

FOUNDING DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR CRIME, FORENSICS, AND SECURITY ANALYSIS
Position Profile

Purdue University Northwest (PNW) invites nominations and applications for an interdisciplinary leader to serve as the Founding Director of the Center for Crime, Forensics, and Security Analysis. The director will collaborate with colleagues across the university to establish a leading center that impacts student learning, community engagement, and research and scholarship.

The Role of the Center Director

With many activities related to criminology, forensics, and security analysis already taking place across the institution, PNW sees an excellent opportunity to bring together many of these isolated pieces and take a more interconnected approach that will enhance student learning opportunities and increase engagement in issues affecting the region. The director will work across the university to leverage existing assets in a more strategic, cross-disciplinary manner and creatively explore opportunities for new programs and partnerships. The center director is expected to:

- Have a broad understanding of academic fields related to crime, forensics, and security analysis and a vision for the future of what education, community engagement, and scholarship should look like across these areas;
- Serve as a key university partner to external stakeholders engaged in regional activities related to crime and the criminal justice system;
- Create connections and seek resources that facilitate interdisciplinary research opportunities for faculty and students, particularly on issues that have local relevance but may also be of national importance;
- Assess the benefits of program accreditation/certification and (when appropriate) help navigate the accreditation/certification process with entities such as the Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, and others; and
- Collaboratively build and shape academic programming that uniquely prepares PNW students to have an impact in the communities they live and work.

The director is also expected to be an engaged faculty member, continuing to excel in his or her own teaching and scholarly activities. The director will report to the Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and will work with deans, department chairs, other center directors, and faculty members across the institution. Given the vision for a truly interdisciplinary approach, this will be the first center housed at the university-level rather than the college-level.

Within its various academic units, PNW already offers a range of degrees, certificate programs, and courses that deal with issues of crime and security, including:

- A graduate certificate in forensic accounting and fraud investigation offered by the College of Business
- A Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Sciences with a concentration in Forensic Sciences offered by the College of Engineering and Sciences
- A Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology with a concentration in Criminal Justice offered by the College of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences
- Coursework in Forensic Psychology offered by the College of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences
- A Bachelor of Computer Information Technology that is certified by The Committee on National Security Systems and is offered through the College of Technology

Students and faculty also engage regionally in a number of activities that impact their communities and offer student learning opportunities, including:

- Co-curricular student organizations (the [Criminal Justice Club](#) and the Forensic Science Club)
- Summer camps for high school students and teachers (the [Forensic Science Summer Camp](#) and the [GenCyber Summer Camp](#))
- [The Northwest Indiana Information Sharing and Security Alliance](#)

PNW boasts a number of faculty members who are experts in areas such as domestic violence, forensic science, forensic auditing, information assurance, and cyber forensics, among other areas. The university has been named a [National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense and Education](#).

Purdue University Northwest

Part of the internationally respected Purdue University system, PNW offers world-class educational opportunities at an excellent value on two culturally diverse, student-centered campuses located in Northwest Indiana and in easy driving distance to Chicago, Illinois. PNW is the fifth largest public university in Indiana, with more than 12,000 students, offering nearly 70 programs at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels. The institution is distinguished by opportunities for experiential learning, undergraduate research, and one-to-one relationships between students and faculty members.

PNW was formed by the unification of the former Purdue Calumet and Purdue North Central in 2016. Academic programs are offered within five colleges, plus an Honors College, with operations on two campuses located 35 miles apart in Hammond and Westville. The university is currently in the middle of a five-year [strategic plan](#). PNW is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC).

The university's mission – in the land grant tradition of learning, discovery, and engagement – is to provide high quality undergraduate and graduate education to students of Northwest Indiana and beyond. PNW seeks to create a welcoming environment that promotes critical inquiry through experiential learning, faculty scholarship, civic engagement, and community partnerships.

The university already has a number of well-regarded centers and institutes that support its mission, including:

- [The Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation](#)
- [The Center for Cybersecurity Excellence and Infrastructure Protection](#)
- [The Energy Efficiency and Reliability Center](#)
- [The Institute for Social and Policy Research](#)

Leadership

Provost

Ralph O. Mueller became Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost at PNW on July 15, 2016. Dr. Mueller had previously served as Dean of the College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions at the University of Hartford since 2009. In addition to his role as Dean, Dr. Mueller also was the founding Director of the University of Hartford's Institute for Translational Research, a multidisciplinary umbrella for collaborations among faculty, students and community partners.

Prior to his University of Hartford tenure, Dr. Mueller served five years as Chair of the Department of Educational Leadership at The George Washington University. He also was a 2007-08 fellow of the American Council on Education (ACE) at the University of Miami. Throughout his 31-year career in higher education, he has served as a tenured faculty member of applied statistics with joint appointments in education, psychology, and public policy/public administration.

Dr. Mueller holds an extensive academic portfolio of published books and peer-reviewed articles and presentations. He holds a baccalaureate degree from Elon University, master's degree from Wake Forest University, and Ph.D. from Virginia Tech.

Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Jonathan Swarts assumed the position of Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs—Academic Programs in June 2018. Prior to this appointment, he served as the chair of the Department of Political Science, Economics, and World Languages and Cultures at PNW. With an academic specialization in Western European politics and the politics of advanced industrial democracies, he is the author of the monographs *American Foreign Policy Towards the Colonels' Greece: Uncertain Allies* and *the 1967 Coup d'État and Constructing Neoliberalism: Economic Transformation in Anglo-American Democracies*, among other publications. He holds a Ph.D. in political science from The Ohio State University.

Qualifications

The successful candidate should possess the following skills and qualifications:

- An earned doctorate from an accredited institution;
- Academic experience, research qualifications, and background for a tenured faculty appointment at the associate/professor level into one of the academic units related to the center (preference will be given to candidates with a background or experience in forensic sciences);
- At least five years relevant experience as an academic that includes appropriate educational, research, and service contributions; OR at least five years relevant experience as a practitioner, not including any training time in an operational forensic science or related laboratory setting;
- Documented research experience within the candidate's academic discipline or demonstrated evidence of expertise in the development of methods, techniques, validation, and/or implementation of techniques or practices employed by the forensic science or related community;
- Evidence of integrating research into the student learning experience;
- Familiarity with program assessment and accreditation;
- Demonstrated success leading collaborative initiatives on a university campus; and
- Excellent interpersonal, oral, and written communication skills.

Nomination and Application Process

The search committee will begin reviewing applications immediately and continue to accept applications and nominations until the position is filled. However, in order to ensure the fullest consideration, applicants are encouraged to have complete applications submitted by September 11, 2018. Requested application materials include a letter of interest; resume or curriculum vitae; and the names, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of at least five professional references. All applications, nominations and inquiries will remain confidential. References will not be called until after the first screening of applications and then only after the applicant has given explicit permission. All application materials must be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word or PDF format. Please direct all applications, nominations and inquiries for the position to the search firm assisting the university at the contact information below. Refer to code "PNW-CCFSA" in subject line.

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