Fairfield University’s School of Nursing invites applications for the position of Dean. We seek candidates to join our community of teaching scholars who are passionate about nursing and thrive in a creative and caring work environment. In keeping with the mission of Fairfield University to develop men and women for others, the School of Nursing builds on a tradition of innovation and a commitment to provide the very best nursing education, scholarship, and professional services locally, nationally, and internationally. The School of Nursing is committed to leadership in nursing. The discovery, transmission, and use of knowledge are at the core of our work. Knowledge of health and illness in individuals, families, groups, and communities, both locally and internationally, provides the context for our charge. A belief that caring is an essential domain of nursing knowledge guides our focus of educating the whole person. Our model of relating theory to practice with a special view towards vulnerable populations illustrates the importance of each person’s contribution to the accomplishment of the mission and goals of our School.

Description
Founded in 1942 and located in Fairfield, Connecticut, Fairfield University’s current enrollment is 4,500 students. One of six schools at Fairfield University, the School of Nursing offers Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accredited baccalaureate and graduate degrees in nursing with specialization in nurse anesthesia, family nurse practitioner, psychiatric nurse practitioner, clinical nurse leader, and healthcare management. The vibrancy of our School is reflected in: innovative areas of study at the bachelor’s, masters and doctoral degree (DNP) levels; a partnership with the Veterans Administration (VA Nursing Academy); a commitment to the incorporation of technology into nursing education; and a highly engaged Advisory Board.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing - Traditional Program
Fairfield University's School of Nursing offers the undergraduate student a strong liberal arts core of courses that are integral to the curriculum. Through these courses, students develop the social awareness, historical consciousness, thinking skills, aesthetic sensibility, values orientation, and foundations in art, literature, and science that are hallmarks of undergraduate education.

Second Degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program
For students who have earned a bachelor's degree in another field, the School offers a Second Degree Program in an accelerated format leading to a B.S. in nursing. Students matriculate and complete degree requirements in approximately 15 months. A total of 60 credits must be earned at Fairfield University after the first degree is awarded.
Bachelor of Science, in Nursing - RN to BS Program
The RN to B.S. in Nursing program individualizes learning experiences for completion of the degree. The sequence of courses for registered nursing students is designed to build on existing knowledge and skills, and integrates a professional, research-based, family-oriented, community-focused perspective.

Advanced Placement in Nursing for Registered Nurses
Registered nurse students may earn advanced placement in the nursing major for a maximum of 30 credits. Advanced placement is awarded for most students through the articulation agreement among nursing programs. Occasionally RN credit is awarded through challenge exams or portfolio assessment. The RN to B.S. program individualizes learning experiences for completion of the degree.

Master of Science in Nursing, Clinical Nurse Leader Track
Fairfield University's CNL program is based on the assumptions and competencies of the AACN and the development of healthcare leaders. One of the issues driving the creation of the CNL curriculum is to equip nurses to advocate for change and have the skills to make change happen.

Master of Science in Nursing
Fairfield's Master of Science in Nursing is designed to allow flexibility to plan a curriculum that fits the student’s needs and provides the highest quality graduate educational experience.

Master of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner Track
Fairfield University's Master of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner Track prepares the graduate to manage healthcare needs of individuals of all ages and their families, emphasizing health promotion and disease prevention as well as diagnosis and management of acute and chronic disease.

Master of Science in Nursing, Healthcare Management Track
Fairfield University is suspending applications for 2011-12 to the Healthcare Management Track while the program is under review.

Master of Science in Nursing, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Track
Fairfield University's Master of Science in Nursing, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Track prepares advanced practice nurses to provide care to adults in inpatient, community-based, and private practice settings. Graduates of this program are eligible to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center certification exam to become licensed in any state as a Board Certified Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
Fairfield University's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is a clinical doctorate in an advanced specialty of nursing practice.

There are 2 pathways to obtaining a DNP:

- The BSN-DNP for Family Nurse Practitioners, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners, and Nurse Anesthetists
The 3 tracks in DNP are:

- Family Nurse Practitioner (PDF)
- Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner (PDF)
- Nurse Anesthetists (PDF)

The DNP focuses on the assessment and application of existing evidence to improve practice. The program culminates in a Practice Dissertation, aimed at creating and measuring the outcomes of a population-based practice innovation.

**Partnership Programs**
The Fairfield University School of Nursing has partnerships with the schools of nursing at St. Vincent's College and 5 Community Colleges.

**Study Abroad**
Students doing research and Public Health Nursing may study in Nicaragua. Studies are housed in Managua, the capital of Nicaragua, which is home to the Universidad Centroamericana, Latin America’s first private university. Students may also study in Italy and Ireland.

**Faculty**
The School of Nursing has 21 full-time and 22 part-time faculty members.

**Students**
The School of Nursing has 563 students with 404 students enrolled in its undergraduate programs and 158 students are enrolled in its graduate programs.

**Accreditation**
The next accreditation visit by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) for the School of Nursing will be in 2017.

**Responsibilities**
The Dean of the School of Nursing serves as the school’s academic leader and in collaboration with faculty and staff, is responsible for:

- Providing visionary leadership in a collaborative style for the on-going development of the School of Nursing, its resources, programs and future directions;
- Developing, implementing and evaluating academic programs and policies to meet the needs of a diverse and growing student population and accrediting bodies;
- Preparing and administering the budget and working collaboratively with the Office of Sponsored Programs, Foundation Relations and Corporate Relations in pursuit of new financial resources in support of the School;
- Guiding the recruitment, appointment, retention, promotion and long term success of a diverse and accomplished faculty and staff;
- Working collaboratively with other schools in the university to advance cross-disciplinary opportunities;
• Establishing and/or maintaining professional relationships and partnerships between the School of Nursing, local, regional, national and international health care agencies, and other external organizations;
• Engaging in the cultivation and solicitation of major gifts prospects in support of the School of Nursing working with Alumni Relations and Individual Giving of the Advancement Division. This includes the School’s Advisory Board.

Qualifications
The Dean will provide leadership, vision and energy to sustain and further enhance the School of Nursing. Taking the lead to create or seize opportunities associated with changes in graduate and undergraduate education, the delivery of health care and technology in an increasingly competitive and rapidly evolving world environment is essential. The Dean will be the liaison between the School of Nursing and the central administration of the institution and as a member of the Council of Deans will serve as a link between the School of Nursing and other constituencies in the institution and in the community. Successful candidates for the position of Dean of the School of Nursing will hold a doctorate in nursing or a related discipline and demonstrate a record of scholarship suitable for a senior tenure-track position and appointment as a tenured full professor. Progressive experience in higher education, research, grant acquisition and success in leading a complex academic organization is required.

The ideal candidate will demonstrate the following:
• Strong commitment to the ideals of the Jesuit educational tradition, including respect, spirituality, reflective practice and provision of care to all, especially to underserved populations
• Excellent interpersonal skills
• Track record of advancement, partnership development and successful networking
• A collaborative management and leadership style that empowers faculty
• A trajectory of external funding, research and scholarship
• Successful experience with Schools of Nursing that provide education at the undergraduate and graduate levels
• Experience in initiation and maintenance of collaborative international initiatives and knowledge of emerging opportunities related to global health
• Strong fiduciary and budget management skills
• An understanding of the role of information technology in educating the next generation of nurses
• An ability to advocate effectively for the profession within the university and at the local, state, national and international levels
• Be licensed or eligible for Connecticut RN licensure.

Nominations and applications should include: (1) a statement of the attributes that make the individual an excellent candidate for the deanship, (2) a curriculum vitae detailing the candidate’s qualifications, and (3) the names and contact information of seven professional references – who will not be contacted without the candidate’s permission. All application materials, inquiries, nominations and referrals will be maintained in confidence. Applications are now welcome and will be reviewed beginning immediately and until the position is filled. Submission of materials as MS Word or Adobe PDF attachments is encouraged.
Applications or nominations should be sent in electronic form to:

The Hollander Group  
info@thehollandergroup.net  
Phone: 202-486-9097  
Fax: 877-334-0626

Fairfield University is an Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer, committed to inclusive excellence.