Trent University invites applications, nominations, and expressions of interest for the position of Vice-President Research and Innovation, with the appointment to be effective July 1, 2022. This is an exciting opportunity to join a vibrant, engaged, and sustainable community committed to interdisciplinary, strategically focused, and leading research and innovation in the liberal arts and sciences and professional programs.

Recognized nationally for its leadership in teaching, research, and student satisfaction, Trent University attracts more than 11,700 excellent students from across the country and around the world, who are enrolled in over 100 diverse and dynamic academic programs across the arts, sciences, social sciences, and professional programs. Trent was the first university in Canada to develop academic programming in Environmental Studies, Indigenous Studies, and Canadian Studies. Trent’s Peterborough campus boasts award-winning architecture in a breathtaking natural setting on the banks of the Otonabee River, just 90 minutes from downtown Toronto. Trent University’s Durham Greater Toronto Area (GTA) campus delivers a distinct mix of programming in the east GTA, with one of the best student-to-faculty ratios of any university in Ontario. Trent Durham GTA is home to expert faculty and leading researchers using the latest in theory and practice in unique programs, and is just 40 minutes from downtown Toronto.

With interdisciplinary research expertise in Humanities and Culture, Healthy and Sustainable Communities, and the Environment, Trent is focused on integrating research and teaching to anticipate the problem solving and opportunity development needs of our society and economy. Current projects include the development of a 75-acre research park dedicated to the development of clean technology and green business, and a long term care facility which will reflect the work of the University’s internationally recognized Trent Centre for Aging & Society. Further information may be found at www.trentu.ca.

Reporting to the President as a member of the executive team, the Vice-President Research and Innovation (VPRI) leads and manages research at Trent and is instrumental in promoting, formalizing, and embedding innovation throughout the University. Responsible for maintaining and enhancing Trent’s commitment to faculty and student success in all areas of research, the VPRI will create a culture that facilitates, inspires, and supports all aspects of research, including commercialization, management of intellectual property, external funding, and joint research projects and partnerships.

The VPRI will play a key role in promoting Trent’s research locally, nationally, and internationally and will liaise with external stakeholders, including government, on all matters relating to research, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

The VPRI occupies a key decision making role within Trent’s senior administration. With exceptional organizational and interpersonal skills, the new VPRI will engage collaboratively with stakeholders and secure internal and external support for research and innovation. In doing so, they will partner effectively with other educational institutions, government, communities, and industry. The successful candidate will bring a proven record of leadership in a complex research environment; current knowledge of the many changes and opportunities in the national research context; and the credibility to function successfully at all levels of the University. A track record of personal research achievement and of developing and promoting interdisciplinary research initiatives, a sophisticated understanding of the relationships among research and innovation, and of connecting and translating research impacts to the community are all essential.

Trent University is actively committed to creating a diverse and inclusive campus community and encourages applications from all qualified candidates. Trent University offers accommodation for applicants with disabilities in its recruitment processes. If you require accommodation during the recruitment process or require an accessible version of a document/publication, please contact humanresources@trentu.ca. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority. Only selected candidates will be contacted.

We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabeg. We offer our gratitude to First Peoples for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we honour those teachings.

The search committee will begin consideration of candidates immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Applications, including curriculum vitae, a letter of introduction, and the names of three references (who will not be contacted without consent of the applicant), should be submitted, in confidence, to the University’s executive search consultants:

Laverne Smith & Associates Inc.
TrentVPRI@lavernesmith.com