



## **An Invitation to Apply**

### *Search for the Hixon Professor of Sustainable Environmental Design Harvey Mudd College*

Harvey Mudd College seeks a dynamic, engaging, and committed thinker to serve as the inaugural Hixon Professor in Sustainable Environmental Design. The College construes “design” in a broad sense to include any area of science, mathematics, or engineering concerned with proactive problem-solving to promote sustainability. The College welcomes the interest of those with a variety of experiences and qualifications outside of academia. In the position of the Professorship this person will be a teacher, scholar, thought leader, and catalyst for creating new educational opportunities for an exceptionally talented collection of undergraduate students.

The Hixon Professor will serve on the distinctive campus of Harvey Mudd College, working in collaboration with deans, faculty, staff, and students to enrich the area of sustainable environmental design at the College and beyond.

Founded in 1955, Harvey Mudd College (HMC) is a member of the Claremont Colleges, located 30 miles east of Los Angeles, California. It is uniquely positioned among academic institutions, seeking to educate students in STEM fields who are also well trained in the humanities, social sciences, and the arts, gaining a broad understanding of the impact of their work on society. The College serves fewer than 800 students and has a strong focus on undergraduate education. This provides unparalleled opportunities for HMC students to benefit from small classes, hands-on research experiences, and other collaborations with faculty. Two-thirds of HMC’s classes have fewer than 20 students, and more than 80% of classes have fewer than 30 students. The faculty, in turn, benefit from strong mentoring relationships with students, participating as members of a collaborative and supportive faculty, and earning appreciation for teaching prowess and dedication.

In the role of the inaugural Hixon Professor in Sustainable Environmental Design, the successful candidate will have the opportunity to address a set of key opportunities:

- Invigorate Harvey Mudd College from within
- Build the Hixon Professorship platform into an institution
- Create initiatives with broad impact
- Reach out beyond the College walls

A complete list of the desired qualifications and characteristics of the Hixon Professor in Sustainable Environmental Design can be found at the conclusion of this document, which was prepared by the Search Advisory Committee with the assistance of Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm. All confidential applications, inquiries, and nominations should be directed to the parties listed at the conclusion of this document.

## **About Harvey Mudd College**

Harvey Mudd College traces its roots to the 1950s, born from a vision to support undergraduate science and engineering. At an age when the space race made technical education a priority in the United States, the founders' goal was to attract the nation's brightest students and offer them a rigorous scientific and technological education coupled with a strong curricular emphasis in the humanities, social sciences, and the arts. Opening its doors in 1957, Harvey Mudd College welcomed 48 students to the newest college of The Claremont Colleges. From its beginnings of humble size but lofty goals, HMC has become the nation's top liberal arts college of engineering, science, and mathematics, serving nearly 800 students in a selective and supportive environment.

Harvey Seeley Mudd, for whom HMC was named, was an accomplished mining engineer who owned and acted as a director of various industrial companies. He also served on several philanthropic or socially focused boards, with a particular interest in The Claremont Colleges. Mudd served as chairman of the Board of Fellows of Claremont College, now The Claremont Graduate University, for a quarter of a century. While serving in that position, he helped to plan the undergraduate college of science and engineering that was to become named Harvey Mudd College. The College was chartered in 1955, shortly after his death.

Ten years after the original charter, the College's community of 48 students and 7 professors had grown to 284 students and 43 faculty members. The College currently has nearly 800 students and 90 faculty, and plans to expand to 900 students over the next decade while sustaining a small, liberal arts college environment. The College currently offers engineering, science, and mathematics-based majors.

President Maria M. Klawe took the helm of HMC in 2006, becoming the university's fifth, and first female, president. At her installation in 2007, she shared with the HMC community "HMC 2020: Envisioning the Future," an ambitious plan for the College resulting from a year of planning and discussion on campus and across the country. This strategic vision revolves around six themes: Innovation, Leadership, and Impact, Especially in Engineering, Science and Mathematics; Focus on Experiential and Interdisciplinary Learning; Unsurpassed Excellence and Diversity at All Levels; Nurturing and Developing the Whole Person; Global Engagement and Informed Contributions to Society; and Improvement of Infrastructure and Resources to Support HMC's Commitment to Excellence and Building Community.

HMC occupies a unique space in academia as a private, co-educational, non-sectarian, undergraduate only, engineering, science and mathematics college, and the mission of the school reflects this. The College "seeks to educate engineers, scientists, and mathematicians, well versed in all of these areas and in the humanities and the social sciences so that they may assume leadership in their fields with a clear understanding of the impact of their work on society." At HMC, the words of the mission feel real, guiding and shaping the culture of the College.

The College has been a leader in experiential learning since its inception. This includes research manifested as both a required senior thesis and a vibrant summer research program wherein students are paid to work with faculty; over a quarter of the student body conduct summer research with faculty on campus each year, while others seek research opportunities on other campuses and in

industry. Additionally, Harvey Mudd College has been a leader among STEM institutions in developing its Clinic Program, which allows student teams to solve problems posed by sponsoring industry, government, and nonprofit organizations. Since the initiation of the Clinic Program in 1963, the College has worked with over 1,000 clinic clients. The emphasis on undergraduate research and experiential learning contributes to HMC graduates earning Ph.D. degrees in science and engineering at the second highest rate in the nation, as reported by recent statistics from the National Science Foundation.

The curriculum at HMC seeks to engage and prepare its highly motivated and skillful undergraduate student body. It is divided into three components: the Common Core, the major, and the program in humanities, social sciences, and the arts. These three elements are tied together with a strong emphasis on oral and written communications, the development of computational skills, and a clear understanding of the social context of science. The Common Core provides a strong foundation for all subsequent technical studies, with disciplinary training in biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering, mathematics, and physics. At the same time, fully one third of the students' classes are in the humanities, social sciences, and the arts. Faculty from every department participate in teaching the first-year writing course. In engineering, the required systems sequence is unique, taught by faculty from electrical, mechanical, chemical, and civil engineering disciplines, with contributions from physics and chemistry faculty.

Due to its unique mission and student-focused ethos, as well as its stellar reputation, HMC attracts the best and the brightest to join its student body—over 50% of whom are women. In the most recent entering class, 96% of students were in the top 10% of their high school class, and 35% were either salutatorian or valedictorian of their graduating class. The success of HMC students does not end when they enter the doors of the College: Jon Xavier of the Silicon Valley Business Journal calculates that Harvey Mudd College is the second leading feeder college for Silicon Valley (trailing only Stanford University). Moreover, the most recent statistics from the National Science Foundation show that in a recent ten-year period, Harvey Mudd College is the leading liberal arts college in the baccalaureate origin of NSF Graduate Fellowships.

To lead this remarkable student body, HMC engages a tremendous faculty. In addition to being committed teachers and mentors, the faculty members at the College are active and prolific scholars and consultants, many with national and international reputations in their fields. Faculty at HMC believe research with undergraduates is an extremely powerful teaching tool that leads to students' disciplinary learning and professional and personal growth well beyond traditional classroom settings. Faculty and students collaborate on many projects that are presented jointly at professional scientific conferences and in peer-reviewed journals, and both have been honored with distinguished national awards. According to the most recent reporting from the NSF, HMC is the leading liberal arts college in NSF grant dollars per faculty member.

### **The Claremont Colleges and the Claremont University Consortium**

The Claremont Colleges is a consortium of five undergraduate liberal arts colleges and two graduate institutions. The undergraduate colleges are, in order of founding, Pomona College, Scripps College, Claremont McKenna College, Harvey Mudd College, and Pitzer College. The two graduate institutions are the Claremont Graduate University and the Keck Graduate Institute. The Claremont

Colleges was founded in 1925, prior to the founding of all but Pomona College and Claremont Graduate University. The organization borrowed from the Oxford-Cambridge model, organizing around a library and other common facilities. Each institution has its own campus, its own students and faculty, and its own distinctive mission. Undergraduate students may choose from approximately 2,000 courses offered each year across the colleges. Overall, the colleges have 6,900 students and 3,600 faculty and staff, located on more than 560 acres of land.

Originally established in 1925 as part of Claremont University Center, in 2000 the Claremont University Consortium (CUC) incorporated as a freestanding tax-exempt organization. With an annual budget of almost \$40 million, CUC provides vital services and programs for The Claremont Colleges, including operating the programs and central facilities on behalf of the member colleges. For example, some of the 28 different services provided to the institutions are: campus safety, a central library, health and counseling services, ethnic centers, central bookstore, physical plant and facilities support, payroll and accounting, information technology, human resources, real estate, risk management, and employee benefits.

Additional functions of CUC include advancing The Claremont Colleges, founding additional institutions, and promoting cooperation among members to enhance educational excellence. CUC also holds title to land for future institutions, central programs and services as well as all central facilities operated on behalf of the members.

Harvey Mudd College students benefit tremendously from the Consortium. Through this alliance they are able to register for courses away from their home college, interact closely through coursework and activities with students who have very different backgrounds and interests from their own, and enjoy the extensive facilities and cultural programming that the Consortium affords. HMC faculty members also are able to benefit from working with faculty colleagues at the other Claremont Colleges and participating in shared programs.

### **Role of the Hixon Professor of Sustainable Environmental Design**

Harvey Mudd College seeks a leading thinker for the inaugural Hixon Professorship in Sustainable Environmental Design. S/he should be a distinguished scholar or practitioner capable of and interested in excellent teaching, and with substantial experience engaging with the world outside of academia. S/he will be dedicated to the mission of HMC and to engaging with its students and community, as well as to being a forerunner in the field of sustainable environmental design. The College is looking for a strong tested or rising star individual who will be a positive catalyst for change through collaboration and working within the College and the Consortium. Candidates with extensive practical experience and non-traditional academic qualifications are particularly encouraged to apply; professional practice, research, consulting, or entrepreneurship are likely to correlate with the type of research and thinking expected in this position and will be highly valued by the College.

Adelaide Hixon established The Hixon Professorship in Sustainable Environmental Design in memory of her husband Alexander in 2013. The Hixons have been generous donors to the College, supporting forums and professorships. The new Professorship in Sustainable Environmental Design was established in order to provide Harvey Mudd the opportunity to expand student and faculty

experiences, promote environmental science and design at the College and in the Consortium, and create a mark in the field. The Professorship is an endowed, tenure-track position that will be affiliated with an appropriate department.

In order to support the work of the Professorship, the Hixon Professor in Sustainable Environmental Design will have dedicated funds to promote campus-wide initiatives such as course development, student and faculty research, and experiential learning.

## **Key Opportunities for the Hixon Professor of Sustainable Environmental Design**

### ***Invigorate Harvey Mudd College from within***

Upon joining the HMC community, the Hixon Professor will work to create energy, excitement, and word of mouth enthusiasm on campus around sustainable environmental design. The HMC student body exhibits an exceptional vigor and vitality, and in this position the Professor will engage them and work to make sustainable environmental design the focus of excitement, thereby generating similar enthusiasm among the faculty. The Professor will be an excellent and innovative teacher, inspiring students and introducing them to cutting edge disciplinary or interdisciplinary work, while bringing a sense of “greening up” the consciousness of the HMC campus. S/he will also raise the expectation of students and faculty around real world engagement and application of initiatives in the field of sustainable environmental design.

### ***Build the Hixon Professorship platform into an institution***

The inaugural Hixon Professor will work to build a platform and momentum around sustainable environmental design that is robust enough to survive over the long term. In creating campus-wide initiatives that support work in this broad field, s/he will plan for and create a “center” or similar entity, including appropriate administrative staffing, that expands student and faculty opportunities and invites external interest in education, research and problem-solving. In addition to the funding for the Professorship, s/he will help to raise additional resources for the center and/or Professorship and provide encouragement and support for others to benefit from and contribute to growth of the body of work.

### ***Create initiatives with broad impact***

HMC and the Hixon Professor should aim to be at the leading edge of education and initiatives in the area of sustainable environmental design. The Hixon Professor will build relationships across departments on campus, and where appropriate with other initiatives across the Consortium, such as the 5-college Environmental Analysis Program designed to prepare students for careers in many environmental problem-solving fields. S/he will have resources to convene, bridge-build, and seed activities broadly, creatively leveraging them with others for the best impact. As a result the Professor will encourage the combination and exploration of exciting new ideas, methods and solutions to pressing problems in the field for both students and faculty and will be at the center of developing summer and other collaborations across the Consortium in the field of sustainable environmental design.

## ***Reach out beyond the College walls***

The Hixon Professor will reach outside of HMC, seeking impact not only on campus and within the Consortium but also externally to develop a regional, national, and international presence and reputation in the field. The Hixon Professor will seek out and attract a variety of partners and audiences for HMC, for example building bridges with faculty from other institutions, government, non-profits, and industry. Activities may be external or attract outside parties to the campus through lecture series, clinics, conferences, and other on campus activities. Through this rich array of interactions the Hixon Professor will increase the HMC's presence in the world of sustainable environmental design, enable broad collaborations and seeding of ideas that have real impact, and differentiate the College, its students, and faculty to put HMC squarely at the center of the map.

## **Qualifications and Characteristics**

The successful candidate will demonstrate most, if not all, of the attributes below:

- A Ph.D. in a science, technology, engineering, or math-related field;
- Significant “real-world” experience working in sustainability outside the academy;
- A record of excellent teaching and/or commitment to undergraduate education;
- Ability to teach a course in support of the Environmental Analysis (EA) emphasis;
- Interest in engaging students in your work;
- A strong program of world-class research or professional practice;
- Experience generating interest and enrollment through exciting research and teaching; and
- A commitment to a campus culture of collegiality and shared faculty governance.

## **Location**

Harvey Mudd College is located in the city of Claremont, a suburban community 30 miles east of Los Angeles. The city features sidewalk cafes, specialty shops, tree-lined streets, bungalow homes, and a population of 34,000. With stunning views of the San Gabriel Mountains, HMC is conveniently located 25 minutes from the nearest ski slope, 40 minutes from downtown Los Angeles, 45 minutes from the desert, and less than an hour away from the Pacific beaches.

## **Nominations, Applications, and Inquiries**

Harvey Mudd College enthusiastically welcomes applications from talented individuals from all cultural backgrounds. The College is committed to equal opportunity in education and employment and does not unlawfully discriminate against persons on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity and expression, pregnancy, religion, marital status, age, sexual orientation, national origin, ethnic origin, disability, medical condition, genetic characteristics, veterans status, or any other characteristic/status protected by applicable laws in admission to, participation in, or receipt of the services and benefits under any of its programs and activities or in employment or the application for employment. For information on the College's equal opportunity and affirmative action program and complaint/resolution procedures, please contact the Assistant Vice President for Human Resources and/or the Dean of Students. The full text of the College's Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination Statement is available online.

Confidential nominations, applications, and inquiries are being accepted for the position. Review of candidates will continue until the position is filled. Nominators should send a letter that includes relevant contact information (mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number) as well as the context of the nomination. Applications should include a concise cover letter, CV, and reference list that identifies people who have directly observed the candidate in her/his leadership role(s). All correspondence should be directed to the search firm. ***E-mail correspondence is strongly advised.***



*Recruiting exceptional leaders  
for mission-driven organizations*

David Bellshaw, Deborah Hodson, and Emily Chiswick-Patterson  
Isaacson, Miller  
1000 Sansome Street, Suite 300  
San Francisco, California 94111  
Phone: 415.655.4900  
Email: [5009@imsearch.com](mailto:5009@imsearch.com)