



RESPONSE TO THE PROVIDENCE COLLEGE MISSION

In its appointment of Ordinary Faculty, Providence College is committed to the maintenance of the highest standards in teaching, scholarship, and service to the College and its professional and social communities. It is also committed to its mission as a Catholic and Dominican institution of higher education. Thus in all of its searches for full-time faculty, the College seeks men and women qualified in their academic disciplines, normally holding the terminal degree, who have demonstrated excellence, or who have the potential for excellence, in teaching and scholarship, and who support and foster the College's mission.

Providence College embodies the intellectual habits and ethos unique to the tradition of the Dominican Order, a tradition that spans more than seven centuries. From its beginning, the Dominican Order has valued and promoted study and the life of the mind as ways of understanding the created order and knowing the Creator. The Order's motto, adopted by the College, is *Veritas*, truth, and refers at one and the same time to the particular truth that is being pursued, and the cumulative unity of all knowledge, and to the ultimate Truth that will set us free.

The commitment to truth has several implications. First, the pursuit of learning, and the teaching and scholarship that make it possible, take place within the ambit of the College's Catholic and Dominican mission. One studies, teaches, and pursues scholarship here precisely because this is a Catholic and Dominican College that draws on such a rich intellectual and spiritual tradition. The commitment to truth also means that academic excellence is not an option but a necessity. To pursue truth, one cannot be satisfied with half measures, but must be willing to do all that one can to obtain it. Finally, truth applies to the whole person: mind and heart, body and soul. Faith and reason are compatible and complementary, not antagonistic, and the College's commitment to the liberal arts and a core curriculum enhances its professional and pre-professional programs.

Providence College welcomes applications from candidates for faculty and staff positions who can affirm and contribute to its mission. As a formal part of the hiring process, individuals are asked to respond to the College's Mission. In so doing, Providence College is initiating a conversation about candidates' level of understanding of, and comfort with, and willingness to contribute to, a uniquely Catholic and Dominican approach to a liberal arts education. The request for a response to the Providence College Mission is an invitation to think deeply about how one's teaching and scholarship can flourish at Providence College. One might consider how one's work addresses critical elements of the mission - its Catholic and Dominican character, academic excellence, and the liberal arts. One might also consider how these several elements can be integrated and how one might contribute a unique perspective to their ongoing engagement.

Providence College believes this exercise is helpful to the candidates and to the College when someone is preparing to join our academic community, and hope that you will find it stimulating and thought provoking. We ask that you take the opportunity to respond (in 1-2 pages) to the Providence College Mission seriously and encourage you to read "Reflections on the Mission of Providence College" or visit the web pages of the Office of Mission and Ministry (<http://www.providence.edu/Mission+Ministry/>).