

DEAN PROSPECTUS

FOSTER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Bradley University invites nominations and applications in its search for a visionary, multidisciplinary leader to serve as Dean of the Foster College of Business (FCB). The College is committed to quality undergraduate and graduate business education, close faculty-student interaction, strong connections with the business community, and career preparation through internships, class projects and professional networking. In 2019, Bradley opened the Business and Engineering Convergence Center, which serves as the home of the Foster College of Business and the Caterpillar College of Engineering and Technology.

The Foster College of Business offers 14 undergraduate majors, 14 minors, and two graduate degree programs. The College currently serves 471 students, including 30 students enrolled in business as a secondary major, 226 business minors, and 16 graduate students. Organized into five academic departments, Accounting, Management Information Systems, Economics and Finance, Management and Leadership, and Marketing, the College is committed to delivering high-quality, student-centered business education.

Bradley University is a mid-sized, private, top-10 Midwest Regional University in Peoria, Illinois, which offers students the opportunities and resources of a larger university and the personal attention and exceptional learning experiences of a smaller university. Bradley enrolls nearly **4,000 students** (approximately **3,200 undergrads**, and **767 graduate students)**, employs approximately 1,000 people, has an annual operating budget of **$160 million** and an endowment of **$405 million**.

BRADLEY University

POSITION OF THE DEAN

The next Dean of Bradley University's Foster College of Business will serve as the college's chief academic and administrative officer, reporting to the provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. The role offers a platform to develop a strategic vision aligned with university goals, advance new and existing academic programs, and expand enrollment through Bradley's concept of convergence and opportunities in online and hybrid education. By championing academic excellence and experiential learning, the dean can strengthen the college's ability to attract outstanding students and prepare graduates for exceptional career outcomes, while ensuring that its business and accounting programs maintain AACSB International accreditation.

This leadership opportunity combines academic innovation with community building and external engagement. The dean will foster an inclusive college community, support shared governance, and oversee the recruitment, retention, and development of faculty and staff. As a strong advocate for the college, the dean will communicate its goals and accomplishments to internal and external audiences, engage stakeholders in its work, and partner closely with the Office of Advancement to raise funds that advance its vision. Sound enrollment management and development plans, thoughtful budget management, and the alignment of resources with strategic priorities will enable the next dean to translate that vision into action.

The Dean will be a tenured faculty member in one of the academic departments in the College and will serve in a 12-month administrative appointment. It is anticipated that the salary of the Dean will be in the range of $230K to $250K, depending on qualifications and experience.





FOSTER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The Foster College of Business emphasizes close faculty-student interaction, experiential learning, ethical leadership and career preparation. The College's website reports that 96 percent of its 2023–24 graduates secured employment within six months of graduation or continued their education. Students engage with industry partners through capstone and convergence projects, internships and professional networking.

The Foster College of Business offers 14 undergraduate majors, 14 minors, and two graduate degree programs. The College currently serves 471 students, including 30 students enrolled in business as a secondary major, 226 business minors, and 16 graduate students.The College employs 26 full-time faculty members, including 21 tenured and tenure-track faculty, along with six full-time staff members who support its mission of excellence in teaching, scholarly engagement, professional development, experiential learning, and community impact.

The College is committed to delivering high-quality, student-centered business education in five academic departments:

- Accounting
- Management Information Systems
- Economics and Finance
- Management and Leadership
- Marketing

The Foster College of Business received reaffirmation of AACSB International accreditation for its business and accounting degree programs in March 2026. The review evaluated curriculum, faculty qualifications, strategic management, student success and engagement with the business community. The College also offers course-embedded microcredentials through Professional Pathways, allowing students to demonstrate industry-based skills while completing their degrees.

The Foster College of Business has two centers to facilitate learning opportunities for students:

- The Turner Center for Entrepreneurship at Bradley empowers aspiring entrepreneurs and small businesses through education, mentorship, consulting, and business development resources.
- The Center for Cybersecurity provides the administrative leadership, support, and infrastructure to facilitate the advancement of cybersecurity education, research, and service at Bradley University.

Capstone and convergence projects connect business and engineering students with industry partners to solve real-world practical problems. TEDxBradley University invites the central Illinois community to explore innovative ideas with business leaders to spark deep discussion and connection. The McCord Lecture Series brings business executives to campus to engage with students, faculty, and the community.

OPPORTUNITIES & EXPECTATIONS

The next Dean of the Foster College of Business will have an opportunity to build upon the College's strong academic foundation, talented and dedicated faculty, and exceptional students while charting a compelling course for its future. The Dean will play a pivotal role in advancing academic programs, strengthening institutional and external partnerships, and enhancing the College's visibility and impact. Through thoughtful and collaborative leadership, the Dean will engage faculty, staff, and university leadership in establishing shared priorities that advance the College's mission and position it for continued success.

Advance Academic Excellence and Program Innovation

Provide academic leadership that supports the quality and relevance of undergraduate and graduate business education. Collaborate with faculty to strengthen existing programs, identify opportunities for curricular innovation, and develop distinctive academic offerings that respond to emerging workforce needs and evolving student interests. Encourage interdisciplinary collaboration, experiential learning, and innovative delivery models, including online education, while expanding opportunities for graduate business education and strengthening connections between academic preparation and professional practice.

Elevate the College's Visibility and Reputation

Champion the distinctive identity, academic strengths, and accomplishments of the Foster College of Business within Bradley University and the broader business education community. Articulate a compelling vision that highlights the College's contributions to business education, student achievement, and regional economic vitality. Enhance its visibility and reputation through strategic communication, meaningful partnerships, and active engagement with prospective students, alumni, employers, and other external constituencies.

Cultivate a Collaborative and Engaged Community

Foster a vibrant academic community characterized by collegiality, mutual respect, transparency, and shared purpose. Build strong relationships with faculty, staff, students, and university leadership through active listening, thoughtful engagement, and inclusive decision-making. Honor the College's history and traditions while working collaboratively to establish strategic priorities and pursue new opportunities. Promote a culture of trust, innovation, and shared governance that empowers members of the College community to contribute meaningfully to its success.

Support Faculty Excellence and Academic Development

Promote an environment that supports faculty achievement in teaching, scholarship, and service, while encouraging professional development among faculty and staff. Recognize and build upon the College's collegial culture and commitment to academic quality. Advocate for the resources and institutional support necessary to advance academic priorities, sustain strong programs, and enable faculty and staff to thrive.

Strengthen External Partnerships and Philanthropy

Serve as a visible and engaged ambassador for the Foster College of Business, cultivating productive relationships with alumni, donors, business and industry leaders, and community partners. Leverage these relationships to expand experiential learning, internships, career opportunities, and other meaningful connections between students and the professional community. Advance philanthropic engagement and external support for initiatives that enrich academic programs, support students, and extend the College's impact.

Enhance Student Recruitment, Engagement, and Success

Advance a student-centered approach to business education that attracts talented students, supports their academic and professional aspirations, and prepares them for successful careers. Collaborate with university partners to develop effective recruitment, retention, and marketing strategies that communicate the distinctive value of a Bradley business education. Identify opportunities to broaden the reach of academic offerings, strengthen student engagement, and support sustainable enrollment across undergraduate and graduate programs.

Advance Strategic Priorities and Institutional Stewardship

Provide thoughtful and effective leadership in aligning the College's academic aspirations with institutional priorities and available resources. Collaborate with faculty, staff, and university leadership to establish strategic goals, promote responsible financial stewardship, and identify opportunities for institutional advancement. Balance academic ambition with sound planning and operational effectiveness to ensure the College's long-term strength and vitality.

QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate will be an accomplished academic leader with a demonstrated commitment to excellence in business education, collaborative leadership, and student success. Candidates should possess the following qualifications and characteristics:

Required Qualifications

- An earned doctorate or equivalent terminal degree in business or a related field.
- An academic record appropriate for appointment at the rank of full professor in one of the College's academic departments.
- A demonstrated record of academic leadership at the level of department chair, school director, associate dean, dean, or a comparable position.
- A strong commitment to undergraduate and graduate business education and the academic mission of the College.

Preferred Qualifications and Personal Qualities

- **Strategic and Collaborative Leadership:** A demonstrated ability to develop and implement a shared vision, lead organizational change, build consensus, and foster a culture of collegiality, transparency, and shared governance.
- **Academic and Administrative Experience:** Experience in academic budgeting, strategic planning, personnel management, faculty promotion and tenure, program evaluation, and AACSB accreditation processes for business and accounting.
- **Academic Innovation and Student Success:** A forward-thinking approach to academic program development, including undergraduate and graduate education, online and interdisciplinary offerings, experiential learning, and strategies that support student recruitment, retention, and career preparation.
- **Faculty and Staff Development:** A commitment to supporting faculty excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service, fostering professional development, and empowering faculty and staff to contribute meaningfully to institutional priorities.
- **External Engagement and Resource Development:** Experience cultivating productive relationships with alumni, donors, business and industry leaders, and community partners, including demonstrated success or potential in fundraising and securing resources to advance academic priorities.
- **Institutional Advocacy and Relationship Building:** The ability to represent the College effectively within the university and among external constituencies, build strong institutional partnerships, and advocate for the resources and support necessary to advance its mission.
- **Inclusive and Ethical Leadership and Communication:** A demonstrated commitment to inclusive excellence, integrity, accountability, and transparent decision-making. An approachable and engaged leadership style characterized by emotional intelligence, sound judgment, exceptional written and interpersonal communication skills, active listening, and the ability to engage effectively with diverse constituencies.





ABOUT OUR FOUNDER

Founded in 1897 by visionary philanthropist Lydia Moss Bradley, Bradley University has always challenged convention in pursuit of progress. Today, that pioneering spirit lives on through an innovative, student-centered education that prepares graduates to lead with confidence and purpose. Built for ambitious students, Bradley combines personalized support, hands-on learning, and close faculty mentorship to foster critical thinking, leadership, and real-world success. Rooted in meaningful connections and a commitment to excellence, Bradley empowers students to maximize their potential and make lasting contributions to their communities and careers.

BRADLEY University

WE ARE BRADLEY

Bradley University is a nationally recognized, private university in Peoria, Illinois. As a comprehensive university, Bradley offers more than 100 programs across five colleges, including psychology, nursing, computer science, engineering, biology, game design, music performance, sociology, kinesiology, and more.

With a 10:1 student to faculty ratio, all students get personalized attention from their instructors who serve as mentors throughout their academic journey.

Campus Logistics

- 87 buildings on an 97-acre campus
- Located in the historic West Bluff residential neighborhood
- One mile from downtown Peoria
- Eight miles from the Peoria International Airport
- Approximately 4,000

Financial Strengths

- Endowment as of May 31, 2026: $405 million
- FY 2026 budget: $160 million
- Undergraduate Cost of Attendance: 2026-2027 - Tuition, Room/Board and Fees: $59,058
- Graduate Cost of Attendance: 2026-2027 Rates - $1,158 a semester hour
- More than 90% of Bradley students receive financial assistance awards



100+ ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

11:1 STUDENT FACULTY RATIO

200+ STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING FOR **100%** of students

94% CAREER OUTCOMES



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Bradley University consistently earns national recognition, and is named among the best colleges in the country by prestigious publications.

The U.S. News and World Report 2026 Best Colleges List distinguished Bradley in multiple categories, including:

- #169 on National Best Colleges List, and #6 in Illinois
- #36 Best Value for National Universities
- #44 Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs nationally
- #1 in Illinois Best Undergraduate Engineering for schools not offering a doctorate

Princeton Review featured Bradley multiple times in its Best 390 Colleges for 2026, including:

- Best Value Colleges
- Best Midwest
- Top 50 Game Design: Undergrad - #23 nationally
- Top Midwest Game Design: Undergrad - #4

The Wall Street Journal places Bradley in the top 20% nationally in America's Best Colleges 2026, recognized for its strong student outcomes and career preparation.

EXPLORE OUR FIVE COLLEGES







Caterpillar College of Engineering and Technology

Students gain practical experience and build a strong foundation for their future careers as they learn in state-of-the-art facilities with world-class faculty guiding their journeys. It's where innovation meets excellence. Continuously ranked in the top 30 engineering programs nationwide, Bradley Engineering offers unparalleled opportunities for growth and success in the field.

Learn more.

College of Education and Health Sciences

Aspiring nurses, teachers, physical therapists, and nutritionists find their path here. College of Education and Health Sciences students have some of the highest pass rates on their individual licensing exams in the country. Our classrooms offer the best of traditional learning, modern technology, and new tools, including a high-fidelity multi-patient nursing simulation lab.

Learn more.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences allows students to explore learning across boundaries in the social sciences, the natural and computational sciences, and the humanities. Our programs offer students opportunities to work in diverse teams to solve important problems in new ways, developing the skills that enable students to excel in any career field.

Learn more.

Foster College of Business

The Foster College prepares students to make an immediate impact on the world. Through immersive real-world practice, students learn critical thinking, communication, and leadership skills. The college is home to the Center for Cybersecurity and the Turner Center for Entrepreneurship, allowing it to be a resource organization in the community.

Learn more.

Slane College of Communications and Fine Arts

Students have a myriad of opportunities to explore many career options through hands-on, experiential learning. Programs in art, communications, interactive media, music and theatre challenge students to be their best. And programs like the Hollywood Semester and Study Abroad, provide unique opportunities for once-in-a-lifetime experiences.

Learn more.



THE PREMIER STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Bradley University is continually investing in spaces that enhance the student experience, creating modern, welcoming environments where students can live, learn, and build lasting connections. From updated residence halls and dining facilities to expanded recreation and gathering spaces, these improvements reflect the University's commitment to student success and well-being.

Students continue to benefit from recent campus enhancements, like the new community spaces in University Hall designed to foster collaboration and connection, while the new Goldin Gateway creates a welcoming front door to campus and symbolizes the strong partnership between Bradley and Peoria, serving as a visual reminder that opportunities for internships, service, and hands-on learning extend well beyond campus and throughout our hometown.

The Zaleski Recreation Complex offers expanded opportunities for fitness and recreation with pickleball, sand volleyball, and outdoor gathering spaces, while the Ken & Doris Kolb Music Pavilion has quickly become a vibrant destination for campus life.

The investment continues with the complete renovation of Harper Hall, scheduled for completion in Fall 2028. The updated residence hall will feature private single rooms, suite-style living with in-suite restrooms, modern finishes, and thoughtfully designed shared spaces that promote comfort and community. Together, these enhancements underscore Bradley's commitment to providing a premier residential experience where students can thrive both inside and outside the classroom.



DIVISION 1 NCAA TEAMS

With 15 Division 1 NCAA teams, we excel in the classroom and beyond. Learn More

BASEBALL
MEN'S BASKETBALL
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
CROSS COUNTRY
MEN'S GOLF
WOMEN'S GOLF
SOCCER
TENNIS
TRACK & FIELD
VOLLEYBALL
SOFTBALL

WELCOME TO PEORIA

Located in the heart of the Midwest, Peoria offers the best of both worlds: abundant career opportunities and an affordable, high-quality lifestyle. The region continues to attract new employers and create jobs in growing industries like advanced manufacturing and clean energy, while maintaining a cost of living that's about 9% below the national average. Whether you're looking for vibrant city living or a quiet neighborhood, Greater Peoria offers a place to call home, along with world-class healthcare, excellent schools, and easy access to destinations across the country and around the world.

- #5 Most Affordable College Towns, according to Realtor.com
- #7 Top Small City for recent grads by Coworking Cafe, Top Cities for Grads in 2026
- Four-Time all America City, recognized by the National Civic League for civic engagement, collaboration, inclusiveness and innovation
- #16 Best Affordable Place to live in the U.S. by U.S. News Best Places 2026
- World Class Museums, Professional Sports, and Fine Dining
- Three hours from Chicago, St. Louis, and Indianapolis

The Peoria International Airport provides nonstop service on three airlines: Allegiant, American, and United. With free parking and shuttle service, PIA is a stress-free way to connect to the world. To learn more about the Peoria area, please visit Discover Peoria.



BRADLEY University

Application should be received by January 11, 2027, for full consideration. The committee will review application materials until the position is filled.

The application must include:

- A letter of interest
- Current curriculum vitae/resumé
- Contact information for five recent professional references

Submit materials in a PDF format to one of the following:

Through the AGB Search Portal:
Bradley University-Dean, Foster School of Business

BUdeanbusiness@agbsearch.com

Dawn Overstreet-Doyle, Ph.D.
Executive Search Consultant
dawn.overstreet-doyle@agbsearch.com

Concetta M. Stewart, Ph.D.
Principal
concetta.stewart@agbsearch.com

Bradley University is committed to a policy of non-discrimination and the promotion of equal opportunities for all persons regardless of age, color, creed, disability, ethnicity, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression or veteran status. The university is also committed to compliance with all applicable laws regarding non-discrimination, harassment, and affirmative action.