Vice-President, Research and Innovation (VPRI)
The University of Winnipeg

Located in the heart of downtown Winnipeg, Manitoba, on original Treaty One land and in the heart of the Métis homeland, The University of Winnipeg is a comprehensive research university with a strong culture of research, scholarship, creativity, and innovation that spans the sciences, social sciences, humanities, and education. At UWinnipeg, impact is measured by collective success and driven by responsive curiosity and collaboration. The University of Winnipeg is strongly committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion in its representation across its leadership positions, and in the work that it does. Home to approximately 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students, 340 full-time faculty, 323 instructional staff, and 489 support staff, UWinnipeg has an established reputation for academic and research excellence, a supportive and caring learning and working environment, and a commitment to Indigenous engagement and achievement.

The Opportunity

The Vice-President, Research and Innovation (VPRI) serves as a member of UWinnipeg’s executive leadership team, reporting to the President and working in collaboration with other Vice-Presidents and senior academic and administrative leaders across the institution to envision and deliver the University’s strategic research mission. Among other priorities, the VPRI will advance UWinnipeg’s local and international impact in research and innovation; encourage internal and external strategic collaborations, partnerships, and engagement across disciplines; enhance UWinnipeg’s success with the federal granting councils, potential donors and local and international opportunities; promote inclusive excellence across the research and innovation ecosystem; and strengthen institutional supports and best practices that will advance the University’s commitment to research excellence, knowledge mobilization, and impact.

The Ideal Candidate

The VPRI should be a visionary and inspirational leader and a respected scholar eligible for appointment to senior professorial ranks and will have excellent interpersonal skills, a transparent and collaborative leadership style, and a demonstrated commitment to fostering success, excellence and innovation in teaching, learning, and research. Ideally, they will bring a track record of advancing institutional research and innovation initiatives and commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion, and Indigenous-led and Indigenous-engaged research and practices. They should inspire intellectual curiosity and creativity; encourage collaboration; and empower the UWinnipeg community to be successful in performing a rich variety of research that will have an impact on Manitoba and the world.

To achieve success in the role, the VPRI should bring a proven ability to engage meaningfully with the internal and external community to develop, implement, and advance the University’s research mission and lead transformational institutional change in the pursuit of research excellence. They will possess an ability to build strong partnerships with government, industry, other educational institutions, community groups, and funding bodies. The VPRI will model the highest degree of administrative accountability through the deployment of an operational model of continuous improvement and planning. Fostering an equitable and inclusive culture will be at the core of the role.

The appointment, which is renewable, is for five years and is to take effect July 1, 2024. Consideration of candidates will commence in the Fall of 2023 and continue until the position is filled. Nominations and inquiries should be directed to Andrea Patrick and Nick Ketley at Odgers Berndtson at uwinnipeg@odgersberndtson.com

The University of Winnipeg is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion and recognizes that a diverse staff and faculty benefits and enriches the work, learning and research environments, and is essential to academic and institutional excellence. We welcome applications from all qualified individuals and encourage women, racialized persons, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, and 2SLGBTQ+ persons to confidentially self-identify at time of application. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.

Please note: The University of Winnipeg will be taking additional steps to verify Indigenous identity for candidates who are invited to interview for this role and who self-identify as Indigenous.

The University of Winnipeg and Odgers Berndtson are committed to ensuring that employment opportunities are accessible for all applicants. Accommodations will be made at any point in the recruitment process by contacting Odgers Berndtson at uwinnipeg@odgersberndtson.com.