



COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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William Funk
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Dear Mr. Funk:

Thank you for your letter informing me of my nomination for the position of Provost at Auburn University. Your letter prompted me to investigate Auburn University via the Web, and I find myself intrigued and impressed. I would be happy to be considered for this position.

I am fortunate to be Dean of Arts & Sciences at the University of Delaware. The University of Delaware is a quasi-public university and is a land, sea, space, and urban-grant university. We are ranked 26th among public universities by US News & WR and we are in the top-ten in value as ranked by Kiplinger's.

The College of Arts & Sciences is the largest college at the university and consists of 24 academic departments. Approximately 40% of the university's 20,000 students (~6,500 UG and 1,500 GR) call Arts & Sciences home and more than half of the 1140 full-time faculty (575) are in Arts & Sciences. We teach about two-thirds of the academic program of the university. We are transitioning here to a responsibility-based budgeting model - under that model my current operating revenues/expenses are \$180 million. As Dean I lead the efforts to improve faculty and program quality, direct space and infra-structure utilization and renovation, lead development and alumni relations for the college, and work to further partnerships and global initiatives. I feel I have been particularly successful in diversity issues (for which I have been recognized and for which I have garnered external funding) and in bringing great new faculty to the college.

Prior to joining the University of Delaware I held positions as Vice Provost, Dean of the Graduate School, and Chair of the Chemistry Department at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Through most of the 80's I was a Professor of Chemistry at the University of Nebraska.

I look forward to hearing from you soon about this exciting possibility.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Apple".

Tom Apple, PhD
Dean, Arts & Sciences
Professor of Chemistry