

February 4, 2010

Chair, Search for Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Angelo State University
2601 W Avenue N
San Angelo, Texas 76909

Dear Members of the Search Committee,

Please accept this letter as my application for the position of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Angelo State University. My curriculum vita and the requisite contact information regarding references are attached.

I am exceedingly well-qualified for this position. My education, my accomplishments, and my broad based-experience and civic engagement clearly demonstrate this. As Dean of the College of Education at Boise State University, an institution that is experiencing dynamic growth in research, diversity, and student enrollment (almost 20,000 students), I direct over 200 faculty and staff and 2,000 students in extensive program areas in a multi-site environment where innovation, collaboration, and creativity are highly valued. In one of the largest Colleges of Education in the country, I serve as a leader in integrated teaching and learning. Seven departments serve 34 undergraduate and 15 graduate programs, including a rigorous Doctoral Program in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in School Improvement. Seven research centers and institutes bring in over \$8,000,000 of sponsored research funding annually, and I have been a leader in expanded research engagement and the university goal to become a metropolitan research university of distinction.

During times of challenging budgetary implications and fiscal constraints, I have demonstrated an academic vision focused on success and excellence, commendable leadership skills, shared governance, and a commitment to high standards of quality teaching and learning. I have successfully worked with the Faculty Senate to bring about change, support development of educational programs and policies, and maintain effective channels of communication. By taking an active role in the university comprehensive campaign that is at 80% toward the attainment of the goal to raise \$175,000,000, my expertise in university development has been strengthened. I have led our Educational Technology graduate programs in their focus on transformational emergent technologies and attaining an impressive profit margin of \$1,333,000 annually through implementation of a self-support business model. They are currently the largest graduate program in the university and are recognized as an outstanding, innovative program nationally and internationally.

I was actively involved in the team charged with development and implementation of our University strategic plan, led the community/faculty team aligning the College of Education Strategic Planning and Conceptual Framework designed to provide a shared vision for our college's collaborative efforts to prepare graduates to work effectively as teachers, administrators, counselors, athletic trainers, biomechanists, as well as in the health promotion

field. Collaborative partnerships and a positive relationship with the schools and agencies that we serve have been an integral component of my accomplishments and pursuit of personal excellence. My experience as a public school teacher and principal with diverse K-14 students from a variety of socioeconomic levels continues to strengthen my relationship building communities of faculty, educators and external agencies. My established record of teaching encompasses not only courses in education, but I have been honored by selection to the Governor's Teaching Fellows Program in Higher Education, a highly prestigious recognition by the University System of Georgia.

My strengths include working with the Idaho Legislature, serving a three-year term on the Idaho Department of Education Professional Standards Commission, chair-elect for the Idaho Association of Colleges of Teacher Education, extensive consulting and civic engagement, grant evaluation, and experience on accreditation and school improvement teams. My community involvement and participation also encompasses strategic leadership roles. I am proud to have served as the President of the Carrollton, Georgia, Rotary Club and Chair of the World Service Committee for the Boise, Idaho, Rotary Club.

I am proud to have comprehensive experience with honors programs serving as the first Director of the Advanced Academy of Georgia at the University of West Georgia, an early enrollment residential program for high school age students who attend college full time while simultaneously completing their final years of high school. As director, I mentored intellectually gifted and talented highly capable students to ensure that they received exceptional educational preparation as well as opportunities for student research.

My scholarly accomplishments are comprehensive and, in addition to peer refereed articles, include serving as editor of a journal and publication of a text for professors and educators of culturally diverse students. The text is co-edited with Dr. Julian Stanley, founder of the Study of Mathematically Precocious Youth and the Study of Exceptional Talent at Johns Hopkins University, and is titled *In the eyes of the beholder: Critical issues for diversity in gifted education*.

My attributes include the ability to relate positively to others, challenge them to high ideals, and encourage lifelong learning. I value cultural diversity, am proud of my Native American heritage, and am bilingual (Spanish and English). My educational career began in Los Angeles, California, teaching bilingual courses and was complemented by volunteer work in an orphanage and clinic for the underprivileged in Mexico. I have led collaborative endeavors resulting in international partnerships and international dual graduate degree programs, addressed university educators in numerous international settings and served on the Cross Cultural Teaching Consortium for the University System of Georgia Board of Regents.

I am resourceful, enthusiastic, and willing to devote additional time and effort to ensure that a job is well done. My organizational skills are excellent and I am confident of my role as a valuable leader of an innovative academic team. I look forward to serving as a leader at Angelo State University, who employs the principles of shared governance with a strong commitment to quality teaching and learning for all students. I have a commitment to first generation college

students, student retention, continuous improvement, infusion of technology throughout programs, and experience addressing regional accreditation standards.

I am confident that I will serve effectively as a dynamic and visionary leader in the capacity of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, building quality and reaching for new initiatives moving forward at a systematic pace. I have a strong commitment to advancing the qualities of undergraduate and graduate instruction, research, public service, and outreach activities. Faculty development and transparent leadership are crucial. This will be a challenging and rewarding position in which I will utilize my skills and abilities to positively affect the intellectual achievement and lives of the students and educational community of Angelo State University.

My Texas roots run deep. Family members reside in Texas and my grandparents and their families are from Amarillo and El Paso. It will be a pleasure to return to the Lone Star State where I spent joyful childhood vacations. Yes, I will be proud to call San Angelo home.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and professional review of my application materials. Please keep this application confidential until such time as I am a finalist for the position. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss my qualifications with you further.

Sincerely,

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