



MOUNT MARY UNIVERSITY FASHION DEPARTMENT, SCHOOL OF ARTS & DESIGN Department Chairperson

Build on the distinguished 50-year history and bright future of Mount Mary University's Fashion Department, the first 4-year undergraduate program in the United States! The University is seeking a dynamic, visionary leader to prepare students for successful careers in the fashion industry. Fashion Design and Merchandise Management majors along with Post-Baccalaureate Certificates are offered in either discipline. The department also holds an extensive, 10,000-piece Historic Costume Collection offering a remarkable resource to inspire design imagination and build community engagement.

Mount Mary University is located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on a beautiful 80-acre campus with woods and rolling meadows, yet is less than 10 miles from Lake Michigan and the vibrant city center. Ranked in 2017 among the **Top 50 Places to Live** by *US News and World Report*, Milwaukee has been described as "big enough for world class arts and professional sports yet small enough to navigate with ease." Along with rich cultural assets and friendly people, the City of Milwaukee and the nearby charming Village of Wauwatosa, offer a high standard of living with quality housing and diverse economic vibrancy.

Strong applicants will have national connections and industry experience to grow key external partnerships that position Mount Mary as a premier leader in higher education fashion curriculum. The chair will work with a proven team of faculty to expand cutting edge curriculum, attract and retain talented students, launch new initiatives, magnify corporate and community partnerships, and represent the department to internal and external audiences. Structure of the appointment is flexible based on the specific expertise of qualified applicants.

Required/Preferred Qualifications and Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree **OR** graduate degree in Fashion Design, Merchandise Management **OR** related field.
- Must have industry leadership experience and demonstrated ability to raise the profile of the program within the national fashion industry.
- Academic leadership and teaching experience at the college/university level is desired however experience, appreciation for and/**or** willingness to learn about best practices in higher education, teaching and learning, as well as current issues and developments in higher education is required.
- Experience with industry digital media such as Optitex, Adobe Illustrator/Photoshop, Visual Retailing/CAD software programs considered a plus.
- Strong working knowledge and understanding of established professional codes of ethics.
- Demonstrated commitment to promoting inclusiveness and cultural competence; experience working with underrepresented students and students from at-risk backgrounds a plus.
- Outstanding verbal, writing, and presentation skills; must be able to communicate and interact effectively with Mount Mary students, employees, colleagues, alumnae and external audiences.
- Ability to facilitate group process and foster collaborative decision making.
- Evidence of scholarly/creative professional development.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Work collaboratively with faculty and other University constituents to ensure delivery of rigorous curriculum, develop systems to increase enrollment and strategically launch new initiatives.
- Teach merchandise management; apparel construction/patternmaking; fashion illustration, textiles **OR** curate the Historic Costume Collection in addition to providing administrative leadership in the department.
- Proactively increase and reinforce industry relationships and actively participate in one or more professional

organizations (i.e. ITAA, CSA, Fashion Group International etc.) to increase the visibility of the University as a national leader in fashion education.

- Leverage industry relationships to develop cooperative projects and internships that offer students both regional and large metropolitan exposure preparing them for careers and/or graduate school.
- Engage in a program of research and/or creative scholarship, leading to funded, collaborative projects in the fashion department.
- Serve on department and University committees.
- Fulfill department budgeting, reporting and scheduling requirements.
- Advise and mentor undergraduate majors and certificate students.
- Nurture and sustain a dynamic network of department alumnae and department donors in collaboration with MMU Development Office.
- Perform other duties, responsibilities, or special projects as assigned

Application Process:

Review of applications will commence December 5, 2017, and will continue until the position is filled. Please submit all required application materials at one time. Only complete applications will be reviewed. To apply, submit the following to the Human Resources Office at Mount Mary University or email a digital file to hreds@mtmary.edu:

- Cover Letter
- Curriculum Vita or resume
- Teaching Philosophy or Curator Experience
- A link to a digital portfolio or website, if applicable

Prior to interviews, those selected will be required to submit additional information including:

- Official undergraduate and graduate transcripts (sent directly from the Institution to MMU)
- Contact information for three (3) professional references

For additional information regarding this position, please contact the Dean for the School of Arts and Design, Barbara Armstrong at 414 930-3110 or armstrob@mtmary.edu

Mount Mary University practices equal opportunity employment as part of our ongoing commitment to diversity in our workplace.

Human Resources
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