

University of Nebraska

Vice Provost for P-16 Search



Harris Search Associates

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About University of Nebraska

Founded in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1869, the University of Nebraska (NU) is a four-campus public university that serves the citizens of Nebraska through quality teaching, research, outreach and engagement. One of the early land grant universities, founded less than two years after Nebraska became the nation's 37th state, NU was the first institution west of the Mississippi to offer graduate education.

The state's only public university, NU today comprises:

- a comprehensive research campus in Lincoln (University of Nebraska – Lincoln, UNL),
- a health sciences center in Omaha (University of Nebraska Medical Center, UNMC),
- a metropolitan campus in Omaha (University of Nebraska at Omaha, UNO), and
- a residential undergraduate-focused campus in Kearney (University of Nebraska at Kearney, UNK), as well as research, extension, and service facilities statewide.

NU employs approximately 13,000 people and enrolls slightly more than 50,000 students.

The University of Nebraska is led by the President of the University. The Chancellors of each campus serve as the chief operating officers of their campuses and also as Vice Presidents of the University.

There are four additional senior administrative officers who comprise the University Central Administration:

- Executive Vice President and Provost,
- Vice President for Business and Finance,
- Vice President for University Affairs,
- Vice President and General Counsel, and
- Vice President and Vice Chancellor for Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Executive Vice President and Provost reports directly to the President and serves as deputy to the President for the full range of academic and student affairs needs and issues. The President and the University's Central Administration provide a single focus and voice for the University as a statewide institution, and they ensure its accountability to the public.

NU is supported by the University of Nebraska Foundation, a private, non-profit corporation that exists to provide financial support for the University. In fall 2009, NU announced the largest comprehensive campaign in its history, *The Campaign for Nebraska: Unlimited Possibilities*. The campaign aims to raise \$1.55 billion by December 2014 for a wide range of critical university initiatives including financial aid, faculty support, global engagement, agriculture and life sciences, information technology, cancer, architectural engineering and construction, water, and early childhood education. The NU Foundation recently reported that gifts to the Campaign have exceeded \$1.58 billion with one year remaining.

The University strives to be the best public university in the country as measured by its impact on Nebraskans and the state, and through them, the world. Such excellence requires the ability to compete effectively with other institutions for talented students and faculty.

The future of Nebraska is closely tied to the future of its only public university, and this framework guides university-wide and campus planning to help build and sustain educational and economic opportunity and a high quality of life for the 1.8 million citizens of the State.

The University's goals and aspirations are laid out in the key planning document, *Investing in Nebraska's Future: Strategic Planning Framework, 2010-2013* (<http://nebraska.edu/docs/StrategicFramework.pdf>). This framework lays out six overarching goals, along with related objectives, strategies and accountability measures that detail the University's commitment to access and affordability, quality academic programs, workforce and economic development, research growth and excellence, engagement with the state, and accountability.

In particular, the University focuses its resources on areas of strength in research where there is opportunity for regional, national and international leadership and where there are areas of strategic importance to the health and economic strength of Nebraska. These areas include agriculture and life sciences; natural resources, especially water; prevention and cure of diseases such as cancer; and early childhood education.

Under the State Constitution, the University is governed by a Board of Regents consisting of eight voting members elected by district and four non-voting student Regents, one from each campus, who serve during their tenure as student body president. The Board supervises the

general operations of the University and the control and direction of all expenditures. The Board's minutes, notices, policies and bylaws are public and available on the University's website. The Board operates through four standing committees – Executive Committee, Academic Affairs, Audit, and Business Affairs.

The University of Nebraska has a total budget of \$2,279,544,609 in FY2013. Approximately 12 percent of the University's operating budget is derived from tuition. Twenty-two percent of the University's operating budget comes from State support; indeed, NU is the largest single entity in the state budget. The remaining 66 percent comes from private funds, governmental funds, revolving and other sources.

The Vice Provost for P-16 Position

Reporting to the Provost, the Vice Provost for P-16 provides leadership for the University and works with Initiative partners to mobilize the development, coordination, and implementation of P-16 statewide initiatives. He or she works with the University's four campuses, also Nebraska stakeholders and specifically with the P-16 partners to develop and advance activities that prepare students for the workforce and facilitate lifelong learning by promoting an effective, seamless pre-K to workforce education system in Nebraska. In carrying out these duties, the Vice Provost for P-16 works closely with university, state and regional higher education, K-12 and early childhood leaders; state and federal policymakers; business leaders; and other stakeholders.

Responsibilities

- Serve as a member of the Executive Vice President and Provost's administrative team and work directly with the President of the University system on matters that support an effective early childhood to workforce and lifelong learning educational system
- Supervise the Nebraska P-16 staff in the support of the Nebraska P-16 Initiative, chaired by the Governor, including development of programs, agendas and related communication (P-16 website, brochures, etc.)
- Identify, develop, enlist, help to implement, assess and disseminate high-impact programs and activities that

- promote higher education opportunities for traditional students, adult learners, working professionals, and other non-traditional students to increase educational attainment and ensure the state has a qualified workforce
 - assist first-generation and low-income students preparing for the transition to higher education
 - increase participation and readiness of underrepresented minorities in the state's education system
 - foster collaborative and aligned relationships among the university, community colleges, state colleges, independent colleges, early childhood and K-12 education, government and industry
 - contribute to the implementation of the American College Application Campaign and other national initiatives to promote college success in Nebraska
 - include successful existing initiatives (On Course; Coursefinder, etc.) as well as new efforts to encourage community college students to pursue additional postsecondary education within the university system
- Secure external funding from major foundations and federal agencies to support program development
 - Collaborate with university faculty and staff in promoting and expanding post-baccalaureate educational opportunities
 - Assume leadership in the current and on-going effort to establish a state P-16 and employment data base and develop initiatives to support studies that inform policy makers at all levels
 - Contribute to workforce development reports shared with key P-16 stakeholder groups, including the University of Nebraska Board of Regents
 - Support initiatives with P-12 systems that enhance college readiness and contribute to innovative design of teacher education
 - Serve as a liaison on a system-wide articulation committee to expand the state articulation agreement and maintain cooperative working relationships with state and regional higher education institutions

Preferred Qualifications and Desired Attributes

- An earned doctorate;
- Extensive experience with P-16 education;
- Programming experience in increasing access for underrepresented minorities and first generation students in rural and urban settings;
- Experience in collaborating with community and social-service organizations that serve underrepresented minorities and socio-economically disadvantaged groups;
- Knowledge of the education (elementary, secondary and higher education) systems;
- Strong leadership, communication and interpersonal skills with which to develop effective professional relationships;
- Experience in grant/entrepreneurial development;
- Familiarity with the provision of high-quality professional development for K-12 educators;
- Appreciation for the role of technology in extending access to degree programs and professional development;
- An understanding of the link between education and economic development; Respect and support for the University's traditions and goals;
- Respect for the importance of a diverse learning environment;
- Intellectual, analytical, and ethical qualities that will command respect;
- Ability to be a consensus builder and make decisions in a timely manner;
- Demonstrated success and commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and service
- Evidence of inclusive and decisive leadership in higher education;
- Demonstrated ability to manage relationships in a complex academic organization and work effectively with colleagues across divisions; and
- Evidence of leadership in developing and advancing diversity.

Compensation

Salary is negotiable, based upon qualifications.

Procedure for Candidacy

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Applications should include a current curriculum vita and letter explaining interest and relevant experience.

University of Nebraska is being assisted by Harris Search Associates for this search. Nomination and applications should be submitted electronically in confidence to Dr. Richard Skinner.

Contact Information:

Dr. Richard Skinner, Senior Consultant

Harris Search Associates

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The University of Nebraska is an Affirmative Action / Equal Employment Opportunity employer, which seeks and encourages expression of interest from minorities and groups traditionally under represented.

For additional information, please consult the University of Nebraska's website at <http://www.nebraska.edu>