



**Santa Clara University, Leavey School of Business
Search for the Dean**

Isaacson, Miller Search Team

ABOUT ISAACSON, MILLER

Isaacson, Miller is a national executive search firm devoted to recruiting exceptional leaders for mission-driven organizations. Since our founding in 1982, we have built our business placing outstanding leaders who strengthen organizations that advance the public good.

As one of the country's premier search firms, we have nearly four decades of experience in recruiting senior executives for leading colleges and universities, academic medical centers, arts and cultural groups, conservation and environmental organizations, economic development enterprises, foundations, human service agencies, preK-12 education organizations, research institutes, and social justice and other national advocacy organizations. Almost all of our clients are not-for-profit organizations meeting demands of both mission and market.

Our belief in the power of exceptional leadership and an unwavering commitment to service excellence, integrity, and impact animate our firm. We identify and recruit exceptional candidates from a broad range of backgrounds across nonprofit, corporate, and government sectors, and contribute to increasingly diverse leadership in our client organizations – in 2023, 54% of our placements were women and 35% people of color.

ABOUT OUR TEAM

DAVID BELLSHAW
PARTNER

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David Bellshaw joined Isaacson, Miller in 1992, in Boston and founded the firm's office in San Francisco in 2003. Since its inception, Isaacson, Miller's presence and impact in the Western United States and Hawai'i has grown significantly with the current team of twenty supporting a full array of mission driven organizations and institutions which encompass public and private universities and liberal arts colleges; health sciences entities and academic medical centers; foundations; education reform organizations; research institutes; economic and community development; and environmental and advocacy organizations. David has deep experience recruiting for the most senior leadership roles in all of the firm's practice areas, including chief executive officers - presidents, chancellors, and executive directors; chief academic officers -

provosts, deans, and chairs; and chief functional officers. David began his career in search with a major international corporate retained firm. David is an active leader within Isaacson, Miller, most particularly leading the west coast practice and serving as a member of firm's Executive Committee. He holds a BS in business administration from the University of California, Berkeley and an MBA from the University of California, Davis.

MICAH PIERCE
PARTNER

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Since joining Isaacson, Miller in 2015, Micah's practice has focused on higher education with particular expertise in searches for business school deans. Over the past several years, Micah has completed more than a dozen recruitments for deans of business across the country including for the Sloan School of Management at MIT, Gies College of Business at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Miami Herbert Business School at the University of Miami, Driehaus College of Business at DePaul University, and the Michael Neidorff School of Business at Trinity University, among others.

Micah has also partnered with a wide range of colleges and universities on recruitments for other academic and administrative leaders, including chief financial officers, provosts, and presidents. Through Micah's broad experience with searches in higher education, he has built strong relationships with a deep network of leaders across the field. Micah's previous experience includes conducting internal audit and quality control work for an international asset management firm and working at a career-development startup.

Micah holds a BA from Wheaton College and an MBA from the Sawyer Business School at Suffolk University in Boston.

LAUREN WILKES
SENIOR ASSOCIATE

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Lauren Wilkes is a Senior Associate at Isaacson, Miller. In her time at IM, Lauren has worked on a number of searches across the firm's higher education practice area, including leadership searches in the arts, sciences, business, public health, education, and enrollment management spaces.

Prior to joining the firm, Lauren worked as an Associate Director of Admissions at Tufts University. At Tufts, Lauren conducted admissions recruitment across the United States, chaired selection committees, oversaw campus visit programming, and directed alumni volunteer initiatives.

Lauren brings a decade of higher education experience across different types of institutions, also having worked in various admissions roles at Babson College and The Boston Conservatory at Berklee.

Lauren volunteers for the Portland, OR chapter of Minds Matter, an academic mentoring organization serving accomplished high school students in low-income communities.

MARLYN DESIRE

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SENIOR SEARCH COORDINATOR

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Marlyn Desire joined Isaacson, Miller as a Search Coordinator in 2022. Prior to joining the firm, Marlyn served as an Assistant Social Worker at New London High School in Connecticut, where she gained hands-on experience in fostering community well-being. Beyond her social work background, Marlyn's professional history encompasses four years in Information Services and three years in performing arts management.

During her time at Isaacson, Miller, Marlyn has supported a variety of searches for senior-level roles within higher education. Previous searches include recruitments at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Vanderbilt University, the University of Miami, George Mason University, and Louisiana State University.

Marlyn is a proud graduate of Connecticut College, where she earned her BA in Psychology. Additionally, she holds a Certificate in Public Policy & Community Action, showcasing her commitment to making a positive impact on both individual lives and broader community initiatives.