH** enduring relationships with students, alumni, and community
• **ADVANCE** Benedictine hallmarks to bring creative and compassionate change to the world

Number of College Faculty Fall 2021
• Full-time total: 37
  - Professor: 16
  - Associate Professor: 14
  - Assistant Professor: 5
  - Instructor: 2
  - Adjunct: 65

Departments
• History, Philosophy, and Theology
• Languages and Literature
• Psychology
• Society, Justice, and Politics
• Visual, Performing, and Media Arts

History, Philosophy, and Theology
• Undergraduate Programs
  o B.A. General Professional Studies
  o B.A. History
  o B.A. History/Social Science/Education
  o B.A. Philosophy
  o B.A. Theology

Languages and Literature
• Undergraduate Programs
  o B.A. English Language and Literature
  o B.A. Spanish
• Graduate Programs
  o M.S. Linguistics

Psychology
• Undergraduate Programs
  o B.A. Psychology
• Graduate Programs
  o M.S. Clinical Psychology

Society, Justice, and Politics
• Undergraduate Programs
  o B.A. Criminal Justice
  o B.A. Criminology
  o B.A. Political Science
  o B.A. Sociology

Visual,Performing, and Media Arts
• Undergraduate Programs
  o B.A. Communication Arts
  o B.A. Graphic Arts and Design
  o B.A. Music
  o B.A. Studio Art
  o B.A. Writing and Publishing

Interdisciplinary
• Undergraduate Programs
  o B.A. Social Science
DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

The Dean of the College of Liberal Arts reports to the Provost and Chief Academic Officer and serves as one of three Deans of the university. In this role, the Dean is charged with providing leadership for the curricular, co-curricular, and external outreach programs for the college on the Lisle and Mesa campuses. The Dean is a visionary with extensive higher education leadership who can provide solutions-oriented leadership and work collaboratively across the Division of Academic Affairs and the university.

Essential Responsibilities

1. Serve as the primary academic leader for the college to administer academic programs, experiential learning opportunities, and student success through collaboration with department chairs, faculty, and staff.

2. Collaborate with the Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Associate Provost, and other Deans to implement a vision of academic excellence that builds upon the strengths of liberal arts programs and meets student needs.

3. Provide supervision, evaluation, and development of chairs, faculty, and staff in the college to ensure successful growth and development.

4. Establish and implement measurable strategic goals for the College of Liberal Arts and lead assessment of goals and program outcomes.

Other Functions

1. Fundraising and alumni development.
2. External partnership development.
3. Stewardship of college resources (fiscal, personnel, physical).

Required Qualifications

Education and Experience

• Earned Ph.D. in a discipline in the college and credentials appropriate to hold the rank of full professor.
• Preferred five years of demonstrated administrative academic experience in higher education (dean, associate dean, program director, department chair, or equivalent).
• Experience with multiple learning platforms to include face-to-face, online, and hybrid formats.
• Experience in data-informed decision making to guide program development, implementation, evaluation, and quality improvement.

Specific Skills

• Knowledge of budgeting and financial management.
• Excellent communication skills necessary to promote positive collaborations with multiple disciplines within the college and across the university to include all constituents of the university.

Leadership Priorities

Inspired by the Catholic intellectual tradition, the social teaching of the Catholic Church and the principles of wisdom in “The Rule of St. Benedict”, BenU is dedicated to teaching and learning, scholarship and service, and seeking truth and justice. As one of the university’s academic leaders, the next Dean of the College of Liberal Arts will embrace BenU’s Mission and seek its actualization in executing the following leadership priorities.

• Serve as Inspiring College Leader and Spokesperson
Reporting directly to Provost, the Dean will partner to collaboratively develop a vision that shapes the college and university. As a member of the Provost’s Council, the Dean will be the chief spokesperson for the college’s academic division.

• Create an Academic Vision to Enhance Excellence and Reputation
With the university’s core values as a foundation, and believing scholarship informs teaching, the Dean will collaborate with the Provost, faculty, staff, and the BenU Community to envision, shape, and revitalize the academic vision for the college’s future to maintain its relevance in the 21st Century.

• Effectively Manage Academic Programs
In collaboration with the Provost, the Dean will promote a culture of administrative effectiveness including the review of current academic policies and procedures and implementing data-informed “best practices.” The Dean will maintain both university and program accreditation and assessment activities and priorities.

• Strengthen Financial Capabilities
The Dean will take initiative to strengthen the college’s financial capabilities by identifying and pursuing new revenue streams; building new partnerships with businesses, academic institutions, alumni, and other stakeholders to increase fundraising; and grant development activities. Prudently
managing the college budget and clearly articulating priorities for resource allocation are also priorities.

- **Promote and Enhance Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**
The Dean will actively work with Departments to promote, support, and implement diversity, equity, and inclusive strategies to enhance the academic, research, and community experience of current and future BenU students, faculty, and staff.

- **Support Academic Programs and Pedagogies**
The Dean will support existing innovative academic programs, delivery modalities, and pedagogies and develop new ones to ensure integrity and relevance and deepen the overall educational experience for all students.

- **Support and Enhance Faculty and Staff Development**
The Dean will lead efforts in recruiting, mentoring, evaluating, and developing diverse full-time faculty and staff in accordance with their professional goals. The Dean will also be responsible for effective college succession planning.

- **Increase Student Enrollment, Success, and Retention**
Although well-managed and committed to balanced operating budgets, the university is tuition-driven with finite financial resources and escalating costs. Therefore, increasing enrollment at all levels through programmatic revisions, effective recruitment strategies, astute financial aid management and scholarship opportunities, and enhancing student success and retention rates are critical priorities for the next Dean.

- **Promote and Increase Experiential Learning Opportunities**
The Dean will work to establish new experiential learning opportunities and expand existing ones for all students in order to further the overall educational experience and develop critical thinking and Mission-aligned leadership skills for students. This includes identifying new and sustainable partnerships capable of providing internships, career development, service learning, and other community-based learning opportunities for BenU students.

- **Enhance Development and Fundraising Activities**
The Dean serves as the chief spokesperson to all external stakeholders including alumni and community partners. Working collaboratively with the Office of Development, the Dean will enhance and participate in alumni relations, and increase fundraising efforts for the college.

**Desired Leadership Attributes**

The Dean will enthusiastically share the university’s Mission, strategic aspirations and goals, and recognize the importance of teaching excellence, scholarship, service, and administration. The Dean will ensure academic excellence and advocate for students, faculty, and staff. The successful candidate will be positioned to effectively address the broad range of leadership challenges, decisions, and opportunities required of the position. More specifically, it is expected that the Dean will possess the following leadership attributes.

- **A Mission-Driven and Vision-Inspired Collaborative Leader**
The Dean will demonstrate a Mission-driven and Vision-inspired collaborative leadership with an institutional perspective which unites a diverse population and commits to the charism of BenU. The successful candidate will be fully capable of furthering its unique identity as a Catholic, Benedictine University committed to student success. This includes ensuring academic programs are relevant and consistent with Benedictine values.

- **An Innovator**
The Dean will demonstrate experience reviewing the viability of academic programs and successfully developing and launching new ones. The Dean will also value and advocate for the integration of technology for pedagogical and research purposes.

The Dean will be required to execute creative, entrepreneurial ideas to best position BenU to be a more relevant, comprehensive and highly regarded university.

- **A Proven Academic Administrator**
The Dean will possess an excellent record of academic administrative achievement including oversight of successful institutional accreditation processes. This includes experience evaluating and developing comprehensive institutional assessment plans for academic programs. Experience creating new academic policies and procedures and the ability to inspire BenU around a culture of compliance is also essential.
• **An Effective Communicator**
The Dean will be an effective communicator and university spokesperson who promotes a culture of mutual respect through listening, transparency, and working effectively one-on-one or in group settings.

• **A Trusted Colleague**
BenU’s Dean will be a trusted colleague capable of working collaboratively with the President, Provost, deans, faculty, staff, students, and other campus leaders and constituents dedicated to the ongoing success of the university and college.

• **A Data-Informed and Insightful Strategic Thinker and Planner**
The Dean will be a data-informed decision maker with strong analytical skills who can effectively prioritize competing interests, oversee long-term and short-term strategic planning goals, and make critical time-sensitive decisions. A record of strategic thinking and competently driving initiatives from development to successful completion is also required.

• **A Student-Focused Leader**
The Dean will demonstrate a genuine concern for a diverse student body, be attentive to student-focused decisions, and be devoted to learner-centered teaching excellence, assurance that academic programs meet marketplace needs, attract students, and focus on student success and transformation.

• **An Effective Manager with Financial Acumen**
The Dean will demonstrate the financial acumen necessary to effectively manage and allocate resources among competing and compelling university needs and make decisions that reflect its strategic priorities and promote its financial strength. A successful candidate will demonstrate effective management of a multi-year academic budget.

• **An Advocate for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**
The Dean will have experience successfully promoting and strengthening diversity, equity, and inclusion among those in a campus community. This includes intentional efforts to attract diverse students, faculty, and staff, and a demonstrated ability to work effectively with diverse groups of people.

• **A Successful Fundraiser**
The Dean will have demonstrated experience in successful past fundraising efforts (i.e., securing institutional grants, developing corporate partnerships, obtaining external funds in support of research and programmatic needs, etc.).

• **A Higher Education Thought-Leader**
The successful candidate will understand current trends in the higher education landscape and passionately position BenU to its best advantage. This includes understanding and valuing an education grounded in the liberal arts and delivered through a variety of modalities consistent with current trends of 21st Century higher education for all learners.
Nominations and Applications

The Dean Search Committee will immediately begin the review of applications and continue work until an appointment is made. To ensure full consideration, applications should be received by October 31, 2022, and include a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and five professional references with contact information including e-mail addresses. References will not be contacted without prior authorization from the applicant.

Applications should apply electronically and submit all materials (PDF preferred or MS Word) at: https://benu.csod.com/ux/ats/careersite/1/home/requisition/305?c=benu

Please direct nominations and inquiries to: COLADeanSearch@ben.edu

Benedictine University does not discriminate in its admissions or educational policies, programs or activities; scholarship and loan programs; athletic and other University administered programs or employment practices on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, military or veteran status, marital status, citizenship, or any other characteristic protected by applicable law. The laws applicable to Benedictine University include constitutional and statutory protections of the University’s rights as a religiously sponsored institution. This policy of equal employment opportunity applies to all employment and personnel practices including, but not limited to, recruiting, hiring, promotion, training and compensation.

In compliance with federal law, all persons hired will be required to verify identity and eligibility to work in the United States and to complete the required employment eligibility verification document form upon hire.

Benedictine University is an Equal Opportunity Employer.