

3557 Liberty Drive
Burlington, NC 27215

November 7, 2016

Florida Gulf Coast University President Search
Witt/Kieffer
2015 Spring Road, Suite 510
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Dear Mr. Luke:

I am writing to express my interest in the position of President for the Florida Gulf Coast University. I currently serve as the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Undergraduate Programs at North Carolina A&T State University. As a leader in higher education, I value student-centered learning, innovation, lifelong learning, high-quality educational experiences, and diversity. My values closely align with the mission and vision of FGCU which makes me a good fit for the position of President. Below I will share a few of my leadership experiences both at the university and system level. I feel these opportunities have afforded me the background necessary to passionately partner with the FGCU Board and other executive staff to build on the current FGCU trajectory and to lead this great university to its next level in higher education.

Quality Academics and Performance

As part of my current role as Vice Provost, I am responsible for the review of the curriculum for the Office of the Provost. I also oversee the general education curriculum and the assessment of the student learning outcomes to ensure the highest quality academics. As the associate and interim Chief Academic Officer (CAO) at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (the first public conservatory in United States), I provided direct oversight for converting the curriculum from a trimester to semester system in an effort to better meet the needs of the students. I worked closely with faculty and other university administrators to develop an enrollment and marketing plan for each of the schools within the university; and to develop online general education courses. Each of these efforts demonstrate my leadership skills for ensuring highest quality academics and performance.

Student Success

As the Associate Vice President of the UNC System, I worked closely with the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs to analyze the data and current incentives for student success to develop new admission requirements for the UNC System. These new requirements have proven to be an effective strategy for student success within the UNC System. Currently, as Vice Provost, I am part of the student success steering committee charged to develop initiatives to improve student success. To date, we have implemented a new advising model for freshman students, advising workshops for faculty, and have implemented an early alert system for students who may be in jeopardy of not succeeding. This leadership experience aligns with the fourth pillar of the FGCU strategic plan: emerging pre-eminence.

Working with External University Constituents

While in the role of Associate Vice President, I worked closely with legislative staff and fiscal research to provide analysis of retention and graduation data to ensure the financial and other needs of the universities within the system were met. As the interim CAO, I worked closely with the University Foundation Board to ensure financial support from community donors. In addition, I worked with outside foundations to help secure vital scholarship support for the students.

Collaborative Relationships with K-12 and other Post-Secondary Institutions

I have worked collaboratively with the K-12 and other state college institutions in North Carolina. For example, as the Vice Provost, I oversee three early college high schools in partnership with Guilford County Schools. In addition, I have worked with the community college administrators to establish bilateral articulation agreements to help students develop a career plan from K-12 to a four-year degree.

Strategic Partnerships

During my early tenure at the UNC General Administration, I served as the Director of Academic Workforce Studies. In this role, I forged strategic relationships with industry leaders to help determine the academic programming needs for a 21st century workforce. As a result, the UNC System developed several professional science-masters programs that prepare students for high wage and high demand jobs.

Currently, higher education leaders are faced with pressures from legislators to keep cost down and education standards high. The President for FGCU must be able to manage the challenges of declining resources while continuing to provide high-quality educational programs that address regional and statewide needs. I feel that I have the knowledge, experience, and the passion to face these challenges in higher education as the President of the FGCU. I will bring transformative and transparent leadership to the position. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. Scott Jenkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

G. Scott Jenkins