Advert – Provost and Vice-President Academic, The University of British Columbia, Okanagan Campus

UBC Okanagan is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation.

UBC Okanagan invites applications for our next Provost and Vice-President Academic (Provost). This position represents an outstanding opportunity to take on a leadership role at one of the world’s top universities and at a smaller, growing campus with impactful research, meaningful academic programming and excellent engagement with the community and wider region. The anticipated start date is September 1, 2022 or for a date to be mutually agreed on.

Reporting to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal, the Provost will serve as a key member of UBC’s leadership team and will work with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal, along with the executive team, Deans and other University and campus leaders at UBC Okanagan. They will be responsible for guiding and enhancing the academic mission of Okanagan Campus and for the institutional planning and administration of highly complex academic operations, including budgetary planning relating to teaching and learning. They will also collaborate closely on system-wide academic issues with the Vice-President Academic and Provost at UBC Vancouver.

Offering a student-centric approach and unrelenting commitment to excellence within the academy, the Provost will have experience as a leader and manager in a complex university environment. The Provost must hold a terminal degree, such as a PhD, in a discipline represented at UBC Okanagan and qualify for appointment at the rank of Professor. They should have emotional intelligence, strong communication skills and be an excellent collaborator and relationship builder. They will have a commitment to advancing equity, diversity and inclusion across all aspects of the academic enterprise. As part of the University’s response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action, UBC Okanagan has committed to supporting and implementing five key commitments, which can be found at https://ok.ubc.ca/about/indigenous-engagement/. The ideal candidate will therefore also have a demonstrable commitment to advancing Indigenization.

UBC is a global centre for research and teaching, consistently ranked among the 40 best universities in the world and top 20 public universities. The University opened its Okanagan Campus in 2005 as a bold new UBC presence in the interior of British Columbia, designed to deliver on the promise of a research-intensive institution purpose-built for the 21st century.

UBC Okanagan is home to over 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students, 630 faculty members and nine Faculties and Schools. UBC Okanagan students receive an outstanding education in a stimulating student-centered learning environment. Over the last five years, campus research income has more than doubled. Success rates at the Canadian tri-councils (SSHRC, NSERC, and CIHR) have consistently exceeded national averages. Our faculty members have formal partnerships with over 100 organizations (local non-profits, regional small and medium enterprises, national and multinational corporations, regional health authorities, hospitals, and municipalities), with research, knowledge mobilization, and scholarly activities on the main campus and beyond. In 2019, UBC Okanagan published Outlook 2040, a visioning exercise that positions the campus as one of Canada’s fastest growing post-secondary institutions.

UBC Okanagan is partnering with the executive search firm Perrett Laver on this search. Applications should consist of a full CV detailing academic and professional qualifications and relevant achievements. It should be accompanied by a cover letter describing how candidates meet the selection criteria (accessible at the below link), why the appointment is of interest, what they believe they can bring to the role, and a statement describing strengths and experiences in advancing Indigenization and the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion in their previous and/or current institutions. Review of applications will begin in late April, and will continue until the position is filled. Further information, including a full position description and selection criteria, along with details of how to apply, can be downloaded at perrettlaver.com/candidates, quoting reference 5527.
Equity and diversity are essential to academic excellence. An open and diverse community fosters the inclusion of voices that have been underrepresented or discouraged. We encourage applications from members of groups that have been marginalized on any grounds enumerated under the B.C. Human Rights Code, including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, racialization, disability, political belief, religion, marital or family status, age, and/or status as a First Nation, Metis, Inuit, or Indigenous person. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority.

Perrett Laver is a Data Controller and a Data Processor, as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Any information obtained by our trading divisions is held and processed in accordance with the relevant data protection legislation. The data you provide us with is securely stored on our computerised database and transferred to our clients for the purposes of presenting you as a candidate and/or considering your suitability for a role you have registered interest in. Our legal basis for much of our data processing activity is ‘Legitimate Interests’. You have the right to object to us processing your data in this way. For more information about this, your rights, and our approach to Data Protection and Privacy, please visit our website http://www.perrettlaver.com/information/privacy-policy/