Provost and Vice President, Academic

Mount Royal University

Location: Calgary

Mount Royal University is located in Calgary, Alberta in the traditional territories of the Niitsitapi (Blackfoot) and the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, the Kainai, the Tsuut’ina and the Îyârhe Nakoda. We are situated on land where the Bow River meets the Elbow River. The traditional Blackfoot name of this place is "Mohkinstsis." The city of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation.

Mount Royal University has carved out a distinct niche by offering smaller class sizes, a robust broad education, and unique undergraduate programs. Currently, more than 15,000 credit students choose from 13 bachelor's degrees and 36 majors. We are a student-centred community supported by dedicated faculty and staff who offer exceptional teaching and support services.

The success of our students is our top priority and we have set out an ambitious growth plan to meet the community's need for high-quality undergraduate education. Mount Royal is committed to increasing access to post-secondary education including a commitment to further indigenize and internationalize our campus, enhance our research culture, and expand fundraising efforts. Together, we will achieve these strategic priorities through a strong focus on our employees as the driving force behind the University's success.

Reporting to the President and Vice-Chancellor, the Provost and Vice-President, Academic will be an exceptional leader with a successful record of leading engaged and dedicated faculty and staff. The successful candidate should have a demonstrated commitment to working collaboratively to provide a superior learning environment for students and increased research opportunities for faculty. As Mount Royal continues to grow as a university, the Provost will work with a strong team of Deans and Associate Vice-Presidents to maintain a focus on students, community engagement and the integration of teaching and research. The Provost will demonstrate experience in and a commitment to undergraduate education.

The Mount Royal University Strategic Planning Framework affirms Mount Royal’s enduring commitment to academic excellence, student success and inclusion for all. Using the University’s Strategic Planning Framework as a roadmap, the Provost will work to build a new Academic Plan to enhance program offerings, improve access for learners, support and grow innovative teaching and classroom opportunities, and enhance research opportunities for faculty and their students. Student success and retention is a hallmark of MRU’s commitment to our learners. Of particular focus is Mount Royal’s commitment to respond to the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission by increasing the proportion of Indigenous students and to indigenize a curriculum that recognizes the unique contribution and history of Indigenous peoples.

The Provost will lead the faculty in the implementation of the new Academic Plan. The Academic Plan will articulate the academic mission of the institution as it matches the strategic directions set out in the University Strategic Planning Framework. The implementation of the Academic Plan will require collaboration across the community.

Working collaboratively with faculty and academic leaders, the Provost will build upon a strong history of pedagogical innovation. The Provost will facilitate the collaborative development of Mount Royal’s existing strengths and our experience in curriculum development, course delivery, strategic community partnerships, essential experiential
learning opportunities, and undergraduate research opportunities. Understanding the unique role of Mount Royal in the post-secondary environment, the Provost will have a track record of internal collaboration, active listening and participation in team-driven solutions.

The Provost will be an accomplished professor with a strong teaching record and having experience with, and an understanding of, research activity as well as understanding its place in an undergraduate university. The Provost will have an earned doctorate ideally in a discipline for which Mount Royal provides credit instruction, and a record of positive academic leadership with experience at the decanal level (or equivalent) as a minimum. The incoming Provost will share Mount Royal’s commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion as they champion Mount Royal’s vision, mission and values. In addition, the successful candidate will have a strong, demonstrated understanding of budgeting, university policy and collective agreements.

As a former college that became a university in 2009, MRU is looking for an academic leader with a history of managing change in a consultative manner. This includes fostering a vibrant academic culture and supporting faculty as they strive for continual enhancement of their teaching and scholarship, while respecting the academic freedom of faculty and the shared academic governance of the institution.

In addition, the Provost will have excellent relationship building skills with a proven ability to build trust, teams, and shared vision across a broad group of stakeholders. An understanding of, respect for, and experience working with First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) is valued and would be seen as a great asset.

To explore this exciting opportunity further, please submit your resume via the blue "Apply" button by visiting the Boyden Canada Opportunities website at https://www.boyden.ca/canada/opportunities/. The application portal will remain open until the position is filled.

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those under consideration for the role will be contacted.

Mount Royal University recognizes that people are a combination of many intersecting identities; we work to cultivate an environment that welcomes the whole person and harnesses the strength that is available in our diversity, creating a rich and inclusive workplace where each person’s individuality is celebrated. In the spirit of cultivating inclusiveness, candidates who meet the qualifications may have diverse educational and experiential backgrounds, which will be considered. MRU is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons/persons of colour, women, Indigenous/Aboriginal People of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ2S+ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas. Mount Royal University is also committed to supporting individuals who require accommodation to the point of undue hardship.

Should you need any accommodations during the recruitment process, please notify Boyden and we will be happy to assist.