

# DIRECTOR SEARCH: Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health

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## **Position Description**

The Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health (VIGH) seeks an experienced and visionary leader with a distinguished academic record for the position of Director. VIGH, based in Nashville, TN, is a world-class research, education and training, and service center within the Institute for Medicine and Public Health of the Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC).

The VIGH has 16 core faculty, 80 affiliated faculty, approximately 100 annual student and trainee engagements, and over \$100 Million in funding to conduct scholarship and training in countries around the world. The VIGH maintains a strong commitment to innovative and collaborative interdisciplinary programs, which promote health worldwide.

The successful candidate will be a leader with a robust international research portfolio and reputation, a proven track record of securing and maintaining grant support (e.g., NIH, CDC, USAID, Gates Foundation), successful mentoring experience, and a vision for academic leadership. In collaboration with a robust faculty and staff management team, the Director oversees all research, education, and service activities and executive-level strategy of VIGH. The Director, with other senior faculty, will provide mentorship to junior faculty, post-doctoral scholars and graduate students.

Reflecting the broad interdisciplinary nature of global health, the Director will leverage the existing global health initiatives across the Vanderbilt campus to build cooperative partnerships with departments in a wide range of colleges, as well as collaborative partnerships with universities, non-governmental organizations, governments, and policymakers around the world.

## **Qualifications**

The Director will be a global health expert of the highest caliber in one or more of the disciplines essential to understanding health challenges in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC). (S)he will have a strong commitment to faculty and staff development and the ability to work cooperatively with leadership and colleagues across Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Vanderbilt University.

## ***Education and Background***

- A doctoral degree is required.
- Global health expert of the highest caliber in one or more of the disciplines essential to understanding health challenges in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC).
- A highly regarded basic, translational, *and/or* clinical research background, with a track record of scholarly achievements, extramural funding, and peer-reviewed publications.
- Clinical achievement, scholarly accomplishments, leadership aptitude and experience commensurate with appointment to the faculty at the rank of Associate Professor or above.

## ***Leadership & Management***

- A significant grasp of the challenging issues facing medical science and education today, as well as the dynamics of leading and operating a top-tier medical school institute within the confines of an integrated academic health system.
- A track record of establishing and maintaining an organizational climate that models inclusion, transparency, mutual respect, openness, and clarity of purpose. This includes a visible comfort with matrixed organizational structures and a desire to interact with people at all levels in the organizations. Importantly, VUMC prides itself on being a fully interdisciplinary academic medical center, where historical departmental silos no longer solely define organizational structure and accountability. Integrated service lines shaped around patient/family-centered models form the

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basis for all clinical care. Scholarly interdepartmental and interdisciplinary collaboration for the advancement of medical science are core to the success of the nationally recognized VUMC research enterprise.

- A strong commitment to continued diversification of the faculty and trainees of the department, especially regarding recruitment and retention of women and under-represented minorities.

### ***Behavioral Competencies***

- Given the integrated nature of VUMC, the ability to provide leadership across the institutional landscape and to interact in a highly collaborative way with basic science and clinical chairs, as well as center and institute directors in defining strategic direction and programmatic development is critical.

### ***Personal Characteristics***

- A talent for creative thinking, with a high-energy, and an open leadership style.
- Humility, an excellent work ethic and high emotional intelligence.
- An aptitude and vision recognized for propelling programs and people forward.

### **Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health (VIGH)**

Established in 2005, the Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health (VIGH) is a multidisciplinary global health institute that amplifies Vanderbilt's expertise in research, education and service to improve the health and well-being of people around the world — especially those in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Its "center without- walls" philosophy nurtures transdisciplinary partnerships among and within departments and schools on campus, and with partner institutions around the globe. VIGH strives to engender sustainable, scalable health and development programs in resource-limited settings through innovative multidisciplinary approaches rooted in strong academic research and training and global partnerships are at the heart of this mission. VIGH faculty include appointments in Medicine, Infectious Diseases, Pediatrics, Health Policy, Neurology, Neurosurgery, Biomedical Informatics, Epidemiology, and the School of Nursing, who work directly at the Institute, numerous faculty members housed elsewhere across the campus as well as adjunct faculty from around the world. A global vision of "capacity building" is a core value of the Institute, and this is reflected in its strong commitment to training and research

The current Institute has dedicated administrative and office space at 2525 West End Avenue along with other programs affiliated with the Vanderbilt Institute for Medicine and Public Health. Currently VIGH includes 16 Core Faculty, 80 Members, and a diverse array of staff supporting over \$100 million in funded research, and education and training programs. Faculty affiliated with VIGH have published over 400 publications in the past year, and are involved with training over 1,000 undergraduate, graduate, post-doctoral fellows, and faculty scholars locally and internationally. The VIGH also leads the Global Health Track for the Vanderbilt MPH program, and a Graduate Certificate in Global Health for the Medical School. More information about VIGH is available here: <https://www.vumc.org/global-health/>.

### **Vanderbilt University Medical Center**

Managing more than 2 million patient visits each year, [Vanderbilt University Medical Center](#) (VUMC) is one of the largest academic medical centers in the Southeast, and is the primary resource for specialty and primary care in hundreds of adult and pediatric specialties for patients throughout Tennessee and the Mid-South. Each year, VUMC clinicians provide more than 2.3 million ambulatory visits, perform more than 56,000 surgical procedures, and see 116,000 patients in its adult and pediatric Emergency Rooms. The Medical Center employs over 24,000 staff. The School of Medicine's biomedical research program is among the nation's top 10 in terms of National Institutes of Health peer review funding, and received more than \$590 million in public and private awards during FY2018. The Medical Center is the region's locus of postgraduate medical education, with over 1,000 residents and fellows training in more than 100 specialty areas. Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital and the [Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt](#) are recognized each year by U.S. News & World Report's Best Hospitals rankings as national leaders, with 19

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nationally ranked adult and pediatric specialties. Through the Vanderbilt Health Affiliated Network, VUMC is working with over 60 hospitals and 5,000 clinicians across Tennessee and five neighboring states to share best practices and bring value-driven and cost-effective health care to the Mid-South.

### **Vanderbilt University School of Medicine**

The School of Medicine, originally part of the University of Nashville, was incorporated into Vanderbilt University in 1874 and awarded its first Vanderbilt medical degrees in 1875. Since the inception of the School of Medicine, a Vanderbilt medical education has been held in high esteem among its peer institutions, and that legacy continues today. Biomedical research at the School of Medicine has long been recognized for its contributions to the advancement of medicine. The School of Medicine claims two Nobel Laureates, Earl Sutherland Jr., in 1971, for his discovery of the metabolic regulating compound "cyclic AMP," and Stanley Cohen, in 1986, for his and a colleague's discovery of epidermal growth factor. The School of Medicine currently has over 2,700 faculty and more than 500 students. **Vanderbilt University School of Medicine** ranks 18th among the nation's elite programs, according to *U.S. News and World Report's* annual ranking of top medical schools for research, released in the 2021 edition of America's Best Graduate Schools. **Vanderbilt University School of Medicine** ranks No. 8 in the nation among U.S. medical schools in total grant support provided through the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

### **Research Infrastructure**

In addition to the highly collaborative and high-quality academic health center, VUMC has invested in world-class research infrastructure. Key highlights include:

**Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (VICTR):** The program's initial goal in 2006, when first founded, was to assist institutions in creating a "novel and integrative academic home for clinical and translational science." VICTR was created to be the single home for translational research at Vanderbilt. The foundation for VICTR was built upon an integrated, comprehensive, informatics-driven research and administrative infrastructure that served as a launchpad for numerous transformative, research-enabling programs and resources such as Studios, pilot funding vouchers, BioVU, REDCap, ResearchMatch, StarBRITE, and community engagement initiatives. Using this infrastructure as the cornerstone, we were able to leverage, grow, and refine our resources, programs, and operations during the second funding cycle while applying them to enhance the quality and efficiency of the research conducted. Moreover, we expanded the reach of our programs at a local, national, and international scale. Today, VICTR is a highly functional and integrated translational research infrastructure that has raised the quality and scientific rigor of the research conducted at Vanderbilt and longstanding partner Meharry, the nation's oldest historically black academic health science institution. VICTR is now intimately woven into the fabric and impacts every facet of clinical and translational (C&T) research, including the conduct of pragmatic clinical trials that fuel the VUMC Learning Health System.

**Vanderbilt Coordinating Center (VCC):** The VCC has been coordinating multi-center national and international clinical trials since its inception in 1985 and was recently expanded and transitioned to a full-service Vanderbilt Shared CORE Resource, with a transparent pricing structure. VCC provides service in support of the development, design, and conduct of clinical trials ranging from 2-900 participating sites. The VCC can provide comprehensive study management support for investigator-initiated or industry/foundation sponsored trials, similar to that provided by a contract research organization or VCC customers can choose from a menu of services. Services include deliverable/timeline-based project management; study design and protocol development; database design and management (data dictionary, query, query resolution); remote and on-site monitoring; financial management (budget development/negotiation, financial tracking, invoicing); document development/management; investigator and site identification; qualification; initiation; pre-randomization participant eligibility review; randomization services; regulatory communications (FDA, IND/IDE, audit preparation, central IRB); report generation; data safety monitoring board management (recruiting members, meeting management, data report generation; documentation,

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communication including SAE reporting/review; medical monitoring; clinical trial material management (oversight for distribution, documentation, disposal); and medical writing.

**The Vanderbilt Institute for Medicine and Public Health (IMPH):** The IMPH provides academic, research and infrastructure support for a wide array of efforts at Vanderbilt University Medical Center aimed at improving individual and population health nationally and Internationally. The Institute seeks to connect research and teaching with policy and practical solutions. The Institute currently provides support for 28 research centers and 2 departments, including the Center for Health Services Research, the Center for Epidemiology, the Center for Biomedical Ethics and Society, the Institute for Global Health, the Department of Health Policy, and the Department of Biostatistics. The Institute engages over 250 faculty across departments in the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, and Arts and Sciences. Faculty affiliated with the Institute are engaged in a robust array of funded research, making it one of the top funded programs of public health in the nation. The Institute also provides support for multiple junior faculty and postdoctoral training programs, MPH programs in Epidemiology, Global Health and Health Policy, and PhD programs in Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Health Policy (forthcoming). The Institute also provides support for community, public health, and health policy efforts.

### **Applications**

Applicants interested in this position should submit a cover letter and updated Curriculum Vitae. The cover letter should describe the applicant's relevant qualifications and experience, as well as brief statements of clinical, research and teaching interests. All application materials should be sent to Russell Rothman, Senior Vice President for Population and Public Health, Suite 1200, Vanderbilt Institute for Medicine and Public Health, 2525 West End Avenue, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN 37203, Tel 615-936-2149; email [Russell.rothman@vumc.org](mailto:Russell.rothman@vumc.org). Vanderbilt University Medical Center is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.