The Scott and Marjorie Cowen Endowed Chair in Latin American Social Sciences in the Department of Economics

Tulane University
Founded in 1834, Tulane University is one of the most highly regarded and selective independent research universities in the United States, offering undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees in the liberal arts, science and engineering, architecture, business, law, social work, medicine, and public health and tropical medicine. More than a third of undergraduates elect to double major, and at the graduate level Tulane affords the opportunity for interdisciplinary studies by offering a number of degrees that combine topics from different subjects giving students a wider range of skills.

Tulane is a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities, a select group of the 62 leading research universities in the United States and Canada with “preeminent programs of graduate and professional education and scholarly research.” Tulane also is ranked by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a university with “very high research activity.” Of more than 4,300 higher educational institutions rated by the foundation, Tulane remains in a prestigious category that includes only two percent of universities nationwide. Tulane has a total enrollment of 13,499, and the 2017 edition of Best Colleges by U.S. News & World Report ranked it 39th.

Tulane developed a strong commitment to community engagement as the university participated in the rebirth of New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina. Faculty and students lent their expertise to rebuilding efforts and put their skills to use in communities both here and abroad. It is the first research university to require community service as part of the curriculum.

School of Liberal Arts
Tulane’s School of Liberal Arts (SLA) offers a variety of undergraduate majors through its 15 departments and 21 interdisciplinary programs that include Africana Studies, Asian Studies, Cognitive Studies, Digital Media Production, Environmental Studies, Film Studies, Gender and Sexuality Studies, International Development, Latin American Studies, Linguistics, Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Musical Cultures of the Gulf South, Political Economy, SLA Management Minor, Social Policy and Practice, and U.S. Public Policy.

SLA’s mission is to nurture and promote innovative scholarship, transformative research, and creative inquiry within the arts, humanities, and social sciences. Based on a distinctive vision comprised of an
interdisciplinary approach, a dedication to place-based creativity, and a commitment to service learning, the School provides students with an outstanding education founded on close working relationships with distinguished faculty. In our belief in interdisciplinary inquiry, our faculty reach beyond traditional academic boundaries; in our dedication to place-based learning, we engage with New Orleans and the greater Gulf region; and in our pursuit of social innovation, we foster a life-long enthusiasm for service to the community and the world.

**Department of Economics**
The Department of Economics is composed of 17 regular faculty members, 4 post-doctoral teaching fellows, 2 visiting or adjunct professors, over 280 graduate majors, 40 graduate students, and 4 affiliated research centers. Faculty members in the Department of Economics conduct research and teach classes in the areas of public economics, poverty and inequality, education, economic development, labor economics, health economics, economic history, international economics, urban economics, microeconomic theory, and econometrics.

The Department offers a Ph.D. in Economic Analysis and Policy that provides distinctive training designed to make students attractive candidates for employment in universities, government, multilateral organizations, the private sector, and the non-profit sector. The program is distinguished both by an applied focus designed for students who are interested in using economic analysis to investigate real world problems, and by an interdisciplinary approach that incorporates field coursework and research experiences with prestigious cross campus partners so that students acquire practical interdisciplinary knowledge necessary for innovative research and careful policy analysis.

Campus partners include the Freeman School of Business, the Stone Center for Latin American Studies, the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, the Cowen Institute for Public Education Initiatives, the Department of Political Science, and the Murphy Institute of Political Economy. Students complete field courses in economics and in partner schools in one of three areas of concentration: (1) Health, Education, and Human Capital, (2) Public Economics and Public Policy, and (3) Development, Inequality, and Poverty.

**Roger Thayer Stone Center for Latin American Studies**
The Stone Center is one of the only continuously funded U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Centers on Latin America since the inception of the federal program in the 1960s. It grants BA, MA, MA/MBA, MA/JD, and Ph.D. degrees, and a joint doctoral degree in Art History. The Stone Center’s mission is to insure its students gain comprehensive knowledge about Latin America through a mixture of academic study, specialized training, and fieldwork. It also encourages comparative studies that provide a profound understanding of differences among socio-cultural systems developed within Latin America.

The faculty of the Roger Thayer Stone Center for Latin American Studies represent the largest interdisciplinary contingent of faculty associated with any department or program at Tulane. Latin Americanist faculty today includes 66 core Latin Americanists, 12 associates, 29 affiliates, 10 emeritus faculty, 9 visiting professors, and 6 post-doctoral fellows. There are nine endowed chairs in Latin American Studies, and another three university endowed chairs are occupied by Latin Americanists. The
Stone Center’s endowment today exceeds $44 million.

Of the 200 tenure-rank faculty in the School of Liberal Arts, 36% are affiliated with the Stone Center, whose core faculty strengths are in Mexico and Central America (23), Southern Cone and the Andes (15), Brazil (14), and Cuba and the Caribbean (12). In the departments of Anthropology, Art History, Communication, Ecology, Economics, History, Political Science, Sociology, and Spanish and Portuguese, Latin Americanists represent 45% of all regular, tenure-rank faculty members, and of those 45% are tenured.

**Affiliated Research Centers and Institutes**

*Center for Inter-American Policy and Research (CIPR)*

The Center for Inter-American Policy and Research (CIPR) is devoted to inter-hemispheric exchanges that will advance the production and dissemination of knowledge about critical policy issues facing the Americas as well as the deepening of academic research in these areas. Its aim is to stimulate contact between scholars and decision-makers working on the region at different locations and in different languages, enriching their production by enabling the confluence of multiple perspectives. CIPR’s work falls under three general research areas: Inter-American Relations, Human Development, and Central America and the Circum-Caribbean. CIPR also supports the Commitment to Equity to analyze the impact of taxation and social spending on inequality and poverty in individual countries, and to provide a roadmap for governments, multilateral institutions, and nongovernmental organizations in their efforts to build more equitable societies.

*Murphy Institute*

The Murphy Institute supports academic programs in the fields of political economy, ethics, and public policy. Since 1984, it has sponsored an undergraduate program in political economy that brings together economists, historians, philosophers, and political scientists committed to moving beyond traditional boundaries of their disciplines in a common search for new insights and new ways of studying the interconnections of politics and economics. In 2001, the Murphy Institute established the Center for Ethics and Public Affairs, and in 2010 the Center for Public Policy Research, a multi-disciplinary research center that balances academic research with applied work in the areas of healthcare, public finance, regulation, and education policy issues. The Center for Public Policy Research focuses on increasing public policy research, supporting external grant opportunities, and escalating campus and community outreach. It is enhanced by the systematic and rigorous analysis of social perspectives and alternatives that stem from Murphy’s other programs.

*Cowen Institute for Public Education Initiatives*

The mission of the Cowen Institute is to advance public education and youth success in New Orleans and beyond. Launched in 2007, the Institute informs relevant stakeholders, decision makers, and the public at large on issues related to K-12 public education, disconnected youth, and college and career readiness. It both promotes the practical application of data and analysis to improve education and career pathways for youth, and proactively develops, incubates, and operates innovative initiatives that support students and young adults. Using a multidisciplinary approach, the Cowen Institute aspires to be the premier university-based entity where individuals and communities learn about best practices for programs, partnerships, and policies for transforming K-12 public school systems.
**Education Research Alliance for New Orleans**

The New Orleans school system is different from any other. At Education Research Alliance we try to understand how student outcomes are influenced by the system’s key features: the OneApp and open school choice, charter school providers, the new teachers and leaders, and the intensive test-based accountability. Other studies focus on how the system works as a whole, plus topics such as school finance, early childhood education, and college access. Research areas include Outcomes and Equity, Teachers and Leaders, Charter Schools, School Choice, and Accountability.

**Goldring Institute of International Business**

The Goldring Institute of International Business was founded in 1991 to house the research and academic programs of the A.B. Freeman School of Business related to international business in support of the school’s mission to have "a strong emphasis on the global issues facing modern business." Its programs advance the school’s leadership role in developing regions, which include the Master of Management, the Master of Global Management, International Executive MBA degree programs in selected schools in Eastern Europe, Latin America, and Asia, and its International Faculty Development Ph.D. program in Latin America. The latter, established in 1994, now includes over 100 faculty members enrolled or graduated. It is a contractual arrangement between Tulane and top schools in Latin America to provide doctoral degrees for working faculty. Partners include: ITESM Monterrey, Monterrey, México; IESA, Caracas, Venezuela; UniAndes, Bogotá, Colombia; ESPOL, Guayaquil, Ecuador; ITAM, México City, México; Universidad Francisco Marroquín, Guatemala City, Guatemala; INSPER, Sao Paulo, Brazil; ITESM Guadalajara, Guadalajara, México; and ICESI, Cali Colombia. Some graduates hold key administrative positions at prestigious business schools in Latin America while others have distinguished themselves as outstanding scholars in their fields.

**Health Office for Latin America**

The Health Office for Latin America (HOLA), based in Lima, Peru, was formed by the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in 2003 with the following objectives: (1) to plan, develop, and implement public health research projects between Tulane faculty and Latin American researchers, (2) to facilitate interactions between Tulane faculty and Latin American researchers who are interested in similar areas of health research, (3) to serve as a resource and guide for Tulane faculty and students who are interested in research and other educational activities in Latin America, (4) to assist in the writing of collaborative work agreements between institutions, and (5) to provide summer courses in Latin America for Tulane students. HOLA represents the first physical presence of the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in Latin America and since its inception has facilitated internships for students in several Latin American countries.

**Collaborative Group for Health Equity in Latin America (CHELA)**

The Collaborative Group for Health Equity in Latin America (CHELA), established in 2015, engages Tulane University faculty, students, and global partners to lead innovative research initiatives that examine health equity in Latin America and the Caribbean, provide visibility for the region’s under-recognized health inequities, and inform policies to address the needs of the region’s impoverished and marginalized populations.

**Payson Graduate Program in Global Development**

The Payson Graduate Program in Global Development (formerly known as the Payson Center for International Development) is an interdisciplinary center at Tulane University’s Law School.
offering Master of Science, Joint Juris Doctor, and Master of Science degrees. Since its inception in 1997, the Payson Graduate Program delivers to students a solid foundation of interdisciplinary theories and practices to improve the quality of life for populations in the developing world. The program’s focus is deeply rooted in sustainable human development, which leads to societies that are environmentally sustainable, economically viable, and socially just. The Payson Graduate Program in Global Development was initiated on the belief that sustainable human development involves improving the quality of people’s lives by expanding their ability to shape their own futures. While this generally calls for higher per capita income via economic growth and development, it also requires much more. Achieving sustainable human development often requires more equitable education and job opportunities, greater gender equality, better health and nutrition, a cleaner and more sustainable natural environment, more impartial judicial and legal systems, and broader civil and political freedoms.

The Position:
The Cowen Chair is one of two positions established “to support a chair housed at the Stone Center for Latin American Studies or its successor for joint appointments in political science. sociology, or economics or alternatively for scholars in other academic disciplines who are devoted to the study of social, political, and economic issues and/or policies in Latin America.” The first Cowen Chair will be in the Department of Economics, and the holder of the chair will report to the Chair of the Department of Economics with key and close relationships with the Executive Director of the Stone Center and the Dean of the School of Liberal Arts. The chair holder will serve as a full member of the faculty with associated teaching, research, and service responsibilities, with tenure in the Department of Economics.

The Cowen Chair will join a distinguished cohort of faculty dedicated to research and teaching that provide a deeper understanding of the social, political, and economic challenges of Latin America and the Caribbean region. That Latin Americanist community at Tulane today comprises a significant contingent of social scientists with primary research programs in Latin America. They include four in Political Science, two in Economics, two in Sociology, two in Communication, and one in International Development. There are also seven core faculty in History, and eight in Global Health Systems and Development.

Key Relationships
- James Alm Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Economics
- Thomas Reese Ph.D., Professor and Executive Director, Roger Thayer Stone Center for Latin American Studies
- Carole Haber Ph.D., Dean, School of Liberal Arts

Primary Roles and Responsibilities
Candidates for the Cowen Chair should be accomplished teachers and mentors, demonstrate a strong international scholarly reputation, and present a successful record of external funding. Their credentials should be commensurate with those required for academic appointments at major research universities at the rank of Professor or advanced Associate Professor. All fields will be considered; preference will be given to candidates who also have research and teaching interests in areas where the Department of Economics has existing strengths and is focusing its graduate programs: development, inequality, and poverty; the economics of education; health and labor economics; and public economics. Ideal candidates will also have research portfolios that complement the activities of the Stone Center’s
community of Latin American social scientists. Candidates with records as successful developers of distinctive interdisciplinary academic programs will be especially welcome. Salary, rank, and other benefits will be commensurate with experience.

Experience
- A Ph.D. is required.
- Eight to ten years of progressive academic accomplishments (research, teaching and service).
- A track record of scholarship and contributions that have advanced knowledge about Latin American economic practices, development, or policies.
- Commitment to communicating the relevance of complex, discipline-based knowledge and methods to interdisciplinary students in the social sciences.
- Demonstrated success developing and attracting external funding
- Experience with inter- and/or multi-disciplinary collaborations.
- A proven record of academic leadership and collaboration.
- Fluency in English (written and verbal) and Spanish is essential.

Critical Success Factors
- Ability to build rapport across diverse constituencies leading to constructive and mutually rewarding relationships.
- Academic prowess as demonstrated by grants, honors, publications, and related academic accomplishments.
- Capacity to work through ambiguity while balancing the demands of multiple stakeholders within a complex academic environment.
- Successful history of working effectively with a broad and diverse set of leadership styles and personalities.
- Impeccable integrity that serves as a model for colleagues and students alike.

Applications
Tulane University is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action/persons with disabilities/veterans employer committed to excellence through diversity. Tulane will not discriminate against individuals with disabilities or veterans. We invite women and minorities to apply. All applications must be submitted through Interfolio (http://apply.interfolio.com/31447). Required materials include a letter of interest, a curriculum vita, and three reference letters. The review of candidates will begin immediately, and candidates will be considered until the position is filled.

For more information, see the Department of Economics website at http://econ.tulane.edu/. Contact: James R. Alm, Chair of the Search Committee, Department of Economics, 206 Tilton Hall, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, 70118 (jalm@tulane.edu).

Tulane University has retained The Denniston Group (madenniston@thedennistongroup.com) to assist with this search