



TAYLOR
UNIVERSITY

OPPORTUNITY PROFILE

Director of PREACH Initiative





THE INSTITUTION

For almost 200 years, Taylor University has been a Christ-centered, student-focused university. We are in a season of significant renewal and excitement on campus. The University recently completed a yearlong strategic planning process that drew thousands of supporters deeper into their relationship with the University, a process we believe will move the University from excellence to eminence in a host of areas. We are grateful for the movement of God here at Taylor.

Founded in 1846, Taylor is an institution that focuses on student learning, celebrates intentional community, leads in the work of faith-learning integration and stands as the oldest non-denominational school within the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU). Each member of Taylor's dedicated faculty and staff is devoted to the intellectual and spiritual formation of students—in classrooms and residence halls, on the athletic turf and performance stage, and around the world.

The culture of Taylor is one of high collegiality, deep care for one another, and shared Christian commitment. For more than 27 consecutive years, Taylor continues to be ranked as one of the top three universities in the Midwest and one of America's Top Colleges according to *Forbes*.

In addition, Taylor has been named a “Christian College of Distinction” with four notable strengths: engaged students, great teaching, vibrant communities, and successful outcomes.

Alongside their deep commitment to Christ, Taylor students distinguish themselves by spiritual participation, academic passion, and active engagement on campus. Two satellites built by Taylor students were launched into space in 2021. And in the fields of finance and investment management, a team of Taylor students won QGAME – a national competition among business students who manage portions of their institution's endowment. Athletically, Taylor Trojans ranked #1 in the NAIA for every varsity collegiate team posting a cumulative GPA average over 3.0 in the last 11 years.

Taylor students are part of a larger ecosystem of broad institutional support and loyalty. In fact, 97% of current parents would support their child's choice to attend Taylor again. Taylor alumni strongly contribute to the University, and Taylor is ranked number one in freshman retention in the CCCU.



TAYLOR DISTINCTIVES

- According to the most recent HERI faculty survey, Taylor faculty are significantly more likely to report that they help students develop personal values and moral character and prepare them for both graduate education and employment after graduation compared to other highly selective, religious institutions.
- Taylor students rate their leadership development opportunities significantly higher than their peers at comparison institutions. Two-thirds of Taylor seniors report participating in leadership development training (compared to 41% at other religious institutions). They also are significantly more likely to say that they have “effectively led a group to a common purpose” (44% vs. 31% at peer institutions).
- Taylor students also report high levels of satisfaction. When comparing Taylor undergraduates to undergraduates at other CCCU institutions, our students are significantly more likely to report having a personally meaningful relationship with God, a willingness to hold fast to their Christian convictions (even in the face of opposition), a relationship with God that impacts their day-to-day activities, and a relationship with God that contributes to a sense of wellbeing.
- Taylor challenges students to approach issues from a Christian perspective and to critically evaluate their behavior in terms of Christian values. Students report feeling valued by the institution and that they are part of the community at much higher rates than other institutions. Moreover, in each of these measures, Taylor students report stronger, more positive sentiments at the end of their four years on campus compared to when they began as freshmen.
- Taylor is a national leader in study abroad and global engagement opportunities. The university has ranked in the Top 10 for over 10 years for participation in global experiences.
- Finally, graduating Taylor students are far more likely than CCCU peers to report that the university helped them learn how to speak and write clearly and effectively and to think critically and analytically. In sum, a Taylor education accomplishes its goals.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, DEDICATED TO TRUTH

With more than 125 degree programs for study at the undergraduate level, Taylor also instills broad understanding and knowledge through its respected Foundational Core curriculum. Throughout the educational journey, the university encourages students to ask hard questions, to apply themselves to the tasks at hand, and to embrace their callings. In addition to the 130-plus fulltime instructional faculty, Taylor's unique academic environment includes student development professionals with advanced degrees and administrators who also hold faculty rank.

In the aggregate, this contributes to a much richer context for intellectual formation and intentional academic community on the Taylor campus. It also produces a learning environment marked by distinctive excellence.

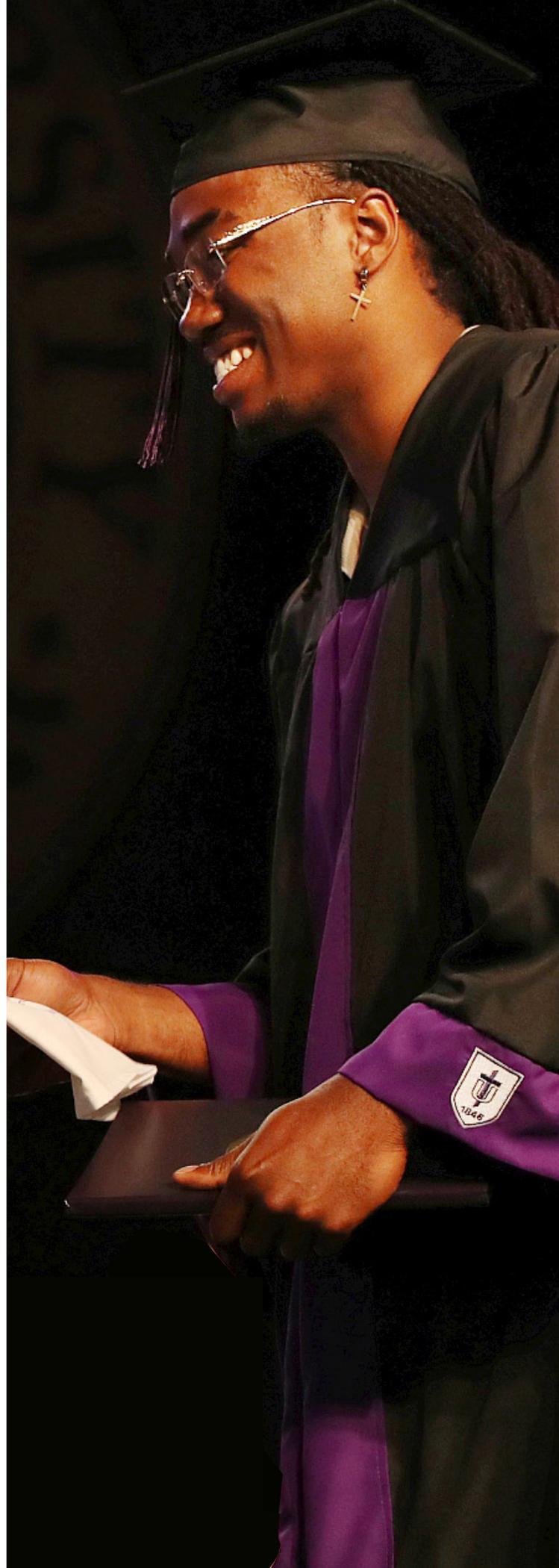
You can read more about Taylor's academic accolades and awards in the [Taylor University Profile](#).



100%
faculty, staff, and students
profess faith in Jesus Christ



99%
Career Outcome Rate





VIBRANT COMMUNITY, UNITED IN FAITH

At Taylor, we take faith in Christ seriously. All students, faculty, and staff have professed belief in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. This, in turn, builds a unique campus community where shared values and commitments strengthen faith and intellectual development.

Students hold each other accountable in their commitment to grow spiritually. Upperclassmen, who live on the same residence hall floors as first-year students, forge their own mentoring relationships with new students and encourage them to attend chapel, participate in small groups, and engage in floor/wing worship nights.

Our student body of just under 2,000 possesses a tremendous amount of creativity that is channeled through various campus initiatives. Students have applied their gifts to on-campus music groups, Bible studies, campus events, themed athletic activities, and much more over the years. Rich traditions—running the gamut from lip-syncing/dance contests

(Airband) and cultural awareness experiences (Mosaic Night) to bike races where the rider changes but the bike never stops (Taylathon) — keep students engaged in Taylor’s distinctive campus culture.

Situated between Indianapolis and Fort Wayne on 952 acres, Taylor’s scenic campus is surrounded by God’s amazing creation. We want and encourage our employees to get involved in the lives of our students. Investing in the whole-person aspect of students’ lives can be a lot of fun and very meaningful for everyone. Attending the annual Silent Night basketball game is just one way to participate in Taylor’s unique campus culture. To learn more about this storied tradition at Taylor, check out the [ESPN Silent Night Feature](#).

Finally, a high percentage of Taylor faculty and staff live close to campus; because of this, many employees take advantage of the opportunity to form close-knit relationships with students in mentoring and discipling relationships that last for life.



MISSION STATEMENT AND FOUNDATIONAL DOCUMENTS

TAYLOR'S MISSION IS TO DEVELOP SERVANT-LEADERS MARKED WITH A PASSION TO MINISTER CHRIST'S REDEMPTIVE LOVE, GRACE, AND TRUTH TO A WORLD IN NEED.

We accomplish this mission by striving to be:

Whole Person Focused: We involve students in learning experiences imbued with a vital Christian interpretation of truth and life which foster their intellectual, emotional, physical, vocational, social, and spiritual development.

Biblically Anchored and Liberal Arts Grounded: We offer a liberal arts, professional, and lifelong education based upon the conviction that all truth has its source in God and His Word.

Christ-Centered: Our Christian faith should permeate all learning—leading to a consistent life of worship, servant leadership, stewardship, and world outreach.

Faith and Learning Integrated: We strive to create specific experiences where the integrative focus of a Christian liberal arts education is clarified, personalized, and applied.

World Engaging: We contribute to the advancement of human knowledge and understanding and serve the evangelical Christian church and the larger, public community for the glory of God.

Servant-Leader Motivated: We foster a biblical model of relationships acknowledging both unity and diversity of the followers of Christ within a covenant community, which can be evidenced in a continuing lifestyle of service to and concern for others.

FOUNDATIONAL DOCUMENTS

A series of Foundational Documents make clear the University's interpretation and biblical understanding of a host of issues that relate to studying, living, and working together in a Christ-centered community.

Candidates should be able to wholeheartedly affirm and endorse each of these documents annually. They are the following and can be located online [here](#).

- 1) Statement of Faith
- 2) Life Together Covenant
- 3) Sanctity of Life Statement
- 4) Multicultural Philosophy Statement
- 5) Statement on Human Sexuality



THE OPPORTUNITY

The **Director of PREACH** (**P**reparing, **R**esourcing, **E**quipping, **A**nd **C**oaching for **H**omiletical excellence) **I**nitiative will work under the Vice President for Spiritual Life and Intercultural Leadership at Taylor to develop and implement all programmatic elements of PREACH. This will be a full-time position funded by the grant and will be the campus “champion” for the grant’s initiatives.

The Director of PREACH Initiative will engage with churches. As they do this, we anticipate a robust impact on the Taylor campus. Part of their work will include identifying leaders and preachers who are examples and role models of the power of compelling preaching. We anticipate impact across many communities. The Director of PREACH is not only a preacher, but a teacher, and will find themselves not only in the classroom, but also in the pulpit. They will champion pastors who will be receiving the PREACH certificate. From engaging with the academics of preaching to celebrating world-renowned preachers to hosting talk-back sessions, the Director of PREACH will help Taylor contribute to preaching excellence.

The Director of PREACH Initiative, like all Taylor faculty and staff, is expected to live in a vital relationship with Jesus Christ, and to be grounded in biblical wisdom, a church community, and ongoing spiritual practices.

The selected candidate will have a record of active involvement in Christian ministry and local church life and can enthusiastically champion the University’s Foundational Documents.

The candidate will reflect godly character, an excellent work ethic, an optimistic outlook, confident humility, and impeccable integrity. They must have the personal energy and resilience to lead with wisdom, grace, and love.



THE CANDIDATE

ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide regular support and connection to local churches and Christian leaders
- Coordinate campus visits for pastors and church leaders
- Teach 1-2 classes in the minor
- Speak regularly at churches, parachurch ministries, and at related events
- Assist students and student organizations as they connect with churches (TWO, Gospel Choir, Latino Student Union, athletic teams, etc.)
- Provide spiritual encouragement for pastors
- Provide regular updates on church relation progress and projects to the VP of Spiritual Life and Intercultural Leadership
- Build relationships with church coordinators from other universities
- Work with Taylor's two radio stations to expand church relations efforts
- Assist with the unique needs of multicultural and multiethnic churches
- Assist with the creation of an annual pastors' conference
- Serve as the chairperson of the strategic church relations committee
- Assist in the expansion of the church matching grant program

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Master's Degree, *required*
- Doctorate Degree, *preferred*
- 7 years of experience in higher education or pastoral ministry

- Ordination from a recognized ministry/denomination

PERSONAL QUALITIES

- **Christian Faith** – the candidate must be firmly committed to consistent evangelical Christianity, possess a vital personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and must affirm Taylor University's **Statement of Faith** and **Foundational Documents**
- **Job Commitment** – the candidate has demonstrated success, loyalty, and perseverance in their previous work assignments, as well as high cultural intelligence
- **Strong Interpersonal Skills** – the candidate must be able to communicate effectively with a large number of students, faculty, staff, and community partners as well as a sincere and caring listener

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Committed to fulfilling the vision and mission of Taylor University
- Ability to thrive and adapt to seasons of fast-paced, changing environments
- Strong communication, listening and interpersonal skills
- Ability to multi-task
- Desire to build bridges in both internal and external settings
- Significant cross-cultural experience
- Self-confident and strong initiative
- Detail-driven and organized
- Bilingual, *preferred*



APPLY NOW

Applications and nominations will be accepted until the Director of PREACH Initiative is appointed. To apply, please submit a letter of application addressing qualifications outlined in this Opportunity Profile, a complete resume, a 1-2 page statement of the candidate's professional vocational experience, and a 1-2 page statement of the candidate's spiritual journey. Nominations, expressions of interest, and applications will be treated with complete confidentiality.

If, after prayerfully reviewing this Opportunity Profile, you believe this role fits you well, please submit your materials to Kimiko Egy, Staffing Consultant for Matchstick, at kimiko@matchstick.is. Include "Director of PREACH Initiative" as the subject line and submit no later than July 31, 2024.

If you would like to recommend someone for this opportunity, please send their name and contact information to Kimiko Egy at kimiko@matchstick.is and include "Recommendation for Director of PREACH Initiative" as the subject line.



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