Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

Western University

Western University invites nominations and applications for the position of Provost & Vice-President (Academic).

Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapēewak, and Attawandaron peoples, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) whom the university recognizes as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society.

With an enviable national reputation and an expanding international profile that ranks among the top 1% of universities world-wide, Western pushes the boundaries of pedagogical and scholarly excellence while setting a national standard for a student experience.

Western is a founding member of Canada’s U15, serves as a hub for more than 500 international research collaborations, and is recognized as one of Canada’s Top 100 Employers. There are approximately 24,700 undergraduate students and 6,100 graduate students including approximately 450 Indigenous undergraduate and 140 graduate students, 5,800 international undergraduate and graduate students from more than 120 countries within Western’s 12 Faculties and Schools. Approximately 4,000 faculty and staff work in partnership to deliver 400+ specializations, majors and minors, as well as innovative modular degree programs.

The Provost & Vice-President (Academic) will be pivotal in the execution of a new strategic plan that enables the ambitions of Western’s students, staff, and faculty, and unlocks their potential as citizens, scholars, practitioners, and difference-makers. Reporting to the President and working in close partnership with the Vice-Presidents, Academic Vice-Provosts, and Deans, you will foster a culture committed to the principles of innovation, excellence, equity, diversity, inclusion; strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration; support fundraising and development efforts, secure resources and community support; and optimize policies, systems, and programs aligned with institutional priorities.

The responsibilities of the Provost are diverse and multifaceted. The portfolio includes senior executive oversight of all Academic Faculties and Schools, Academic Programs, Academic Planning, Faculty Relations, Registrar’s Office, Student Experience, Institutional Planning & Budgeting, Western Libraries, Western International, Indigenous Initiatives, Western Technology Services, and the McIntosh Gallery. The Provost operates in a demanding, but highly rewarding, academic environment that requires a focus on multiple priorities. The Provost proactively handles these challenges in the context of competing demands and limited resources. The needs of the position call for the highest level of competency, integrity, creativity, energy, commitment, and character in the individual.

The Provost functions as both the Chief Academic Officer of the University, leading the development, implementation, and continued improvement of academic programs and services, as well as the Chief Operating Officer, responsible for institutional planning and administration in all aspects of the academic endeavour as it relates to students, faculty, staff, alumni, members of governance committees and the faculty and staff associations. The Provost & Vice-President (Academic) will also play an external role, advocating to all levels of government and supporting Western’s work with local, national, and global communities.
As the ideal candidate, you are a skilled and experienced administrator and an established and respected scholar. You have a reputation for being a highly collaborative, transparent, engaging, supportive, trusted, team-oriented colleague, and partner. Your leadership success has been a function of your ability to drive a compelling vision of academic excellence, to exercise sound judgment and diplomacy in a complex, decentralized, multi-stakeholder setting, to promote a deep-rooted commitment to students, and to embody a sense of trust, respect, and partnership. Your financial acumen, negotiation skills, and business and capital planning experience along with your courage and willingness to be bold, to innovate, and to take judicious risks will be highly valued at Western.

Western is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from women, members of racialized groups / visible minorities, Indigenous people, persons with disabilities, persons with any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression. Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities throughout the recruitment process by contacting Jessa Chupik at jchupik@boyden.com.

Consideration of candidates, by the search committee, will begin in early June 2021. To ensure candidates have enough time to carefully consider the role, please contact a member of Boyden’s team as noted below, as soon as possible. Given the COVID-19 crisis, every effort to accommodate candidates will be made in a way that is equitable and respectful of their additional professional, community and personal responsibilities during this difficult time.

For further information and the full executive briefing document, please contact Jessa Chupik at jchupik@boyden.com.

In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, all qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and Permanent Residents will be given priority.