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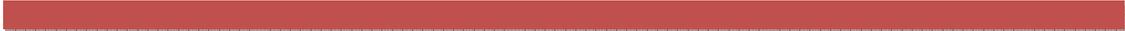
University of Illinois at Chicago

Director of Purchasing Executive Search

UIC University of Illinois
at Chicago

Harris Search Associates

Fall 2012



About The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

In less than three decades, UIC has transformed itself into one of the top 60 research universities in the United States. Its students reflect the diverse, global nature of Chicago and other great cities around the country and the world. Its research and scholarly output is based upon working within, across and between disciplines to answer important societal questions and contribute to the scientific, social, political, environmental, health and economic well-being of our modern society. This is an exceptional opportunity for an experienced, visionary leader to help sustain and advance UIC towards its goal of becoming the national's premier urban public research university.

History

For more than a century, UIC has had an extraordinary history, for it truly evolved from the needs of the people of Illinois. UIC traces its origins to several private health colleges founded during the late nineteenth century, including the Chicago College of Pharmacy, which opened in 1859, the College of Physicians and Surgeons (1882) and the Columbian College of Dentistry (1891).

The University of Illinois was chartered in 1867 in Champaign-Urbana, as the state's land-grant university. The Chicago-based health colleges affiliated with the University of Illinois in 1896-97, becoming fully incorporated into the University of Illinois in 1913, as the Colleges of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy. In the succeeding decades, several other health science colleges, which were brought together as the Chicago Professional Colleges of the University of Illinois, were developed. In 1961, these colleges became the University of Illinois at the Medical Center (UIMC).

Following World War II, the University of Illinois increased its presence in Chicago by creating a temporary, two-year branch campus, the Chicago Undergraduate Division. Housed on Navy Pier, the campus accommodated primarily student veterans on the G.I. Bill. Demand for a public university education in Chicago remained high, even after the first wave of veterans, so the University of Illinois made plans to create a permanent degree-granting campus in the Chicago area. Mayor Richard J. Daley offered the Harrison and Halsted site, in Chicago's historic Near West Side, for the new campus.

Named the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle (UICC), the new campus opened in February 1965. Circle (as it was called) was a degree-granting institution, with ambitions to become a great university. Within five years of the campus' opening, virtually every department offered graduate

degrees. In 1982, the Circle and Medical Center campuses consolidated to form the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). This merger strengthened UIC's potential for scholarly excellence, and pushed UIC to Carnegie Research I institution status in 1987 (now the Carnegie classification of RU/VH: Research Universities [very high research activity]).

The Campus

UIC's mission, which can be summarized as "access to excellence and success," provides educational opportunity and life advantages for people in Chicago, in Illinois, and across the nation. UIC students come from every economic stratum; most are from Chicago and its suburbs, although many of them or their parents began life in other parts of the world. The University's mission to be inclusive and engaged while striving for the highest academic standards has been possible because the superb faculty blends outstanding scholarship with a commitment to teaching students and involving them in scholarly endeavors.

UIC's goal is to become the premier urban public research university in the United States. UIC is part of the three-campus University of Illinois system, has a \$1.95 billion budget and \$341.7 million in annual research expenditures. With a student body of more than 27,000 students, 39 percent of them professional or graduate students, UIC is the largest university in Chicago. It has 15 colleges and the state's major public medical center.

UIC is truly an urban campus. For all the changes in the site and size of its campus and the development of its research and academic programs, UIC remains inextricably tied to the city of Chicago. Those ties are affirmed by UIC's Great Cities Commitment: partnering with hundreds of government agencies, community organizations, businesses and schools, UIC faculty and staff improve the quality of life in Chicago and other urban areas through teaching, research, service and economic development. UIC's connection with, and impact upon, the city, state and beyond is profound. For example, the University of Illinois Hospital and Health Sciences System (hospital and clinics) serve more than 600,000 patient visits annually. An estimated one in six Illinois physicians, 44 percent of the state's dentists and one-third of the state's pharmacists are UIC alumni. The UIC College of Education is a major producer of Chicago public school teachers. UIC architecture alumni have left their mark on cities around the globe, including the world's tallest building in Dubai and Chicago's Millennium Park. UIC's theater program is under the direction of a member of Chicago's internationally acclaimed Steppenwolf Theater Company.

UIC occupies approximately 243 acres in a mid-city location west of Chicago's downtown business district. Including the Rockford and Peoria health sciences campuses of UIC, the total acreage is almost 300 acres. UIC has more than 15 million gross square feet in almost 133 buildings (including the regional campuses). More than 1 million net square feet are assigned to research.

The Position – Director of Purchasing

The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) is seeking a highly experienced and innovative leader as the Director of Purchasing. The selected individual will be a key leader in a change management initiative designed to move the purchasing function from heavy reliance on transaction processing to strategic sourcing and electronic procurement initiatives to achieve costs savings while maintaining quality service.

The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) is the largest university in the Chicago area, with more than 27,000 students and 11,500 faculty and staff. As a top research university, UIC is a vital part of the educational, technological, health care and cultural fabric of the Chicago metropolitan area.

With a staff of 22, the Director of Purchasing provides campus-wide leadership for the Purchasing Department along with support of the 500 bed hospital and medical school campuses of Chicago, Rockford, Peoria and Urbana. Reporting to the Executive Assistant Vice President for Business and Finance (Chicago), the position is based in Chicago but requires travel to the Urbana and Springfield campuses to work with the other purchasing and payables directors.

Responsibilities

- Manage overall procurement activities at UIC
- Participate in a University-wide procurement effort designed to save the University a minimum of \$30 million annually by increasing spend under management through the use strategic contracts, minimizing the number of low-value transactions, standardizing procurement processes and making better use of technology.
- In conjunction with the other University Purchasing and Payables Directors, assist in the continuing implementation and management of University-wide e-procurement solutions
- Assist in the development and execution of a University-wide strategic sourcing plan

- Assure that all procurement activities for the University are conducted in accordance with all applicable laws, policies, guidelines, and procedures
- Provide regular training and instruction to campus personnel who originate, process, or complete procurement actions
- Direct the activities of the campus supplier diversity program in conjunction with campus and University-wide leadership
- Represent the University in outside activities involving the procurement function, such as meetings with peers at other institutions and state-level procurement officials
- Evaluate and respond to proposed procurement-related legislation and rules
- Monitor campus purchasing performance through standard management reports and analyses and recommend changes in departmental practices, as necessary
- Monitor internal departmental performance through standard management reports, analyses, data and information
- Mentor and develop staff for future leadership positions.

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in business, accounting, economics, finance or related area; a Master's degree and/or professional certifications such as CPPO or CPSM are preferred
- Minimum of seven years of management experience in administering the purchasing or business activity of a University or a similarly complex organization
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Dynamic, collegial, consensus-building leadership style
- An understanding of Illinois procurement laws is desirable
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience with SciQuest in a higher education setting is desirable
- Experience in a hospital setting including purchase of medical supplies/equipment/services would be helpful
- Experience in process reengineering or continuous improvement, and the demonstrated ability to use technology to create efficiencies is desirable.

Additional Preferred Qualifications

- A seasoned professional with a blend of higher education and/or healthcare/medical services purchasing experience

- Experience with prior purchasing IT system/technology integration.
- Administrative experience with supervision, planning, and fiscal management.
- Excellent communication and negotiation skills to represent the university and procurement organization to internal and external audiences.
- Experience working in/the nuances of a complex multi- constituent/stakeholder environment.
- Successful, proven experience in administrative leadership within academia, or in a comparable position in a leading non-academic institution.
- Demonstrated success in recruiting, developing, evaluating and retaining professional staff.
- Ability to foster and promote gender equity and ethnic diversity among staff to enrich the university and preserve the uniqueness of UIC.
- An established record of personal and professional ethics, character and integrity.

Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

For full consideration, a letter of interest and a current resume should be directed in confidence to the University's retained executive search firm of Harris Search Associates,

Nomination and applications should be submitted electronically in confidence to Jeffrey Harris.

Contact Information:

Jeffrey Harris, Managing Partner, Harris Search Associates

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