



## ANNOUNCEMENT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE

HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL, AEROSPACE,  
AND BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

### INTERNAL SEARCH

Applications and nominations are invited for the position of Head of the Department of Mechanical, Aerospace, and Biomedical Engineering (MABE) at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK). MABE offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in the following disciplines: mechanical engineering, aerospace engineering, and biomedical engineering. Each undergraduate program is accredited by the ABET Engineering Accreditation Commission. The department currently has an enrollment of more than 1400 undergraduate and 200 graduate students, a faculty of more than 50, and annual research expenditures that exceed \$10M. The department has research strengths in advanced manufacturing and automation, fluid dynamics, hypersonics, automotive systems, robotics and automation, electrochemical energy storage and conversion, musculoskeletal biomechanics, bioimaging, wearable sensors, nanomaterials, and functional surfaces. The Tickle College of Engineering is a leading research institution with strong research partnerships with organizations such as the nearby Oak Ridge National Laboratory and UT Space Institute (UTSI) located in Tullahoma, which works with several organizations located in the Huntsville, Alabama area. MABE also has two joint UT/ORNL Governor's Chair Professors, advanced prototyping laboratory, and unique world-class wind tunnels and other facilities at UTSI. Graduate programs within MABE among public universities are ranked as follows (U.S. News and World Report, 2022): aerospace engineering is 27<sup>th</sup>, mechanical engineering is 38<sup>th</sup>, and biomedical engineering is 58<sup>th</sup>. MABE faculty members are located at both the UTK and the UTSI campuses. The department head will reside on the Knoxville campus in Dougherty Hall where the MABE administrative offices are located.

Primary responsibilities of the department head include: 1) to provide visionary leadership, to encourage excellence and innovation in research, teaching, and service; 2) to advance professional development of faculty, staff and students; 3) to promote productive relationships with all constituents including students, parents, alumni, industry and government agencies; 4) to foster productive interdisciplinary relationships with a variety of entities across the University community; and 5) to advocate for and promote the interests of the department within and outside the University. The next department head will have the opportunity to lead the department in its pursuit of excellence through strategic hires in key areas through university level initiatives.

Applicants must hold a doctorate degree in mechanical engineering, aerospace engineering, biomedical engineering or other closely related field and be eligible for appointment at the rank of full Professor. Knowledge of the benefits of, and a strong commitment to pursuing, diversity in students, staff and faculty are required. The successful candidate should demonstrate a balanced perspective on research, teaching, and service, as well as the vision and ability to lead a faculty representing a diversified range of interests. Demonstrated excellence in research, scholarship, technical leadership, management, and graduate and undergraduate teaching is preferred.

The Tickle College of Engineering is ranked 32nd (graduate) and 33rd (undergraduate) among public universities (U.S. News and World Report, 2022). Knoxville is a regional center for employment, commerce, and health care. In addition to University faculty and staff, more than 2,000 PhDs work in nearby technology-based companies including the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Knoxville was named as one of the "100 Best Places to Live in the U.S." (U.S. News and World Report, 2017) and second in Forbes Magazine's list of "Most Affordable Cities in 2015". It is located within 3.5 hours of three major metropolitan centers, Atlanta, Nashville, and Charlotte, and within an hour of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, is the state's flagship research institution, a campus of choice for outstanding undergraduates, and a premier graduate institution. As a land-grant university, UT is committed to excellence in learning, scholarship, and engagement with society. In all its activities, the university aims to advance the frontiers of human knowledge and enrich and elevate society. The Knoxville campus of the University of Tennessee is seeking candidates who have the ability to contribute in meaningful ways to the diversity and intercultural goals of the University. The University welcomes and honors people of all races, genders, creeds, cultures, and sexual orientations, and values intellectual curiosity, pursuit of knowledge, and academic freedom and integrity.

Applications should be addressed to Dr. Leon Tolbert, Search Committee Chair, and submitted via email to Ms. Carrie Zitzman at [czitzman@utk.edu](mailto:czitzman@utk.edu). Applications should include 1) a curriculum vitae, 2) a statement that addresses the applicant's leadership experience/philosophy, vision for the future of research and education in the MABE Department, and experience with promoting diversity, and 3) the full names, postal and email addresses, and telephone numbers of five references. Review of applications will begin on September 30, 2021, and continue until the position is filled. Anticipated start date is on or before January 1, 2022.

*All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admission without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, and parental status, or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law. In accordance with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the University of Tennessee affirmatively states that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or disability in its education programs and activities, and this policy extends to*

*employment by the university. Inquiries and charges of violation of Title VI (race, color, and national origin), Title IX (sex), Section 504 (disability), the ADA (disability), the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (age), sexual orientation, or veteran status should be directed to the Office of Equity and Diversity, 1840 Melrose Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-3560, telephone 865-974-2498. Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at the Office of Equity and Diversity.*