



College of Pharmacy

Driven to DiscoverSM

Program Director and Head, Department Occupational Therapy
Associate Professor / Professor with Tenure
College of Pharmacy, University of Minnesota

The University of Minnesota (UMN) College of Pharmacy is seeking a bold, collaborative leader for the role of Program Director and Head, Department of Occupational Therapy (OT). The selected individual will lead a world class doctoral occupational therapy program within a dynamic department that blends nationally recognized expertise with resources from a very high research activity institution to innovatively study and teach occupational therapy.

OT seeks a leader with a broad and progressive vision for the future of occupational therapy with strong knowledge of the profession, education of future occupational therapists, client services, and OT- related trends in healthcare. The successful candidate will be skilled in building strong interpersonal relationships, stimulating action-oriented collaborations, and connecting groups to form partnerships, including clinical practitioners, health systems, advocacy organizations, and community groups. They will have a track record of leadership, mentoring and empowering faculty to influence occupation therapy education, practice, and scholarship at both local and national levels.

This is an exciting opportunity to build on strong institutional and individual faculty commitments to advance the profession of occupational therapy through practice, education, and research/scholarship. OT faculty individually and collectively have a legacy of an innovative curriculum, and recognized leadership in the profession. The Program has been a leader in hybrid education, delivering and studying hybrid educational strategies at the MOT and now the OTD degree for over 15 years. Faculty within the fully accredited OTD program value innovation, teamwork, and excellence in all its work .

A long-standing spirit of collaboration between the College of Pharmacy, University of Minnesota Health Science Schools, local health systems and Minnesota communities throughout the state provides an environment for rich partnerships seeking to create innovation in occupational therapy practice and education and influential scholarship and research. All of which aim to further the profession while improving the health of individuals throughout the state.

Desired candidates will have evidence of strong leadership skills and scholarly record, including success in leading teams, garnering extramural funding, producing nationally recognized scholarly works, and a demonstrated ability to collaborate and educate.

Key Administrative Responsibilities of Position: The Program Director/Department Head reports directly to the Dean and works with the Dean(s) and other Department Heads to achieve collegiate and programmatic goals.

- Leads the faculty to develop a strong and futuristic programmatic and departmental vision, goals, and strategic plans.
- Hold individual faculty and the collective faculty of the department accountable for the performance of furthering the University's and College of Pharmacy's programs of research, teaching, practice and service.

- Coordinate the annual review process for department faculty and others as assigned by the Dean. The Department Head is responsible for ensuring that the review of probationary faculty, promotion and tenure review, and post-tenure review are carried out by the Department according to the Department's official policies.
- Preside over Departmental meetings, organize communication within the Department, and provide a communication link between individuals in the Department and administration.
- Coordinate the Department's professional teaching within the College, including recommendation of personnel for specific courses.
- Oversee program evaluation functions necessary to maintain accreditation standing.
- Perform the personnel and fiscal management functions necessary for the operation of the Department and carry out other administrative duties as assigned by the Dean and the University. Provide individual mentorship and guide mentoring processes for the Department.

Minimum Qualifications

- Earned doctorate level degree (Ph.D. or equivalent).
- Expertise in Occupational Therapy as evidenced by
 - Original certification by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) and eligible for Minnesota license to practice occupational therapy.
 - Eight years of experience in occupational therapy at least three years of which is in a full-time academic appointment with teaching responsibilities at the postsecondary level that includes teaching courses, conducting and managing learning experiences, evaluating student achievement, and providing input into curriculum development.
- Eligible for tenure at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy.
- Demonstrated experience in, and an ongoing commitment to creating and maintaining working and learning environments that are inclusive, equitable and welcoming.
- Experience in policy and procedure formulation, and evaluation of program effectiveness.
- Experience in higher education and administration as well as current accreditation/certification procedures relevant to their program.

Preferred Qualifications

- Previous experience as an OT assistant program director or program director
- Demonstrated evidence of strong research and scholarly activity, and expertise in an area of occupational therapy practice.
- Strong record of experience in academic administration, including financial and personnel management.
- A record of successful leadership and mentoring.
- Experience with online or hybrid teaching.

About the Department of Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy (OT) is one of many health-related programs in the Academic Health Sciences at the UMN. OT spans two University of Minnesota Twin Cities locations- Minneapolis and Rochester with its 14 faculty and 49 students located in both settings. Occupational Therapy is well established at the UMN and recently celebrated its 75th anniversary, now offering the OTD degree using hybrid course

delivery to maximize student access and support the workforce needs of outstate Minnesota. Students engage in scaffolded learning where online synchronous and asynchronous instruction prepares them for high-fidelity experiential training that takes the form of faculty-supervised fieldworks, classroom-based labs, simulations, and performance-based assessment. Researchers find supportive partnerships across campus with institutional strengths in biomedical engineering, biomechanics, informatics, neurodiversity, health & wellness, elder health, primary care and more.

Application Process

For best consideration, applications must be received by **September 27, 2023**; however, the position will remain open until filled. For specific questions about this position, please contact the search committee chair, Dr. Donna Spannaus-Martin, at spann003@umn.edu. More information about this exciting opportunity and application information can be found below:

Program Director and Head, Department Occupational Therapy

Non-UMN Applicant: <https://hr.myu.umn.edu/jobs/ext/357041>

UMN Applicant: <https://hr.myu.umn.edu/jobs/int/357041>

A complete application consists of the following:

- A signed letter of interest addressing each minimum and preferred qualifications, relating personal qualifications to the responsibilities of the position;
- Curriculum Vitae;
- Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three professional references;
- A brief description of the applicant's philosophy of leadership and vision for the future of occupational therapy.

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity employer and educator