



DEAN OF THE HONORS COLLEGE

LEADERSHIP PROFILE

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Edited by
Steven Gross,
Nicholas Tebben,
and Michael Williams

Meaning Without Representation

*Essays on Truth, Expression,
Normativity, and Naturalism*

BEYOND THE PR INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

Crime and Incarceration in

Kevin Wehr and Elyshia

THE OPPORTUNITY

Towson University ("TU"), Maryland's largest comprehensive university and a recognized leader in student learning, diversity, research, and community service, seeks an innovative, energetic and entrepreneurial educator, visionary, and strategic thinker to serve as its next Dean of the Honors College. Reporting to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Melanie Perreault, the Dean serves as the chief academic and administrative officer of the College and will join TU at a pivotal juncture in its history, as it continues the trajectory of excellence and impact in teaching and scholarship to become a Carnegie R2 institution. The Dean shall possess a passion for Honors education; strong communication and listening skills; the ability to closely collaborate with colleagues on the Deans' and Provost's Councils; familiarity with, and a commitment to, fundraising; and superior personnel and budget management skills.

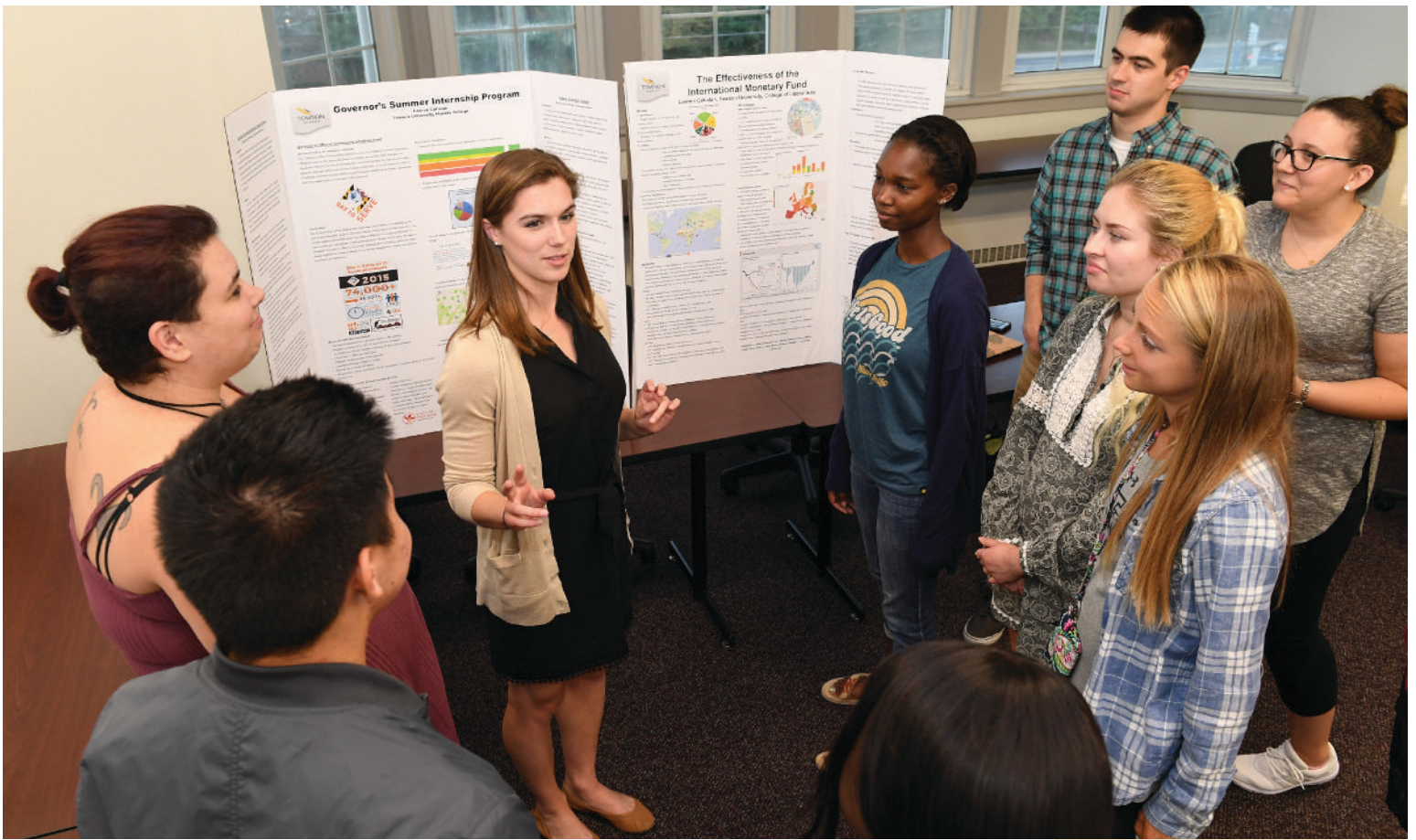
TU has heavily invested in infrastructure and hiring to create a thriving campus community of inclusive excellence. TU recently placed as the #1 Public University in Maryland according to the Wall Street Journal and Top 10 Public University in the North Region according to U.S. News & World Report. The Honors College provides challenging opportunities for the most highly qualified and motivated students seeking intellectual and personal growth.

The Honors College recently celebrated its 25th anniversary and is committed to the intellectual and character development of highly engaged undergraduate students. With an emphasis on interdisciplinary study, research and co-curricular experiences, the Honors College seeks to cultivate inquisitive minds and foster broad knowledge that strengthens students' scholarly interests, nurtures their talents, develops their sense of ethical responsibility, and enables them to navigate an increasingly complex globalized world.



Students choose TU's Honors College for the:

- Enriched seminar classes of 10-20 students
- Community engagement with highly motivated individuals within a large university setting
- Perspectives from multiple disciplines reflective of the diverse faculty and students
- Outstanding faculty that share a passion for teaching and advancing student learning
- Emphasis on experiential learning including opportunities for advanced research projects, study abroad, internships, and service-learning courses



THE ROLE OF THE DEAN OF THE HONORS COLLEGE

The Dean reports to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs and will lead the Honors College in expanding its impact, offerings, and access. The Honors College is poised for growth, and the Dean will build on this momentum to:

- Leverage the College's curricular and co-curricular planning to bolster student success
- Lead and support a strong cadre of faculty and staff
- Further position the administrative and residential facilities to build an infrastructure that prepares the college for growth
- Achieve regional and national recognition and distinction for the College
- Lead curricular innovation, fundraising, and faculty and staff recruitment to enhance the college's visibility at TU and beyond
- Collaborate with the Division of Enrollment Management to develop enrollment and operational plans that build on the college's strengths and unlock its potential in close alignment with TU's "Leadership for the Public Good" strategic plan, and its ambitions for R2-Carnegie classification
- Collaborate closely with fellow Deans, as well as with the offices of admissions, advising, study abroad, research and fellowships to enhance and enrich the Honors program
- Build upon the strong sense of community that already exists within the college to maximize its potential and that of its students



PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

The next Dean of the Honors College must hold an earned terminal degree and a substantial record of intellectual/creative accomplishment, excellent teaching and student advising/mentoring, and academic engagement that would qualify for the appointment at the rank of associate professor or full professor, with tenure in one of TU's academic units.

Applicants must have academic administrative experience of at least five years at the departmental level or higher, including experience with faculty and staff hiring, student mentoring/advising, budget management, and instructional assessment.

Other qualifications include:

- A record of creative leadership
- Strong interpersonal skills and experience convening and building effective collaboration amongst stakeholders

- Commitment to student success/professional development
- Strong oral and written communication skills, including the ability to speak knowledgeably about the Honors program
- Evidence of work with diverse communities
- Engagement with development activities

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

Preferred qualifications include implementation/knowledge of National Collegiate Honors Council best practices; a demonstrated track-record of successfully establishing an academic program or unit; and experience leading fundraising campaigns.

TOWSON UNIVERSITY: AN OVERVIEW

Located on a 330-acre campus in Towson, Maryland, just ten miles from Baltimore's Inner Harbor and a short drive or train ride to Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, or New York City, Towson offers an environment for living and learning, close to many educational, cultural and community resources. Princeton Review included TU among the best colleges in the northeast in its 2024 Best Colleges: Region by Region list. TU is recognized for its quality and value with a growing research and innovation enterprise deeply connected to people and place.

TU is also among the most diverse institutions of higher education in the nation and is staunchly committed to building an inclusive and equitable campus community. TU placed number 30 globally and top among U.S. institutions in gender equality in the 2022 Times Higher Education Impact Rankings. In addition, TU was recognized by Insight Into Diversity magazine with a Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award in 2020, 2021, and 2022.

TU is well-known for its leadership in rigorous undergraduate and graduate education, relevant research, and service to the state of Maryland as the largest producer of K-12 educators in the state, among many other accolades. Its nearly 20,000 students—30% of whom identify as Black or African American, and 10% of whom identify as Hispanic or Latino—are enrolled in over 110 undergraduate options, 47 master's programs, 36 graduate certificates, and 7 doctoral degree programs spanning the liberal arts, fine arts, health professions, education, business, and natural and physical sciences.

TU offers a personal class experience, with a 15:1 student-to-faculty ratio and an average class size of 24 students. 93% of TU graduates from the class of 2022 secured a job or enrolled in continuing education/graduate school, with an average salary after graduation of \$55,706. 86% of working graduates are employed in Maryland.

TOWSON UNIVERSITY CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

TU has invested in the following exciting projects to enhance the student experience:

- **New Science Complex:** Opened in fall 2021, the new facilities provides new academic and research space for TU's expanding Fisher College of Science and Mathematics. The heart of the five-story, 320,000 square-foot complex is a multistory atrium located at its center. In addition to the classrooms and labs inside the building, the complex contains an outdoor classroom overlooking the Glen Arboretum, a 10-acre wooded area adjacent to the academic core.
- **StarTUup:** Opened in summer 2021, the StarTUup at the Armory serves as TU's front door for start-ups, small businesses, as well as our region's largest corporations. This public-facing vibrant space reflects the university-wide effort to place entrepreneurship and leadership as a university priority.
- **College of Health Professions:** TU broke ground in the summer of 2021 on a six-story College of Health Professions building in the heart of campus. This building will have world-class resources to support the teaching and research as the largest provider of health professionals in Maryland.
- **University Union:** A two-phase project has transformed TU's University Union. The first phase created an 85,000 square-foot-addition offering expanded event and dining space and two main entrances connecting to a spacious plaza. Phase two includes a renovation to the original building to update Paws Cafe and provide new homes for Student Life, Civic Engagement, and more.



THE HONORS COLLEGE

MISSION & VISION

The Honors College at Towson University aspires to be a premier provider of honors education that is recognized regionally and nationally for academic excellence, as well as for its curricular and co-curricular innovations linking the themes of globalization, leadership and urbanization.

The mission of the Honors College is to forge a diverse community of students, faculty and staff bound by a shared desire to challenge themselves academically, personally and professionally. To fulfill this mission, the Honors College seeks to provide its students with an innovative and evolving selection of curricular and co-curricular opportunities designed to cultivate and foster the core values on which it is founded.

CORE VALUES

- Academic excellence: Students will strive individually and together in groups to explore, connect and understand critical challenges, issues, problems and questions in the arts, business, education, health, humanities and sciences. They will also gain a significant understanding and excel in at least one major discipline.
- Global perspective: Students will engage in curricular and co-curricular experiences that will equip them with the kinds of experiences, knowledge and skills needed to function as competent citizen leaders in an increasingly global and urbanized world.
- Leadership: Students will contribute to the life of the college, the university and to the larger communities to which they belong, as engaged participants and leaders.
- Diversity: Students will embrace diversity of culture, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation, race and religion as authentic sources of human richness to be appreciated, valued and celebrated.
- Creative and critical thinking: Students will develop the ability to analyze and synthesize information, to solve problems creatively and to communicate clearly and effectively.
- Lifelong learning: Students will regard the pursuit of knowledge and quest for wisdom as a lifelong activity that demands constant commitment and growth — both personally and professionally.

FACULTY & STAFF

The Honors College has talented professors who love to inspire students. Honors faculty represent a range of academic disciplines and are among the most innovative at Towson University.

Honors College seminars are proposed by faculty members with the specific intention of enabling students and faculty to examine areas that are not usually part of regular departmental offerings. In addition, Honors students work one-on-one with TU faculty in the pursuit of Honors electives like internships, independent studies, and thesis writing.

The Honors College is staffed by a Faculty Director, a Director of Co-Curricular Programs and Constituent Relationships, a Coordinator for Admissions and Enrollment, and an Executive Administrative Assistant. Each year, TU faculty and staff assist in the Honors College application review process by reading incoming freshman and transfer student applications. This effort allows the Honors College to take a holistic approach to assessing applications and ensure that all applicant-submitted material is considered by one or more reviewers.



APPENDIX

DR. MELANIE PERREAULT PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Melanie Perreault, Ph.D., is the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs at Towson University. As the chief academic officer of the university, she oversees 125 degree programs (undergraduate, master's and seven doctorate), and supports almost 20,000 students, over 1,700 full-time and adjunct faculty, and over 200 staff and administrators. Dr. Perreault provides leadership for six academic colleges, the Honors College, the Office of Graduate Studies, and the Albert S. Cook Library and oversees the Division of Student Affairs. As provost, she facilitates University and Academic Affairs strategic planning, implements budget and resource allocation plans, guides and oversees innovations in academic technology, promotes faculty excellence and student success, and supports curricular and program distinction.

Dr. Perreault was appointed Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at TU effective February 18, 2019. Prior to her arrival at TU, Dr. Perreault was the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at SUNY Buffalo State, the largest comprehensive university in the SUNY system. At Buffalo State, some of the efforts

led by Dr. Perreault included the development of the institution's strategic plan, creation of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, establishment of a new program that expanded funding opportunities for students to engage in faculty-led undergraduate research, and creation of the Diversity Faculty Fellows Program to assist in diversifying the professoriate through ABD/post-doctoral fellowship programs.

Dr. Perreault received a B.A. in History from Lawrence University in 1990 and a Ph.D. in Colonial American History from the College of William and Mary in 1997. She was an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Central Arkansas before taking a position at Salisbury University in Maryland. There, she served as department chair and moved through the academic ranks to become a full Professor of History and later the Associate Provost, leading the university's strategic planning and institutional accreditation efforts.

