

Associate Vice-President (Research) (AVPR)

Western University seeks applications for the position of Associate Vice-President (Research) (AVPR).

The office of the Vice-President (Research) fosters a culture of research excellence by promoting a globally minded approach to curiosity, discovery, artistry, and innovation. The Vice-President (Research) also provides strategic leadership of Western Research, which allocates resources, aligns strategies, and provides services and programs to ensure Western is a leading research-intensive university. Together, the Vice-President (Research) and AVPRs advance collaborative and cross-disciplinary scholarship, connect Western's work to community and the world, implement inclusivity initiatives, and recognize and celebrate research successes.

Reporting to the Vice-President (Research), the AVPR will provide leadership for a shared vision of research excellence at Western, acting as a senior administrative member of an integrated research leadership team to advance our research mission and coordinate support across the university.

Specific Mandate: This AVPR will focus primarily (but not exclusively) on research and projects in the social sciences, humanities and arts. Working with community partners and investigators across campus, the Associate Vice-President (Research) will also deepen connections locally and internationally to support community-engaged and partnered research activities and outcomes, and facilitate social entrepreneurship and social innovation. This AVPR will have the following accountabilities:

- Drive Western's SSHRC funding strategy and success
- Liaise with external bodies related to third party international research funding (e.g., Horizon Europe, France-Canada Research Fund)
- Work with relevant Western institutes regarding applications, renewals and ongoing activities (e.g., Rotman Institute of Philosophy, Western Academy for Advanced Research)
- Work with the Office of Indigenous Initiatives to support indigenous research, scholarship and creative activity
- Collaborate with Western International to enhance international research partnerships
- Liaise with School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies to facilitate research activities, programs (e.g., Western postdoctoral fellowship program) and funding for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars
- Enhance undergraduate student research experience and opportunities in collaboration with other units across campus, including Student Experience (e.g., undergraduate student research internships)
- Collaborate with Western Government Relations, Strategic Partnerships and Advancement on topics associated with social sciences, humanities, arts, interdisciplinary and community-engaged research
- Support research creation, scholarship and artistry
- Additional strategic projects as required

AVPRs play a broad leadership role in advancing and supporting research, scholarship, and creative activity, including but not limited to the following:

- Participate in strategic research planning
- Promote an inclusive research culture across campus
- Collaborate on workshop and grants development activities
- Attend to REB issues in their portfolio
- Collaborate with Associate Deans (Research) across campus
- Provide leadership in implementation of support, policies, and procedures necessary to achieve our research goals
- Build productive, collaborative relationships with the university's academic and administrative units
- Other duties as assigned by the Vice-President (Research).

The initial appointment is for a 5-year term commencing July 1, 2026, or soon after, with the possibility of renewal.

Eligible candidates will hold a current academic appointment at Western, at the rank of Associate Professor or Full Professor with tenure. They will possess a strong record of research achievement, including demonstrated success in obtaining competitive extramural funding and ability to lead and coordinate major research projects. The successful candidate will have an optimal blend of professional experience, skills, and personal qualities that variously include:

- Effective leadership, interpersonal, problem-solving and communication skills
- Experience in promoting research and scholarly activity, and developing partnerships across disciplines
- Experience in actively contributing to a culture of research intensity and excellence
- Experience in building and nurturing research partnerships with third parties
- Familiarity with the diversity of critical issues facing the broader research community
- Ability to encourage teamwork, manage, inspire and motivate teams

Individuals are invited to submit a letter outlining their interest in the position, a curriculum vitae, and the names of two referees, by February 15, 2026, in confidence to vpr@uwo.ca or

Penny Pexman, PhD, Vice-President (Research)
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Positions are subject to budget approval. Applicants should have fluent written and oral communication skills in English. 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, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression.

Western, like many postsecondary institutions in Canada, is moving beyond sole reliance upon Indigenous self-identification in its hiring processes. This is to safeguard against the use of incorrect, incomplete, or misleading information in circumstances in which a candidate has made a declaration of Indigenous citizenship or membership. Candidates who are invited for an interview or who are short-listed, and who have made a declaration of Indigenous citizenship or membership for material advantage at Western, including where required or preferred for the position, will be asked to have their declaration of Indigenous citizenship or membership affirmed through a relational accountability process, led by the Office of Indigenous Initiatives (OII), that is consistent with Indigenous ways of knowing, being, and doing. Please contact the OII directly for details on the affirmation processes: <https://indigenous.uwo.ca/>. The policy can be viewed at: [POLICY 1.58 - Affirming Declarations of Indigenous Citizenship or Membership at Western University](#)

Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities throughout the recruitment process. If you require accommodations for interviews or other meetings, please contact Alicia Harrison at alicia.harrison@uwo.ca or extension 83851.

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