SEARCH PROSPECTUS:

VICE PRESIDENT FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
AND CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHRIDGE
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California State University, Northridge (CSUN) seeks a creative and visionary leader to serve as the next Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer in the thriving and diverse environment of greater Los Angeles.

THE UNIVERSITY

One of the largest universities in the country, California State University, Northridge (CSUN) is an urban, comprehensive university that delivers award-winning undergraduate and graduate programs to nearly 40,000 students annually and counts more than 375,000 alumni who fuel the region's economy. Since its founding in 1958, CSUN has made a significant and long-term economic impact on California, generating nearly $1.9 billion in economic impact and nearly 12,000 jobs each year. The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities named CSUN an Innovation and Economic Prosperity University, the Wall Street Journal ranked CSUN second in the nation for the university's diverse learning environment, and CSUN is the nation’s fourth-ranked school on CollegeNET’s 2020 Social Mobility Index.
CSUN SELECT RECOGNITIONS AND DISTINCTIONS

- CSUN is a national leader among HSIs, ranking No. 4 on Excelencia in Education’s list of the Top 5 Institutions Awarding Bachelor’s Degrees to Hispanics in the United States.
- CSUN’s learning environment remains the second-most diverse in the nation, according to The Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Ranking 2021.
- The Hollywood Reporter named CSUN as one of the Top 25 American Film Schools in 2020.
- Money Magazine ranked CSUN No. 6 among the “most transformative colleges” in the nation — an assessment of the degree to which students who attend CSUN outperform expectations given their incoming academic and economic backgrounds.
- CSUN ranked No. 29 in Money Magazine’s list of the best public colleges in America for its overall value, and CSUN’s David Nazarian College of Business and Economics ranked No. 31 on the magazine’s list of best colleges for business majors.
- CSUN’s Marilyn Magaram Center Pathways to Success program received top honors in the Talent + Place category at the University Economic Development Association Awards of Excellence program. The program prepares undergraduate and graduate students from underrepresented groups for careers in food and nutrition (or as registered dietitians), and lactation education.
- Forbes ranked CSUN No. 6 among educational institutions on its list of America’s top 100 midsize employers for 2021.
- Best Value Schools ranked CSUN No. 1 in its list of Masters in Educational Technology Programs. Best Value Schools also hailed CSUN’s music therapy program as the No. 2 Most Affordable Music Therapy Degree nationwide.
- Animation Career Review, an online source for aspiring artists seeking careers in booming fields, such as animation, game development, and digital art and design, ranked CSUN No. 9 among Animation Bachelor’s Programs of 2021 and No. 15 among Public Animation Schools.
- CSUN was recognized as one of the 2021 Top Adult Degree Programs by Abound, a college guidance initiative that helps students 24 years of age and older find the best place to earn an undergraduate degree, nursing degree, MBA, or other graduate degree.
- In 2020, TopRNtoBSN.com placed CSUN’s Nursing Program fifth in LA.
- CSUN ranked No. 33 in Sierra Club’s Cool Schools by the Sierra Club in Oct. 2020. CSUN placed #33, making it the highest-ranked CSU on this distinguished list of sustainable campuses.
- CSUN ranked No. 37 by Best Public Colleges & Universities for 2020 by College Consensus in April 2020. As an aggregate ranking, College Consensus ranks schools based on all of their verified rankings – the sum of all of a college’s rankings.
- CSUN ranked No. 25 in the 100 Best Online Graduate Schools 2020 by College Consensus in April 2020. To identify the 100 Best Online Graduate Schools for 2020, College Consensus combined the latest results from the most respected college rankings with thousands of real student reviews to produce a unique consensus score for each school.
- CSUN ranked fifth for The Top 47 Online Master’s in Public Health by Intelligent.com.
- CSUN ranked ninth nationally among the Top 25 Most Affordable Online Master’s in Public Health (MPH) 2020 by Healthcare-Management-Degree.net.
- Study.com ranked CSUN No. 6 among the Best Online Colleges & Schools in California in 2020.
CSUN STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS (FALL 2020)

- 38,815 Students
- CSUN Race/Ethnicity
  - American Indian/Alaskan Native: 0.1%
  - Asian American: 9.4%
  - African-American: 4.6%
  - Latino/a: 54.2%
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: 0.1%
  - White: 22.1%
  - Multi-Race: 2.9%
  - International: 2.8%
  - Unknown: 3.7%

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

CSUN's nine colleges offer 60 baccalaureate degrees, 41 master's degrees, 28 credentials in the field of education, and various opportunities in extended learning and other special programs. For more information about the units in Academic Affairs, click the links below.

- Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication
- David Nazarian College of Business and Economics
- Michael D. Eisner College of Education
- College of Engineering & Computer Science
- College of Health & Human Development
- College of Humanities
- College of Science and Mathematics
- College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Tseng College of Graduate, International, and Midcareer Education
- University Library
THE DIVISION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Division of Information Technology (IT) is responsible for the delivery of effective, secure, reliable technology infrastructure and technology services that enable, promote, and support students, faculty, and staff to achieve their goals. IT is committed to offering leadership and support in the advancement of technology, working in a collaborative partnership with CSUN’s schools, colleges, and administrative divisions. IT supports faculty both in the classroom through Academic Technology, as well as supporting research infrastructure. Through Technology Services, IT offers services and training to all members of the university community.

Information Security is a department within the division of Information Technology at California State University, Northridge. The department is responsible for implementing and maintaining campus-wide security policies and standards. Services provided by Information Security include Security Awareness Training, Breach & Incident Investigations, Vulnerability Assessments, and Risk Assessments. A major role of the department is to educate and advise campus faculty, staff, and students of the risks to the data.

Academic Technology’s mission is to support the CSUN community in its endeavor to transform and elevate students’ lives through education, by spearheading the integration of technology and universal design to enrich teaching and learning. To accomplish this mission, the department champions equitable access to education regardless of one’s ability and background, creates professional development training opportunities, supports the adoption of instructional technology for curricular enrichment, and develops data-supported tools to facilitate faculty, staff, and student success. The department is committed to delivering the highest standards of service, promoting innovation in the classroom, and fostering partnerships that benefit the CSUN community.
THE DIVISION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (CONT.)

UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY GOVERNANCE
The CSUN University Technology Governance committees influence the strategy and priorities for the University technology initiatives in support of institutional planning priorities. They provide advice on means to: effectively implement CSU system information technology and information security, and accessible technology policies and standards; continuously improve technology infrastructure and services; enhance teaching and learning using technology; and improve administrative services for students and employees.

Specifically, University Technology Governance facilitates an on-going dialogue between CSUN technical resources (including staff working in all divisions and auxiliaries) and campus constituents to:

• Provide advice on the effective and innovative use of technology to support CSUN program needs for students, faculty, and staff, consistent with institutional planning priorities.
• Plan and implement changes in technology infrastructure and services.
• Manage risk through implementation and support of the information security and accessibility policies and standards.
• Coordinate new and ongoing technology services within CSUN’s decentralized technology staffing structure to avoid duplication of effort.

Standing university technology governance committees advise the Executive Technology Steering Committee (ETSC), chaired by the Vice President of Information Technology/CIO. The ETSC provides overall guidance and direction for the other committees, is advisory to the President, and thus links university technology governance to the President’s Cabinet. Standing university technology governance sub-committees advise the ETSC on particular technology domains including academic technology, accessible technology, student systems, business systems, technology infrastructure services, website coordination, and data governance.
THE POSITION OF VICE PRESIDENT FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

The Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer (VPIT) reports to the President and works collaboratively with the President’s Cabinet to advance the strategic vision, mission and values of the institution. The VPIT is the creative and visionary leader of the Division of Information Technology (IT) and champions the progressive use of technology to foster an equitable, digitally enabled institution to enable teaching and research, facilitate student learning and success, empower innovation, provide intuitive services, and operate productively, efficiently, sustainably and cost effectively. Serving as a champion of an inclusive and equitable community, the VPIT supports the highest quality learning environment in support of student success and equitable educational opportunities. The VPIT fosters a culture described by CSUN’s leadership principles and promotes and models excellent customer service and active participation and respect for California State University’s shared governance structure.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- The VPIT will demonstrate a deep commitment to diversity, inclusion and racial equity; and the ability to be a strong advocate for higher education, particularly for a student-focused, minority-serving institution.
- The VPIT will work collaboratively to provide a vision and strategic direction for the application and delivery of information technology for the University and will envision, investigate, design, and champion the development of new and emerging IT-based systems and solutions to fully support the University’s core academic mission and its business functions. The VPIT will guide the use of technology as a mechanism to promote inclusion and take action to address digital inequities.
- The VPIT has overall responsibility for CSUN’s information technology infrastructure, assets and services, providing leadership to a team of approximately 190 dedicated and highly committed professionals engaged in Technology Services, Academic Technologies and Information Security. The VP of IT cultivates a strong, diverse and cohesive team focused on inclusivity, quality and longevity.
- The VPIT prioritizes the partnership with college and divisional IT teams and Faculty Development to support teaching, learning and scholarship; with the Office of the Provost to plan and support classroom technology; and with University Advancement to enable the web and communications that connect CSUN to its internal and external constituents.
THE POSITION OF VICE PRESIDENT FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER (CONT.)

• The VPIT serves as the University champion in driving accessibility initiatives and ensures the University’s technologies are accessible and designed in accordance with best practice standards and relevant laws and policies.

• The VPIT is responsible for the development of policies, procedures and guidelines for the deployment of computing and Internet technologies.

• The VPIT ensures an effective, robust and secure technology infrastructure to keep the University’s technology assets safe and sensitive information secure. The VPIT provides advice and guidance to management on the emerging challenges in information security faced by academic institutions and leads initiatives to implement strategies to effectively mitigate the risks.

• The VPIT creates an environment that ensures the integrity of institutional information and business continuity, including the development, oversight and assessment of disaster recovery and backup procedures.

• The VPIT effectively manages operating and capital budgets and prepares, recommends, and implements budgets for assigned areas, monitors expenditures, assures that human and financial resources are allocated efficiently and effectively, and takes necessary actions to ensure compliance with budget limitations and established fiscal policies. The VPIT will develop and effectively articulate funding needs and strategies to support the implementation and ongoing maintenance of technology initiatives.

• The VPIT manages key relationships with IT vendors and service providers and participates in vendor contract negotiations for new computer equipment, cloud computing and software purchases.

• As a member of the President’s Cabinet, the VPIT will contribute to and drive a positive culture, exemplifying the attributes of the campus Leadership Principles and will encourage and model collaboration within the division and between the division and other campus divisions and departments.

• As a champion of the CSU, the VPIT will collaborate with systemwide colleagues to advance the mission and recognition of the transformative impact of the CSU across the state and nation. The VPIT will work in alignment and as a partner on the initiatives, goals and systemwide policies in accomplishing their work.

• As a leader, demonstrates a commitment to student success that is mission aligned with the university’s vision, values and priorities. Establishes an ethical and collegial work environment, promoting a collaborative, accountable and inclusive team. Encourages a courageous and resilient solution-oriented environment by participating in new opportunities to further the mission of the university. Participates in developing initiatives that further support the campus mission with a service-oriented and catalytic mindset. Strengthens employees by being communicative and a talent builder that develops team attributes, furthering departmental goals.

Salary/Benefits: Salary is commensurate with knowledge, skills, and experience. The University offers excellent fringe benefits.
QUALIFICATIONS

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

• A Master’s degree, or a Bachelor’s Degree with equivalent experience.
• A record of at least five (5) years of progressive and successful IT leadership commensurate with the role of VPIT.
• A successful record of leading ADA compliancy efforts (Section 508) and other initiatives targeting equitable access and closing the digital divide.
• A strong record of commitment to and cultivation of equity, inclusion and student success and deep appreciation for the richly diverse student population that CSUN serves.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

• Breadth of experience in technology management including the implementation and maintenance of enterprise resource planning to achieve demonstratable improvements in business and instruction and oversight of critical infrastructure, security management, desktop support, and Help Desk processes.
• Demonstrated knowledge with experience in a broad range of information technologies as well as a solid understanding of trends in higher education broadly, and technology and student-centered applications specifically, with the ability to articulate concepts and directions to the university leadership and campus community.
• Track record of successfully managing complex projects and strategic activities, including technology innovation and maintenance of projects, across the division and university around a shared vision for success.
• A background in higher education leadership and management within a union environment.
• Outstanding written and verbal skills and the ability to convey technically complex information and concepts in accessible terms.
• Outstanding interpersonal communication skills including diplomacy, inclusion, listening, and consensus building to inform the decision-making process.
• Demonstrated experience leading and integrating diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.
• Demonstrated ability to execute quickly and capacity to effectively partner with the president, cabinet, deans, faculty, staff, and students of diverse backgrounds.
• Demonstrated success in leading a team and the willingness to serve as a motivator and mentor to staff while achieving university, division and unit goals.
• Experience and commitment to enhancing an active and collaborative relationship between Information Technology and other divisions (Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Administration and Finance, and University Relations & Advancement).
GENERAL INFORMATION

Background check: This position is a sensitive position as designated by the CSU. A background check (including a criminal records check) must be completed satisfactorily. Failure to satisfactorily complete the background check may affect the status of candidates who apply for the position.

CANRA: The person holding this position will be considered a "limited reporter" under the California Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act and is required to comply with the requirements set forth in CSU Executive Order 1083 as a condition of employment.

APPLICATION PROCESS

EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPOINTMENT:
As soon as possible.

HOW TO APPLY:
Applications should consist of a substantive cover letter, a resume and a list of five professional references with full contact information. No references will be contacted without the explicit permission of the candidate. Applications, nominations and expressions of interest can be submitted electronically, and in confidence, to:

CSUNVPIT@academicsearch.org

The position is open until filled but only applications received by Thursday, February 24, 2022, can be assured full consideration. The University is being assisted by Academic Search, Inc. Confidential discussions about this opportunity may be arranged by contacting consultants Ann Die Hasselmo at Ann.Hasselmo@academicsearch.org and Chris Butler at Chris.Butler@academicsearch.org. Further information about CSUN is available at www.csun.edu.

CSUN is an Equal Opportunity Employer and prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, age, gender, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, medical condition, marital status, veteran status, and disability. Our nondiscrimination policy is set forth in CSU Executive Order 1096. Reasonable accommodations will be provided for applicants with disabilities who self-disclose by contacting Recruitment Services at 818-677-2101.
ABOUT ACADEMIC SEARCH

Academic Search is assisting California State University, Northridge 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.

Committed to IDENTIFYING AND DEVELOPING LEADERS by providing the highest level of EXECUTIVE SEARCH to our higher education partners.