



Dean of the School of Human Kinetics and Recreation Internal Career Opportunity

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Memorial University is seeking an innovative and energetic individual from within the Memorial community who will provide strong leadership in their role as dean of the School of Human Kinetics and Recreation (HKR). Located on the St. John's campus, the School of Human Kinetics and Recreation prides itself on a student-centered, experiential approach to teaching and learning, research, and community support and advancement. It has approximately 500 students and 13 fulltime faculty members. It offers bachelors' degrees in kinesiology, physical education, and recreation and a bachelor of human kinetics and recreation (co-operative); its graduate degrees include the master of human kinetics and recreation and the master of science in kinesiology. The School's innovative research program covers a broad range of topics, and includes active collaboration and partnership with health and education professions across campus and in the community. The School also houses the Sea-Hawks varsity athletics program, which is an integral part of the School's and Memorial's strong sporting tradition. The School's [Vision](#) is to be leaders in physical activity, leisure, and wellness with the purpose of advancing knowledge and benefiting people, communities, and society. More information about the School of HKR is available at www.mun.ca/hkr.

The dean reports to the provost and vice-president (academic) and is the chief academic and administrative officer of the School of HKR. They are responsible for the overall leadership of HKR, and are supported by an administrative team, including an associate dean of undergraduate studies, an associate dean of graduate studies and research, and a dedicated group of staff. The dean is a member of the Academic Leadership Council.

The dean provides strategic direction on all matters relating to HKR, in view of Memorial's strategic plans and frameworks, notably Transforming Our Horizons, the Strategic Framework for Indigenization, and the Strategic Plan for EDI-AR, which is currently in development. The dean works to advance collaborative interprofessional health education and research, and fosters ongoing service in the development of healthy communities. The dean advocates for HKR academics, varsity athletics, and all of their students and student athletes, and promotes the School's commitment to health, wellness, and athletic excellence for all of the citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador and beyond.

The successful candidate will normally have an earned doctorate and bring outstanding academic qualifications, significant administrative experience, leadership and communication skills, a commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism, and a dedication to advancing education and research in the fields of health, wellness, and sport. Experience with co-operative education programs and varsity athletics programs would be an asset. The dean will be involved

with initiatives to support the next Canada Games, which is being hosted on the St. John's campus in August 2025.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Providing visionary leadership in all areas of the School's activities in teaching and learning, research, and community service and engagement;
- Providing oversight and direction for all undergraduate and graduate programming in HKR;
- Administering varsity athletics, intramural programming, and recreational programming;
- Managing the gymnasium;
- Providing oversight and direction to the staff connected to the HKR office;
- Overseeing the HKR budget;
- Enhancing the School's competitiveness in recruiting excellent and diverse students and student athletes;
- Creating and maintaining supports for student retention and success;
- Overseeing the development and implementation of regulations, policies, and procedures affecting students in HKR;
- Working to increase student funding from federal and provincial agencies, and being resourceful and creative in identifying alternative funding sources; and,
- Supporting innovation, collaboration, and interdisciplinarity in the creation of new HKR programming.

LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

- A commitment to inclusive and collegial consultation and to fair, respectful, and transparent processes;
- A commitment to promoting EDI-AR;
- A commitment to improving the teaching and learning environments for all HKR students;
- A commitment to improving the training environments for all varsity athletes;
- The ability to provide strong support and direction for professional and administrative staff;
- Excellent listening and communication skills;
- The ability to engage effectively with students, faculty, staff, alumni, and external partners;
- The ability to work with a variety of unions (student, staff, and faculty);
- The ability to manage resources wisely; and,
- The ability to build partnerships within and beyond the university.

IDEAL CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS

- A successful record of teaching, research, and service commensurate with the rank of a tenured associate or full professor;
- A good reputation in the fields of kinesiology, physical education, and/or recreation;
- Significant academic leadership experience, such as department chair, program director, associate dean, or other academic or administrative leadership role;
- Familiarity with the socio-cultural and biophysical science perspectives of human kinetics and recreation;

- Experience with implementing and managing co-operative education, recreational, and varsity athletics programs; and,
- Experience in strategic planning, budget management, and resource allocation.

Memorial University is strongly committed to employment equity and especially welcomes applications from all qualified candidates, including women, members of visible minorities, Indigenous persons, members of sexual minorities, and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates within Memorial University are encouraged to apply.

SEARCH TIMELINE

Review of candidates will begin in July 2023. To ensure consideration, please submit your detailed letter of interest and CV to the chair of the search committee, Dr. Jennifer Lokash (vpacad@mun.ca), by June 30. Do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions prior to the deadline.

SEARCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Jeannette Byrne, School of Human Kinetics and Recreation

Dr. Jeff Crane, School of Human Kinetics Recreation

Dr. Kim Cullen, School Human Kinetics and Recreation

Dr. Donna Hardy Cox, associate vice-president (Academic) and dean of students

Dr. Jennifer Lokash, provost and vice-president (academic) *pro tempore* - chair

Dr. Greg Pearcey, School of Human Kinetics and Recreation

Riley Pike, student representative, School of Human Kinetics and Recreation

Dr. Peter Ride, Dean School of Fine Arts (Grenfell Campus)