Faculty Position: Carolyn Caudell Tieger Professor of Public Affairs Communications

Department of Advertising and Public Relations
Henry W. Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication
The University of Georgia

The Opportunity to Build a Program

The Department of Advertising and Public Relations of the Grady College at the University of Georgia seeks an exceptional leader to join its faculty as the inaugural Carolyn Caudell Tieger Professor of Public Affairs Communications. The professorship is the first of its kind nationally and is created to prepare students for the essential role of communications at the heart of public affairs leadership. This prestigious, endowed position offers the opportunity to provide thought leadership in the field and to teach and mentor the next generation of public affairs communicators at one of the nation's leading programs.

The Carolyn Caudell Tieger Professorship in Public Affairs Communications has been established to prepare students to compete effectively in this important career field, with emphasis on the art and practice of public affairs communications focused on public opinion, policy and politics. Whether you're an academic specializing in public affairs communications or a seasoned career professional, this position offers an opportunity to help train and mentor the next generation of public affairs communications professionals whose specialized skill set will impact decision making – from the U.S. Congress to statehouses to corporations nationwide. Students will learn communications skills aimed at educating, driving or changing public opinion around public policy, legislation, political candidates and issues.

The successful candidate will also help Grady launch the nation’s first certificate program in Public Affairs Communications, designed to give students a leg up in the world of public policy, politics and advocacy. The Tieger Professor will serve as the public face of the new certificate program, designed to teach students skills such as understanding and executing public opinion research, running political and advocacy campaigns, building grassroots efforts and developing key allies. Students in the
program will also learn opinion writing, advocacy advertising, and new media mobilization, among other skills.

The Tieger Professorship is a singular opportunity to play a leading role in the creation of a new emphasis within the college, building on assets across the university and its alumni while serving as a public intellectual on issues of import to Public Affairs Communications and as a teacher and mentor to Grady students interested pursuing a career in the field. The University of Georgia’s new Delta Airlines Hall on Capitol Hill provides an ideal staging ground for teaching and experiential learning in public affairs communications in the nation’s capital and offers rich opportunities for collaboration with the Athens campus.

Faculty Rank/Salary
Professor or Clinical Professor. Appointment will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Salary competitive.

Qualifications and Responsibilities
Two types of candidates will be considered for this position: tenure-track research faculty or a clinical-track for leading professionals working in the field of Public Affairs Communications. A successful candidate in either category will further develop and grow a program in public affairs communications, including but not limited to the Certificate in Public Affairs Communications.

Tenure-track qualifications and responsibilities: A Ph.D. in communications or a related field is required. Tenure-track candidates must have a teaching and research concentration in and commitment to public affairs communications and public relations as an academic enterprise. A successful candidate must have a thorough grounding in theory, research, and practice in public affairs communications and the ability to teach courses throughout the public affairs communications curriculum.

Tenure-track candidates will show sustained evidence or strong promise of research productivity or high-level thought leadership within the public affairs communications industry. The ability to mentor and direct graduate students is also required. Demonstrated ability to further develop and build the public affairs communications program is required.

Clinical-track (for professionals in the field) qualifications and responsibilities: The search committee also welcomes applicants working in the field of public affairs communications. A master’s degree in communications or related field is required, and clinical-track candidates with a master’s degree must have sufficient experience and
accomplishments equivalent to a terminal degree in the field of public affairs communications. A minimum of 10 years professional experience is required.

A successful professional-track candidate must have a thorough grounding in theory, research, and practice in public affairs communications and the ability to teach courses throughout the public affairs communications curriculum. Professional experience and expertise in public affairs communications gained through political and public policy advocacy campaigns, polling, advocacy research and other related skills are highly desired. Teaching in the graduate program is dependent upon qualifications.

The ideal candidate will have the ability to create partnerships and serve as an expert voice in public affairs communications on the national stage. The Tieger Professor will be the public face of the program, speaking as an expert on the issues of the day and mentoring students in public affairs communications. We especially welcome applications from established public affairs communicators who support the College’s commitment to civic engagement and creating internships and off-campus experiential learning opportunities for our students.

Application Deadline
Screening of applications will begin January 5, 2016, and continue until position is filled. To apply for the position, submit a cover letter, names and contact information for three references, and curriculum vitae in a single pdf document to: Public Affairs Communications Search Committee Chair, Email: adprdept@uga.edu; (706) 542-4791.

Learn more about Grady College at www.grady.uga.edu and learn more about the opportunities in public affairs communications at www.grady.uga.edu/pac. The University of Georgia (www.uga.edu) is the nation’s first chartered state-supported university and is a land grant/sea institution, located 70 miles from Atlanta in close proximity to major media outlets and the state capital. Athens is a dynamic city noted for its beautiful surroundings, rich history, and recreational and cultural opportunities. It is consistently named one of the best college towns in the United States and is known for its music scene and college athletics (www.visitathensga.com).

The University of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation or protected veteran status.