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About Denison

Today, almost 200 years after its founding, Denison University is a dynamic undergraduate institution focused on delivering a transformative academic experience. We prepare students for successful and meaningful lives while empowering them to form deep connections and friendships. Under the leadership of higher education thought-leader President Adam Weinberg, Denison is firmly established among its peers as one of the nation’s best private liberal arts colleges.

The Denison of today is an extension of our early roots. Established in 1831, Denison University holds a distinct space in the American higher education landscape. Denison founders were optimistic, ambitious, and committed to excellence in teaching and scholarship in the best tradition of the liberal arts and sciences. The college achieved great success during its early years, as the United States was undergoing fast growth as a nation. During this time, many Denisonians were heavily involved in the anti-slavery movement and supported women’s education. In 1970, Denison was one of the first colleges in the country to establish both a Black Student Union and a Black Studies Program as the student body slowly became more diverse.

DENISON’S FORWARD-THINKING APPROACH TO THE LIBERAL ARTS

Denison thrives within the framework of the liberal arts, with the flexibility and energy to address current and future challenges for our students and faculty. The 2015-2020 Strategic Plan led to Denison’s largest and most successful campaign in its history, bringing $244 million to support academic innovation, financial aid, career services for students, arts initiatives, and student life. Recent initiatives have achieved these hallmarks:

- Denison is one of the few colleges that meet the full demonstrated financial need of its students, providing close to $60 million in financial aid. Denison is fortunate to be in a solid financial position with a standing endowment of $1.2 billion.
- The college is a member of QuestBridge, a national community-based organization for recruiting high-achieving, low-income students. In addition, Denison has a strong commitment to Columbus City Schools through the Denison-Columbus Alliance, and most recently Denison has provided financial support for the Columbus Promise.
- Over the last nine years, Denison has seen significant growth in applications, with a record 12,200 applicants in the spring of 2022 for 620 seats. Denison is the most selective college in Ohio, with a 23% acceptance rate.
- Denison has brilliantly harnessed the breadth of the liberal arts and offers 57 academic programs and four pre-professional programs. The college recently launched 11 new academic programs: Data Analytics; Data for Political Research; Digital Humanities; Environmental Sciences; Financial Economics; Global Commerce; Global Health; Health, Exercise & Sport Studies; Journalism; Middle East & North African Studies; and Politics and Public Affairs.
- The college is committed to preparing our students for personal and professional success:
  - Our Austin E. Knowlton Center for Career Preparation provides more than 3,300 1:1 coaching appointments annually and more than $600,000 for internship stipends.
  - Students experience entrepreneurship and design thinking success through the Red Frame Lab.
  - The Lisska Center for Intellectual Engagement provides coaching and support for prestigious international fellowships and grants.
  - Students can tap into the wealth of opportunities available in one of the fastest-growing metropolitan regions in the nation through the Denison Edge, a career-specific skills-building and networking center located nearby in downtown Columbus.
- The Performing and Fine Arts are a central core of what makes Denison special, while demonstrating Denison’s artistic and humanist perspectives. The performing arts are daily celebrated in the stunning new Michael D. Eisner Center for the Performing Arts, a state-of-the-art building that brings the Departments of Theatre, Dance, and Music together in more than 100,000 boldly-designed square footage. The Studio Art Department is housed in the 45,000 square foot Bryant Arts Center, while Cinema Department classes, programming, and productions are located in its own adjacent facility.
DENISON’S FORWARD-THINKING APPROACH TO THE LIBERAL ARTS (continued)

• Denison embraces a global point of view under the auspices of the Center for Global Programs, which integrates off-campus study with international student support. Study abroad experiences are fully funded through tuition — all students, regardless of economic background, can enjoy these transformative experiences. On average, about 70% of the student body studies abroad or interns abroad during their four-year college experience.
• The college’s many interdivisional programs represent and bring focus to the fluidity of learning across academic disciplines, engaging students and faculty in studies that are relevant to our increasingly diverse and complex world. These programs include Black Studies, Data Analytics, East Asian Studies, Environmental Studies, Global Commerce, Global Health, International Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Middle East and North African Studies, Queer Studies, and Women’s and Gender Studies.
• Student health and wellness are supported through the Ann and Thomas Hoaglin Wellness Center. Launching in fall 2022, the Hoaglin Center will focus on holistic wellbeing through evidence-based practices that support intellectual, social, personal, community, and financial health.

Denison's next strategic plan has begun with the creation of Denison Forward, Denison’s multi-year, campus-wide plan for inclusion, diversity, equity, and antiracism (IDEA). The second stage of the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan is underway, and the Board of Trustee endorsement is expected in late fall 2022 or early 2023.

DENISON’S COMMUNITY

Students:
Denison’s more than 2,300 undergraduates enjoy the benefits of learning and living on a 100% residential campus. Students come from 40 states and 23 nations; 21% identify as domestic students of color; 16% as international; 17% as first-generation; and 20% are Pell eligible.

Faculty:
245 teaching faculty provide a 9:1 student:faculty ratio. Denison faculty are leaders in their fields and offer the best in academic instruction, mentorship, and 1:1 research opportunities.

Additional demographic information about Denison can be found here.

DENISON’S LOCATION

Denison’s location offers the best of both worlds: the charming small town of Granville and the conveniences and opportunities of Columbus, Ohio. John Glenn International Airport is 25 minutes from the college’s doorstep, and all the shopping, entertainment, and arts experiences of Columbus are just 30 minutes away.
Denison Forward

Denison Forward is a multi-year, campus-wide plan for action and change chartered by President Weinberg to encourage a comprehensive focus on inclusion, diversity, equity, and antiracism (IDEA). The plan in its entirety can be found at denison.edu/forward.

“Society changes when we think and act differently. I believe our nation’s college campuses are crucial to this process. We have to do more to step into this space. Our campuses need to be places where we are confronting our past, learning about the structures that shape contemporary society, and finding ways to work together to create a better future.”

- President Adam Weinberg

ACTION PLAN AND PRINCIPLES
A cross-functional Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Antiracism (IDEA) Team was charged with ensuring that every unit across the college is doing their part to move the entire college forward, based on the following principles:

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Denison is focused on ensuring that every member of its community feels listened to, valued, and respected and has opportunities to succeed at Denison.

Antiracism – Denison requires members of our community to proactively work against racism on campus and beyond (be committed to doing their part to ensure that racism has no place on campus).

Shared Responsibility – Denison will be guided by a shared equity leadership approach. Teams will be organized across campus to take collective responsibility in developing and moving our IDEA agenda forward.

A Commitment – Denison will be committed to IDEA for the long haul, driven by a continual process of learning, taking actions, assessing, refining our work, and holding each other accountable.

STRATEGIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS
The following strategies and recommendations were designed to address direct feedback from the Denison community and to identify and measure tangible actions and progress:

1. Increase recruitment and retention of a diverse community of students, faculty, staff, trustees, and alumni volunteers.
2. Infuse professional development with opportunities to increase the intercultural and antiracism competence of Denison staff.
3. Embrace inclusive pedagogy as core to our academic enterprise.
4. Leverage our residential community to provide students with the opportunity to learn how to live and engage within a cross-cultural cohort.
5. Strive to ensure that all students have access and opportunities to explore different career paths and to launch into their chosen careers.
6. Connect Denison’s financial decisions to our IDEA values.
Introduction of Opportunity: Chief Information Officer

POSITION OVERVIEW

Reporting to the Vice President for Finance and Management, Denison’s next Chief Information Officer (CIO) will lead all aspects of information technology strategy and guide Denison in its approach to the College’s next generation of technology and digital transformation. As Denison finalizes a new Strategic Plan and complementary IT Long-Range Plan: 2022-2027, the CIO will drive the implementation of technology initiatives and information management projects.

The CIO will establish and cultivate relationships with multiple constituents on campus, especially faculty and administrative technology users, to understand those clients’ needs and prioritize technology initiatives. Key initiatives for the next CIO include advancing the state of data management, information security, digital agility, and systems integration.

The CIO will be responsible for leading a team of approximately 40 staff, including their recruitment, professional development and retention. As an innovative and respected leader on campus, the CIO will foster teamwork and collaboration in an increasingly networked organization while demonstrating exemplary communication skills to the campus at large. In providing leadership to Information Technology Services (ITS), the CIO will demonstrate vision, integrity and service to Denison’s mission and values, including those reflected in Denison Forward.

POSITION PRIORITIES

Visionary leadership
Working in close collaboration with executive and administrative staff members across the College, the CIO will develop and implement a vision for computing and information technology that meets the needs of Denison today while anticipating its future. Embedded in this effort will be an attentiveness to processes and systems that serve students, faculty and staff, and a commitment to ensuring that Denison employs the necessary systems to support student learning and for operations to function effectively.

Effective management
The CIO will lead, coach and develop a high-performance ITS team of professional and technical staff, hourly staff members, and student employees assigned to the following service areas: Client Experience, Educational Technology Services, Enterprise Applications, and Infrastructure, Operations, and Cybersecurity. In so doing, the CIO will promote staff professional development; effectively managing employee relations and fostering a collaborative and motivating work environment while monitoring staff performance.

Strategic execution of services
In partnership with the senior management team, the CIO will drive technology planning efforts and implementation of processes to ensure consistency and platform integration with Denison’s overall strategic direction. The CIO will apply a keen eye to existing business models and collaboratively drive priorities and efficiencies to best meet the College’s technology needs. The CIO will ultimately be accountable for assessing and managing software licensing, hardware support contract and various information technology vendor contracts.

Communication and implementation of technology best practices
Utilizing operational analytics and metrics, the CIO will leverage resources, exercise diplomacy, and establish transparent systems for determining technology priorities on campus. Working in collaboration with the Information Technology Committee, the CIO will be responsible for technology policy development and governance while regularly reviewing and updating procedures for compliance and effectiveness. Included in this effort will be the regular evaluation of technology security and disaster recovery procedures to assure the College’s business continuity for information systems and data integrity.

Business acumen
The CIO will oversee an annual operating budget of $5 million and a capital budget of $2 million. This will require that the CIO regularly assesses quality and forecasts costs of proposed technology acquisitions in academic and administrative departments, while ensuring sound and timely annual budgets and providing financial and programmatic reports to the VP for Finance and Management and Board of Trustees on an as-needed basis.
Key Qualifications and Competencies

Key Qualifications:

- Bachelor’s degree, preferably in a relevant information systems field, coupled with significant executive leadership experience in planning, developing and maintaining complex information systems or other advanced technologies. An advanced degree is preferred.

- Experience leading major network, systems and/or data center technology organizations and projects along with demonstrated ability to lead implementation of major technology projects. Prior CIO experience or senior technology leadership at an institution of higher education, or similar industry, is also desired.

- Excellent interpersonal and relationship-building skills with a track record of meeting the diverse needs of an academic community. This includes a commitment to providing community members with technology that facilitates their work and furthers the academic mission of the college.

- Strategic planning experience in information technology in a customer-service focused environment, coupled with an open and collaborative style of leadership that fosters teamwork, sustains a learning environment for staff, and develops a first-class service organization that engenders trust from the College community.

- A genuine, open and transparent approach to working across organizational boundaries with diverse groups of internal constituents.

- Demonstrated experience in strategic budgeting and effective personnel management.

Key Attributes for Denison’s Next Chief Information Officer:

- Visionary leader of people and processes
- Exhibits passion for the educational mission
- Skilled relationship builder and listener
- Strategic thinker
- Collaborative and respected colleague
- Exceptional communicator
- Trust builder
- Critical thinker
- Connector of people and ideas
- Advocate and servant leader
- Innovative and proactive administrator
Leadership Team

Adam Weinberg

President
Denison University

Adam Weinberg became the 20th president of Denison University in 2013. Dr. Weinberg has focused on positioning Denison in ways that address the major issues facing higher education in the 21st century, including affordability, career readiness, internationalization, civic education, learning outcomes, and social inclusion.

Dr. Weinberg’s intellectual roots are in the civic impacts of higher education in unlocking the potential of individuals and communities. He has brought this passion to Denison where work is underway to focus on residential halls as sites for civic learning, and where the recently launched Red Frame Lab fosters design thinking. Underlying this work, Dr. Weinberg has focused Denison on a campus-wide effort to deepen mentorship, which he believes is the defining feature of transformative education.

For more information about Adam Weinberg click here
https://denison.edu/campus/president/adam-s-weinberg

For his speeches and writings please click here
https://denison.edu/campus/president/speeches

David English, CFA

Chief Financial Officer, Vice President for Finance and Management
Denison University

As the chief financial officer for Denison University, David English directs the division of finance and management, which includes business affairs, human resources, facilities and finance, among others. In addition, as CFO, he sits on the president’s senior staff of the college.

Previously, English served as chief financial officer at Augustana College, where he stewarded the college’s physical and financial resources, oversaw the college’s endowment and served as treasurer for the college. Prior to Augustana, English served for seven years at Vassar College, most recently as assistant vice president for budget and planning. English has been appointed to the Advisory Counsel for the Educational & Institutional Insurance Administrators, Inc., and he holds the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst®.

English earned his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Pennsylvania and Master of Business Administration from the College of William and Mary.

Learn more about Denison Administration here.
Columbus: Find It Here

The Columbus Region is a dynamic 11-county metropolitan area in the midst of unprecedented economic growth. The Region is home to today’s business leaders and is at the forefront of the industries of tomorrow, from advanced manufacturing to smart mobility research and development. Centrally located between Chicago and New York, the Columbus Region boasts the greatest market access of any major metro—with 46% of the United States population within a 10-hour drive.

Dynamic Communities
The region offers a wide variety of housing options, from charming historic neighborhoods and downtown lofts to new suburban developments and multi-acre living just beyond the city limits. Nearly 70% of Columbus residents earning the median income can afford home ownership—an incredible number compared to Chicago’s 47% or New York’s 57%.

Diverse, Strong Economy
Columbus ranks seventh in economic strength among the 102 largest metropolitan cities in the country. Columbus benefits from a dynamic yet stable economy, with a collaborative business environment earning it recognition as one of the top metros for job creation. As an emerging tech city, its research and technology institutions attract the brightest minds from around the world. The Columbus Region is located at the center of the most densely populated areas of the U.S. That makes it a premier location, providing companies with superior access to the North American consumer population, corporate headquarters locations and U.S. manufacturing capacity.

Arts and Culture
Fueled by a workforce more educated than the national average, Columbus has an energy that radiates throughout thriving industries, communities and educational institutions. Art lovers will savor the collections at the Columbus Museum of Art and revel in Gallery Hop, a monthly celebration of culture in the Short North Arts District.

Innovation and Smart City
Columbus is the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Smart City Challenge winner, after competing against 77 cities nationwide, and as a result is the nation’s living laboratory for the advancement of smart mobility. Foundational elements of the Smart Columbus initiative include grid modernization, mass deployment of electric charging stations, and an open data platform where shared data will power applications for multimodal trip planning, fare payment, parking and more.

In 2022, Intel announced its plan to invest more than $20 billion in the construction of two new leading-edge chip factories in Ohio. Intel’s investment in the Columbus Region is the largest manufacturing investment in Ohio history. The project will create over 3,000 jobs and result in an economic impact that touches all corners of the state. In addition to bringing in an industry that is new to the Midwest, Intel’s investment places the state and region at the forefront of solving a national challenge.

Education
The Columbus region’s K-12 education options include U.S. News & World Report top-ranked high schools as well as U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon schools. The region has excellent public schools, 140 private institutions and 52 higher education campuses, with nearly 150,000 college students.

Highlights
• A Top 50 Cities in America city (Bloomberg Businessweek)
• One of the Top 7 Intelligent Communities in the World (Intelligent Communities Foundation)
• Columbus is the number 1 opportunity city (Forbes)
• Cost of living is 11% lower than the national average
• Ranked #2 in venture capital growth
• Ranked first in the nation for public library system, museum of art, zoo and aquarium and COSI science center
• Second shortest average commute of any metropolitan area with over 500,000 people
• Columbus is home to 16 fortune 1000 headquarters, including 5 fortune 500
• Number two best city in the nation for African American families
• Top 15 best city for female entrepreneurs
• 87 miles of bike lanes, paths and trails

Learn more about Columbus at www.experiencecolumbus.com and https://columbusregion.com/
To achieve our mission as a liberal arts college, we continually strive to foster a diverse campus community, which recognizes the value of all persons regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or socio-economic background. For additional information and resources about diversity at Denison, please see our Diversity Guide. Denison University is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Process of Candidacy

BeecherHill is pleased to partner with the Denison University Chief Information Office Search Committee on this critical search. Please submit nominations, referrals and resumes with preferred contact information to our Firm:

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