The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is seeking a founding director for the Siebel Center for Design. The new $48 million Center and the wide-ranging programs it will support will be a unique resource among large public universities. A hub for student-focused design thinking and learning, the Center will support human-centered design in the context of engineering, business, social and humanistic research and study. It will emphasize advanced technology, creativity and interdisciplinary collaboration; catalyze fundamental change in the way Illinois educates students; and leverage resources, spaces and talent across campus. At Illinois, the aspiration is that design becomes a part of every discipline’s thinking. The Center is based on a vision that fully embraces both analytical and human-centered design processes.

The Siebel Center for Design will be a university-wide resource, championing and supporting the development of innovative undergraduate and graduate classes and programs in multiple colleges, schools and departments. Rather than offer independent degrees, the Center will innovate and advance multidisciplinary approaches to design learning and assist disciplines across campus with incorporating those innovations into their own offerings.

Reporting jointly to the provost and the dean of the College of Engineering, the director will be the intellectual leader of the Center and the executive responsible for its administration and success. The director is responsible for fostering, guiding and supporting the development and delivery of curricula and programmatic activities in the Center. She or he will also build relationships and work closely and collaboratively with the campus community and stakeholders locally and around the country. In addition to being the intellectual leader of the Center, the director is responsible for Center staff, resources, facilities, budgets, fundraising and marketing.

The preferred candidate will possess an expansive sense of design with recognized expertise and acclaim in design thinking. Because this role is new, complex, and demanding, the successful candidate’s experience should include administrative leadership in environments that rely upon vision, teamwork, planning, delegation of authority, and measures of accountability. Above all, the director should have a track record of design and educational vision, success in facilitating interdisciplinary inquiry, an entrepreneurial style, skill in promoting programs with sponsors and stakeholders, and success in establishing new enterprises.

Ideal candidates will hold an earned doctoral degree or the highest degree awarded in her/his discipline. If the individual selected to serve as Director is additionally qualified to hold tenured faculty status, a faculty appointment may be considered. This is a full-time 100% administrative appointment.
The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign invites letters of nomination or application (letter of interest, resume/CV, and five references). Applications and nominations will be accepted until the position is filled, and review of applications will begin immediately. Interested candidates are encouraged to submit materials prior to Friday, October 6, 2017. All inquiries, nominations/referrals, and applications should be sent electronically to:

William H. Sanders, Willett Professor and Head, Electrical and Computer Engineering Search Committee Chair
provostsearches@illinois.edu

Founded in 1867, the University of Illinois is located in Urbana-Champaign and is a world leader in research, teaching, and public engagement, distinguished by the breadth of its programs, academic excellence, and internationally renowned faculty. Illinois faculty have earned 23 Nobel Prizes; two faculty and 18 alumni are Pulitzer Prize winners; and our faculty and alumni are well-represented in the memberships of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, and the National Academy of Engineering. The campus is a leader in access for students with disabilities and was the first to provide disabilities access to all campus programs, facilities, and services and the first to offer comprehensive wheelchair sports programming. Additional information about the University may be obtained from its website, www.illinois.edu.

The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer.

The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer. Minorities, women, veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. For more information, visit http://go.illinois.edu/EEO. To learn more about the University’s commitment to diversity, please visit http://www.inclusiveillinois.illinois.edu