The University of Alberta invites applications for the appointment of Provost and Vice-President (Academic). The University of Alberta prepares the next generation of thinkers and leaders by giving our undergraduate and graduate students an unparalleled education with world-class instructors, hybrid learning environments, hands-on lab and field experience, and internship opportunities.

The University is home to over 44,000 students from 156 countries and 15,000 faculty and staff with over 300,000 alumni worldwide. The U of A has an annual budget of more than $1.9 billion that attracts over $600 million in annual sponsored research funding. It offers over 200 undergraduate, and over 500 graduate programs within 3 colleges and 17 faculties (including the only Faculty of Native Studies in North America) on five campuses – including one rural and one francophone campus. The main campus is situated adjacent to the spectacular North Saskatchewan River Valley and is less than a four-hour drive to the Rocky Mountains.

Under the leadership of the University’s 14th President and Vice Chancellor, Bill Flanagan, the University of Alberta continues to move forward with purpose as one of the world’s most respected public universities. Driving our excellence are two factors. First, a desire for continual self-improvement as evidenced, most recently, by a campus-wide academic and administrative restructuring. Second, our exceptional community of talented people – students, faculty, and staff – who with their creativity, ingenuity and drive, join in advancing human knowledge and pursuing scientific discovery for the benefit of all. The University seeks to foster an inclusive culture in which people excel through exchange and collaboration, enriched by the diversity of individuals, groups, disciplines, perspectives, approaches, and questions that characterize its community.

Reporting to the President and Vice-Chancellor, the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) (VPA) is a senior officer of University of Alberta and leads the conceptualization, development, implementation, and continuous improvement of academic programs and services. The Provost and VPA is responsible for achieving the strategic academic direction and priorities of the institution – serving as both the Chief Academic Officer and Chief Operating Officer of the University of Alberta. Additionally, The Provost and VPA is responsible for institutional planning and administration in all aspects of the academic operations, involving academic leadership and staff, students, and academic programming. This position is a member of the University’s Senior Leadership Team (SLT), and the President’s Executive Leadership Team (ELT). The successful candidate will be offered an academic position with tenure at the rank of Professor. The appointment as Provost and VPA is for a five-year period with the possibility of renewal.

The Provost and VPA functions in a highly demanding environment which requires constant scanning for issues and challenges against multiple priorities and demands on resources. The workload is significant, the issues are frequently complex, and the partnerships and decisions required of the Provost and VPA are critical to the U of A’s academic success. This position develops and maintains positive and productive relationships with a wide range of internal and external interested parties including other ELT and SLT members, the Board of Governors, faculty, students, staff, alumni, granting agencies, community leaders, other educational institutions, and senior level government officials.

The VPA will also show deep commitment to equity and champion a barrier-free campus while advancing the commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), policy transformation, and processes to centre knowledge holders.
The successful candidate will possess a Ph.D. or equivalent, along with academic qualifications and career accomplishments commensurate with an appointment "With Tenure" at the rank of Full Professor. They will also have a minimum of 10 years' progressive experience in leadership as well as significant graduate and/or postdoctoral supervisory experience; an internationally recognized catalogue of excellent scholarly research and teaching; strong leadership and interpersonal skills, including not only the ability to lead the academy, but also the ability to work collegially as an integral member of a leadership team; strong administration skills and experience managing significant financial resources; demonstrated history of effecting change and leading transformation within a university; and, a commitment to continuous learning, and the ability to continuously seek out and acquire new knowledge, skills and expertise.

While the University community can, and undoubtedly should, be proud of its substantial past achievements, the best way to respect the work of predecessors is to continue to build on it in the future, and the next 10 years of audacious goals for the university are outlined in the University of Alberta’s new strategic plan, SHAPE.

The University’s new operating model consists of a hybrid of centralized and decentralized services which promotes consistency, avoids duplication, and supports a one-university approach and service culture. Core to the model is the establishment of the University’s three new colleges: the College of Health Sciences, the College of Natural and Applied Sciences, and the College of Social Sciences and Humanities. The colleges leverage excellence within all departments and faculties to improve both academic and administrative performance as One University.

The University of Alberta has engaged DHR Global to manage this search. To explore this exciting opportunity further, please contact the DHR Calgary Office at lmiller@dhrglobal.com to ask questions or to submit your CV and Cover Letter. This application portal will remain open until the position is filled.

This is a global search that is an open competition where the committee will consider both internal and external candidates.

This position is a full-time, continuing appointment and offers a comprehensive benefits package found at Faculty & Staff Benefits and an annual salary of $310,000-$400,000. Salary will be commensurate with experience. We thank all candidates for their interest; only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

As part of the Temporary Foreign Worker Program requirements, the university must conduct recruitment efforts to hire Canadians and permanent residents before offering a job to a temporary foreign worker. To ensure we remain in compliance with these regulations, please include the appropriate statement on your application “I am a Canadian Citizen/Permanent Residence” or “I am not a Canadian Citizen/Permanent Resident.”

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. If suitable Canadian citizens or permanent residents cannot be found, other individuals will be considered.

The University of Alberta is committed to an equitable, diverse, and inclusive workforce. We welcome applications from all qualified persons. We encourage women; First Nations, Métis and Inuit; members of visible minority groups; persons with disabilities; persons of any sexual orientation or gender identity and expression; and all those who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas and the University to apply.