

Biographical sketch and statement of candidacy for the Appointment Committee for Dean in Business (Shari Wierenga)

I am currently the Manager of Accreditation, Data & Rankings at the Gustavson School of Business, where I have been engaged in various roles since 1995. My career began in executive programs and evolved into accreditation and strategic projects, including the implementation of the Faculty Activity Database (FAD) and administrator for the multi-country 'HR Climate' research project. Over the years, I've been the project manager for seven accreditation reviews, giving me a deep understanding of the school's history, culture, operations, and evolving priorities.

Throughout my time at Gustavson, I've worked closely with staff across all units including programs, research, and administrative. I have seen firsthand the critical role staff play in the school's success. I've collaborated with every dean since the school's founding in 1990, and regularly engage with business school leaders and other admin staff globally. These experiences have shaped my understanding of what strong, inclusive leadership looks like and how it can support and elevate staff contributions.

I am passionate about doing things right, with fairness, transparency, and a commitment to high-quality outcomes. These values guide my work and interactions, and I bring them to every initiative I support.

Serving on the Appointment Committee for Dean would be an opportunity to contribute meaningfully to the future of our school. I am confident that my historical knowledge, wide perspective, and dedication to quality and integrity would be valuable assets in identifying a leader who can uphold and advance the school's mission.