



Leadership Position Profile

Vice Chancellor for Budget & Finance

SET TO CELEBRATE ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2027, UNC Asheville is the intellectual and creative higher education hub for Western North Carolina and is a national leader in public liberal arts and sciences higher education. UNC Asheville is widely recognized for excellent and dedicated faculty, strong and relevant curricular offerings, undergraduate research, Honors Program, and championship-winning NCAA Division I athletics. The institution is a leader in the national Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC), headquartered on its campus, and is the founding University of the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR).

UNC Asheville is committed to the values of academic rigor, diversity and inclusion, innovation, and sustainability, and strives to ensure that these values inform every endeavor of the University. These commitments prompt an openness to change, diverse ideas, creative approaches to programmatic and curricular growth, and fiscal capacity.

The University fosters creative formal and informal partnerships in Asheville and the WNC region in a city marked by entrepreneurship, environmental stewardship, and innovation. UNC Asheville is a center for creativity, scholarship, and excellence in the public liberal arts and sciences, bringing the community to campus for lectures, concerts, athletic events, and undergraduate research symposia.

UNC Asheville offers students small class sizes, a nationally acclaimed undergraduate research program, and an intellectually rigorous education that builds critical thinking and workforce and thought-force skills to last a lifetime.

The University seeks to expand educational opportunities and access to UNC Asheville, particularly those communities that have been traditionally underserved. UNC Asheville is committed to advancing its mission to serve North Carolina's most promising students, regardless of need, and to facilitating their path to graduation as a strategic priority.

In 2018, UNC Asheville was ranked No. 2 among all U.S. universities for "Making an Impact," by The Princeton Review, topping the list as No. 1 in 2016. This ranking recognizes schools with the best community service opportunities, student governments, sustainability, and on-campus student engagement. UNC Asheville continues to earn high marks for value and academic excellence, garnering an annual Top 10 place on the Best Public Liberal Arts Colleges by U.S. News and World Report. In addition, The Fiske Guide to Colleges once again named UNC Asheville a "Best Buy," and UNC Asheville is also featured in The Princeton Review's Guide to 375 Green Colleges: 2017 Edition for its commitment to sustainability.

Position Summary

The University of North Carolina Asheville (UNC Asheville) invites applications and nominations for the position of *Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance*. The University seeks a visionary, strategic, and experienced leader who is committed to the distinctive role of a public liberal arts and sciences university to lead this division.

Reporting directly to the Chancellor, and serving as a member of the senior leadership team, the Vice Chancellor will be the institutional leader in the areas of Finance, Campus Operations, Information Technology Services (ITS), and Master Planning. This visible leadership role will be responsible for the strategic direction and effectiveness of the University's fiscal, business, information technology, and operational affairs and will serve as the UNC Asheville Foundation Treasurer. The Vice Chancellor will also be a primary UNC Asheville representative in matters associated with budget and finance with the UNC System Office and UNC Board of Governors.

The Vice Chancellor serves as a vitally important senior member of the administration and is expected to provide proactive, strategic advice to the Chancellor regarding the achievement of the mission of the University through sophisticated financial and administrative policies and procedures. This position establishes clear priorities and practices that ensure fiscal accountability at all levels. This position provides leadership to the budget development process. The Vice Chancellor is responsible for the long-term planning and forecasting of existing and potential new revenue streams and funding opportunities, in partnership with the Chancellor and other institutional leaders.

The position requires a person of high integrity who is a strategically focused, diligent leader with meaningful leadership experience in financial management, including the management of complex budgets and integrating budget decisions and strategic planning that will ensure institutional efficiency. In addition, this leader will have a track record of building a culture of teamwork, collaboration, trust, mutual respect, and commitment to best practices in higher education finance. The person will demonstrate an ability to attract, motivate, and retain talented professionals.

Required Minimum Qualifications:

- Master's degree in a related field or a Bachelor's degree and significant equivalent experience.
- Minimum of five to seven years of senior level leadership in the area of budget and finance in higher education or comparable environment.
- Demonstrated leadership skills in complex environments.
- An effective, strategic, and inclusive leader committed to the highest standards of integrity, problem solving and excellence in written and verbal communication.
- Established track record of creating a culture of teamwork, trust, mutual respect, and commitment to best practices in higher education finance.
- Evidence of entrepreneurial thinking that leads to new strategies and partnerships and seizes opportunities to amplify UNC Asheville's vision, values, fiscal capacity, and success.

- Demonstrated use of data-driven decisions to advance institutional priorities related to fiscal and operational affairs.

Preferred Qualifications

- Master's degree in business, accounting, finance, public administration, or equivalent.
- Career history that shows progressively increasing responsibility for financial and business operations in higher education, public administration, or in an organization of significant size and complexity.
- Demonstrated ability to interact effectively with a broad range of external constituencies, such as news media, governing boards, corporations, and various levels of state and local government, in addition to all University constituencies, including Trustees, staff, faculty, students and volunteer boards.
- CPA license, or other field-related certification or credential.
- Demonstrated facilities planning and construction project experience.
- Demonstrated awareness of, and support for, best practices in cyber security, policy compliance and risk management in information technology resources; experience providing strategic direction and operational support in information technology is an asset.
- Evidence of being innovative and creative, particularly related to solving complex business and financial problems that lead to cost savings, revenue generation, service enhancements, or other types of value-added innovation.
- Experience in strategic approaches to build fiscal capacity.
- An entrepreneurial and creative mindset to help the University implement and achieve innovative projects and concepts, including but not limited to Millennial Campus designation and core campus programs.
- Ability to manage a high volume of work while being a creative problem solver with a rigorous work ethic.
- Proven experience and depth of understanding of current best practice in budget and finance as well as in higher education and related fields.

Knowledge/Skills/Abilities

- Ability to maintain confidentiality, use excellent problem-solving and conflict resolution strategies, use responsible independent judgment, and work collaboratively with different constituencies in a diverse and dynamic university community.
- An in-depth understanding of and commitment to the distinctive public liberal arts mission of the institution.
- Effective communication and excellent supervisory and management skills, with the ability to work effectively in a team-oriented environment.
- Knowledge, proven management skills and analytical problem solving abilities relevant to the diverse areas the Vice Chancellor will supervise (budget, finance, master planning and real estate, facilities planning, facilities management, information technology, sustainability, and grants and contracts administration).

- Experience managing a complex budget with multiple funding streams, integrating budget decisions with strategic planning, and ensuring institutional efficiency.
- Ability to effectively collaborate with other leaders in strategic planning, budgeting, and organizational management to achieve organizational goals.
- Demonstrated ability to create partnerships in developing and implementing goals.
- Flexibility and willingness to operate in a consensus-driven environment.
- Ability and commitment to safeguard all fiscal, human, technological and physical assets with ethical practices, strong internal controls, and corrective action to address any potential audit findings.
- Effective communication and excellent supervisory and management skills, with the ability to work effectively in a team-oriented environment.

The Application Process

UNC Asheville is being assisted in this search by Academic Search. The search process is one of strictest confidentiality. Nominations, applications, and inquiries may be sent in complete confidence to VCBFUNCA@academicsearch.org.

Although the position is open until filled, only applications received by Friday, July 22, 2022 can be assured best consideration. Applications must include a cover letter that addresses the position expectations discussed above; a curriculum vitae; and a list of at least five professional references with contact information, including telephone and email, and a note indicating the candidate's working relationship with each. References will not be contacted without the explicit permission of the candidate.

Nominators and prospective candidates also may arrange a confidential conversation about this opportunity with Nancy Suttentfield, Senior Consultant, at nancy.suttentfield@academicsearch.org. All inquiries and applications will be received and evaluated in confidence.

UNC Asheville is committed to equality and diversity of experiences for our students, applicants, and employees. All qualified individuals are encouraged to apply, and UNC Asheville is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and does not discriminate against applicants and employees on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, political affiliation, protected veteran status, genetic information, and any other legally protected status with respect to all terms, conditions, and privileges of university-sponsored activities, employment, and the use of university facilities.