Western University invites applications, nominations, and expressions of interest for the position of Vice-President (Research), with the appointment to be effective summer 2020. Committed to nurturing a culture of research excellence and innovation, Western aspires to the highest levels of achievement as a research-intensive University and is now seeking a visionary and collaborative research leader to build on its successes and lead the next phase of development.

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 creating a student experience that engages, challenges, and informs. 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 40,000 students, including more than 5,800 international undergraduate and graduate students from 128 countries, within Western’s 12 Faculties and Schools and three affiliated university colleges. Approximately 4,000 faculty and staff work in partnership to deliver 400+ specializations, majors, and minors, as well as innovative modular degree programs. Further information may be found at www.uwo.ca.

Western University excels in moving research out of labs and offices into the lives of people around the world through public- and private-sector partnerships. Its researchers collaborate with colleagues across the campus, country, and globe to advance research and inform policy on the world stage. From the health sector to the cultural economy, from politics to manufacturing, and from the operating room to the boardroom, Western’s research drives discovery and influences the way we live. The University, with its affiliated hospitals and research centres, has more than $239 million in total annual research funding and is currently home to 75 Canada Research Chairs and 69 endowed Chairs.

Reporting to the President and Vice Chancellor as part of the senior leadership of Western University, the Vice-President (Research) (VPR) is the University’s internal and external advocate for research. Providing leadership and vision in shaping strategic research directions and ensuring effective support of scholars through collaboration, communication, and service, the VPR will build upon Western’s core areas of research strength and advance opportunities to further accelerate research growth, funding, and overall success. The VPR will represent Western externally with government, industry, and relevant provincial, national, and international bodies and funding organizations.

The successful candidate for Vice-President (Research) will have a proven record of leadership in a complex research environment, current knowledge of the many changes and opportunities in the global research context, and the credibility to function successfully at all levels of the University. A proven track record of personal research achievement and of developing and promoting interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, and transdisciplinary research initiatives, a sophisticated understanding of the relationships among research, innovation, and knowledge mobilization, and of connecting and translating research impacts to the community are all essential. With exceptional organizational and interpersonal skills, and a record of building collaborative teams and solving problems across disciplines, the new VPR will excel in the ability to engage other stakeholders, and will be able to obtain internal and external support for research and innovation while partnering effectively with other educational institutions, government, communities, and industry.

The University invites applications from all qualified individuals. Western is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from women, members of racialized groups/visible minorities, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression. The University provides support in its recruitment processes to applicants with disabilities, including accommodation that takes into account an applicant’s accessibility needs. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, all qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and Permanent Residents will be given priority.

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

Laverne Smith & Associates Inc.
WesternVPR@lavernesmith.com

Western is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lunaapeewak and Attawandaron peoples.