The Search
The Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts and Arizona State University (ASU) seek a Director of The Design School. The director will provide innovative, aspirational leadership for the school’s vital participation in ASU’s vision for a New American University: a reinvention of higher education in which design practices are a core value for the nation’s largest public university and global research institution. The director will lead a dynamic school that is positioned to prepare a new generation of designers and architects from diverse backgrounds to succeed in the 21st century.

The University
Arizona State University has developed a new model for the American research university, creating an institution fundamentally and simultaneously committed to exemplary academic performance, exceptionally broad student access and diversity, and local and global social impact. As the New American University, ASU promotes excellence in research and among its students, faculty and staff, believes in the value of ready access to its educational resources, and encourages engagement with communities to positively impact social and economic development. With more than 80,000 students, the university encourages intellectual and cultural diversity, welcoming students from all 50 states and more than 120 nations worldwide. Built around intellectual fusion, the university invests in collaborative teams that accelerate human-centered solutions addressing the largest and most challenging social problems of our time. ASU believes that the methods of design – deep observation, generative thinking, prototyping, revising, and scaling ideas -- are the key to its successful track record of innovation, socially relevant research, creative activity.

president.asu.edu/about/asucharter

The Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts:
The Design School is part of the The Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, the nation’s largest comprehensive design and arts school at a research university. The Herberger Institute is a vibrant example of the New American University philosophy. With 4,700 over 5,000 students, more than 400 faculty and faculty associates, 125 degrees and certificates, and a tradition of top-ranked programs, the Herberger Institute is built on a combination of disciplines unlike any other program in the nation, including the School of Art, the School of Arts, Media + Engineering, The Design School, the School of Film, Dance and Theatre, the School of Music, and the ASU Art Museum. All Herberger Institute programs encourage integration of practice and theory with an
emphasis on the responsibilities of artists and designers in society. Design and the arts are critical resources for transforming society and solving complex problems, and the Herberger Institute is committed to positioning artists, scholars, designers, and educators at the center of public life.
herbergerinstitute.asu.edu

The Design School
The Design School is one of the most collaborative and comprehensive design schools in the nation, bringing together the disciplines of architecture, environmental design, industrial design, interior design, landscape architecture, urban design, and visual communication design. The Design School faculty, students, and staff focus on the most pressing contemporary social and environmental problems at a range of scales. Programs in The Design School rank among the top 20 in the country and are distinguished by a commitment to mastery in the design disciplines, the art of collaboration, and the skills necessary to develop cross-disciplinary projects. The Design School has a long and distinguished history of design excellence in the built environment and the design of artifacts aimed at a sustainable and innovative future. The Design School houses InnovationSpace, a multi-disciplinary research and educational laboratory that in an entrepreneurial joint venture of the schools of design, business, and engineering, and the Center for Biomimicry, whose ambitious teaching and research mission centers on nature-inspired solutions to design challenges. The Design School has approximately 1,400 students, over 50 faculty, and 9 staff.

The Director
ASU, the Herberger Institute, and The Design School seek a visionary director with a broad perspective and record of innovative thought and accomplishment. The successful candidate will act as a catalyst for change and lead design thinking across the university and with community partners. The new director will help the school continue to realize and develop its mission to shape the future of design thinking while building inventive curricula, field-defining research, and programs that are renowned globally. We seek an individual with a clear strategy relative to the role of design within contemporary society and academia; a leader who will give voice to the school as it participates in the emergence of the New American University; and an advocate for the school within local, national and international communities. This inspirational leader will have demonstrated success in mentorship and professional development of emerging designers and scholars and a zest for promoting research, creative work, and collaboration.

The director reports directly to the dean of the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, and is one of six directors in the Herberger Institute leadership team. This position is a full-time, 12-month academic administrative appointment with a preferred starting date of July 1, 2017.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Advanced degree in an appropriate discipline; or equal or equivalent distinguished academic or professional experience;
• Demonstrated scholarly, design, or professional accomplishment with a record of innovation;

• Demonstrated administrative ability coupled with the ability to delegate, prioritize and make timely, transparent and well-considered decisions;

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

• Significant administrative experience in a complex organizational setting;

• Experience as a leader with skill in collaborative practice;

• Appreciation of and ability to articulate the nature of creative freedom in design, and zest for catalyzing research;

• Experience in faculty and staff recruitment and development, and sensitivity to the unique needs of a diverse community of practicing professionals.

• Demonstrated ability for mentorship and professional development of emerging designers and/or scholars, including undergraduate and graduate students;

• Experience in fiscal planning and development activities;

• Excellent oral and written communication skills;

• Willingness to circulate widely, communicate openly, listen well, and learn from others;

• Creativity, flexibility, tenacity, optimism, and high energy level;

• Experience in the creation and evaluation of design curricula.

TO APPLY
The national executive search firm, Isaacson, Miller has ben hired to assist with this search. All inquiries and nominations should be directed to them. Review of applications will begin immediately and the position will remain open until filled. For best consideration, please submit materials by December 10, 2016. Confidential inquiries, nominations or applications (a curriculum vitae and a letter of interest that is responsive to the challenges above), should be submitted electronically to:

Sheryl Ash, Ben Tobin, or Julie Yermack
Isaacson, Miller
263 Summer Street
Boston, MA 02210
617-262-6500
Arizona State University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. ASU conducts pre-employment screening for all positions, which includes a criminal background check, verification of work history, academic credentials, licenses, and certifications.

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