SEARCH PROFILE:
VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
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Western Illinois University invites application, nominations, and expressions of interest for the position of Vice President for Finance and Administration (VPFA). The University seeks a committed, visionary, experienced leader to lead all financial and administrative affairs for the university. Reporting to the President and serving as the Chief Financial Officer and a member of the President’s senior leadership team, the VPFA is responsible for all financial and campus operations, collection of all funds at the institution, and recommending and implementing fiscal, administrative, and personnel related policies and procedures. The VPFA will work closely with other senior administrators, deans, and directors, and interacts with faculty, academic, and other University staff, students, and community members to manage and strengthen Western Illinois University’s business, financial, and administrative policies and strategies to achieve the institution’s goals in support of its core values of academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth, and social responsibility.

This is an exciting time to join the senior leadership team of the University, working with newly appointed president Dr. Guiyou Huang.
Western Illinois University, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, serves over 7,500 students at its traditional, residential, four-year campus in Macomb, Illinois and its metropolitan branch campus in Moline, Illinois.

WIU’s traditional residential four-year campus in Macomb is the educational, cultural, and athletic center of the region, with a student population of 6,432. WIU-Quad Cities non-residential branch campus in Moline is the only public university in the immediate Quad Cities region, serving 1,192 students.

Since 1902, Western Illinois University has provided outstanding educational opportunities to individuals in west central Illinois and well beyond our region and state. Western’s vision is “to be the leader in educational quality, opportunity, and affordability among regional public universities.” Its mission is to provide student-centered undergraduate and graduate programs characterized by innovative teaching, research, and service, grounded in interdisciplinary, regional, and global perspectives.

WIU delivers more than 66 undergraduate degree programs, nearly 40 graduate programs, and two doctoral programs through its four colleges: the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Business and Technology, the College of Education and Human Services, and the College of Fine Arts and Communication. 94% of WIU classes are taught by full-time faculty and the student to faculty ratio is 13:1.

Outside the classroom at Western, students are actively engaged through more than 150 clubs and organizations. Concerts, lectures, presentations, films, dance performances, and more are performed each year, along with numerous major theatrical and dance productions and studio shows, as well as a variety of service-oriented projects and activities, all in a diverse and inclusive campus environment.

The Multicultural Center is home to four cultural and resource centers: The Gwendolyn Brooks, Casa Latina, the Women’s Center, and the LGBT•QA Resource Center. These cultural and resource centers promote WIU’s goal of enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion through educational programming and advocacy.
The University’s athletics program, based on the Macomb campus, sponsors 19 NCAA Division I intercollegiate men’s and women’s varsity sports. Football competes in the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision through the Missouri Valley Football Conference; all other varsity sports compete at the Division I level through The Summit League. The Men’s and women’s intercollegiate athletics teams are known as “The Fighting Leathernecks.” Western Illinois is the only public school in the U.S. with permission from the United States Marines to use this athletic nickname.

VALUE AND RECOGNITIONS
Western’s innovative Cost Guarantee is the only program in Illinois that ensures a four-year lock on total costs, including tuition, fees, room and meal plan, for undergraduate, transfer, and graduate students.

National recognitions of Western’s quality and value include:

- “Best Midwestern University” — U.S. News & World Report;
- “Best Midwestern College” — Princeton Review;
- “Best Online Program — Bachelor’s” - U.S. News & World Report;
- “Military Friendly School” — GI Jobs;
- “Best for Vets College” and “Best for Vets Business School” — Military Times EDGE;
- “Top Military-Friendly University” — Military Advanced Education;
- “Greatest Lifetime Return on Investment” and “Most Affordable Online Degree Programs” — Affordable Colleges Online.
The Vice President position will be based out of Macomb, the home of Western Illinois University and the legendary Republic of Forgottonia's point of inception. In a short time, one finds that Macomb is a diverse community with an interesting blend of agriculture, industry, service, retail, education, and culture. Macomb can offer the best of all worlds from visiting a wonderfully rural Farmers Market to experiencing the excitement of a major university community, all supported by strong aggressive industries, a progressive medical community, a broad and varied retail service sector, and an abundance of cultural events and talent. Unique shopping and dining, exciting annual events, rich historical significance, and rural splendor in a progressive educational setting; Macomb really does have something for everyone.

First settled in 1829 on a site tentatively named Washington, the town was officially founded in 1830 as the county seat of McDonough County and given the name Macomb after General Alexander Macomb of the War of 1812. War veterans were given land grants in the Macomb area, which was part of the “Military Tract” set aside by Congress. In 1855 the Northern Cross Railroad, a predecessor to the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad, was constructed through Macomb, leading to a rise in population.

Macomb has been visited by several US Presidents over the years. Ulysses S. Grant, Andrew Johnson, Rutherford B. Hayes, William McKinley, and Theodore Roosevelt have all made short addresses in Macomb. On two occasions, Abraham Lincoln and Barack Obama addressed large audiences prior to their elections as president. A modest brick courthouse, where Lincoln spoke in 1858, was replaced by the building that is now a well-recognized pillar of the community in 1872. Still in use today, the courthouse is on the National Historical Register. Surrounding the courthouse is a distinct town square, that reflects the later 19th century and is now being preserved as an historic district.

Macomb is the birthplace of Civil Rights pioneer C.T. Vivian, Rock & Roll progenitor “Big” Al Sears, famed bacteriologist Dr. Ruth Tunnicliff, and NFL Super Bowl coach “Red” Miller along with a number of other notable natives.

WIU-Macomb is located in the heart of west central Illinois in Macomb (population 20,000). Amtrak provides twice-daily service from Macomb to Chicago (and point in-between). Macomb is located approximately 75 miles from the Quad Cities International Airport (Moline, IL) and 70 miles from the Greater Peoria Regional Airport (Peoria, IL).

To learn more, visit:

https://cityofmacomb.com/
https://www.macombareachamber.com/
https://www.visitforgottonia.com/
THE OPPORTUNITY

The Vice President for Finance and Administration will have the broad mandate from University leadership to oversee, coordinate, and integrate institution-wide financial, physical and human infrastructure, and ensure effective stewardship of the University’s physical and financial resources. The VPFA will be expected to acquire a comprehensive understanding of the key issues affecting units within this expansive portfolio, and to shape and implement appropriate strategies, structures, and staffing. The VPFA will need to become broadly informed about, and sensitive to, the diverse needs and concerns of the many members that comprise the Western Illinois University community. The VPFA will also need to keep the many members of the community informed of the various priorities and activities.

They will oversee a total University budget of over $200 million and employment of 501 faculty members and 779 staff.

The chosen candidate must be an effective leader of people, and must exhibit the ability to develop leaders, address and manage personnel matters, and contribute to a growing, vibrant, thriving organizational and institutional culture. Successful candidates will provide direct leadership and supervision to critical campus support functions including Budget, Financial Affairs, Equal Opportunity and Access, Human Resources, Facilities Management, and Purchasing.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:

• A Master’s degree from an accredited institution in a business-related field;
• A minimum of three years of senior administrative experience in higher education;
• Significant progressive experience in fiscal, administrative, and personnel affairs, including planning, budget analysis, campus operations, and policy development;
• Proven leadership skills and ability to work with diverse individuals and groups.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

• Earned doctoral degree from an accredited institution.

For a degree to be considered, it must be conferred from a regionally accredited degree-granting institution of higher education (or equivalent from an international accrediting body).

The successful candidate will be expected to take office on July 1, 2022 or a negotiated start date. A competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience will be provided to the successful candidate. Western Illinois University offers a comprehensive benefits package including domestic partner benefits. For full benefit information visit: www.wiu.edu/human-resources/benefits/.
The University is being assisted in the search by Academic Search. Applications should consist of a substantive letter of interest, a curriculum vitae, and a list of five professional references with full contact information and a note indicating the nature of your working relationship with each. References will not be contacted without the explicit permission of the candidate.

Applications, nominations, and expressions of interest can be submitted in confidence to WIU-VPFA@academicsearch.org. The position is open until filled but only applications received by May 2, 2022, can be assured of full consideration. Confidential discussions about this opportunity may be arranged by contacting Senior Consultant, Stuart Dorsey at Stuart.Dorsey@academicsearch.org.

Western Illinois University endeavors to provide a safe environment for its employees and students and requires candidates to submit to a background investigation upon offer of employment. Employment is contingent upon compliance with University policies and procedures relating to the receipt and evaluation of information contained in the background investigation.

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity employer with a strong commitment to diversity. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of people, including, but not limited to, minorities, veterans, women and individuals with disabilities. WIU has a non-discrimination policy that includes discrimination based on an individual’s membership in the following classes: sex, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, genetic information, veteran status, and any other classes protected by state or federal law. Western Illinois University is a drug-free, smoke-free workplace.
ABOUT ACADEMIC SEARCH

Academic Search is assisting Western Illinois University in this work. For more than four decades, Academic Search has offered executive search services to higher education institutions, associations, and related organizations. Academic Search was founded by higher education leaders on the principle that we provide the most value to partner institutions by combining best practices with our deep knowledge and experience. Our mission today is to enhance institutional capacity by providing outstanding executive recruitment services, executive coaching, and transition support, in partnership with our parent organization, the American Academic Leadership Institute. For more information, visit www.academicsearch.org.