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. The unit also helps advance collaborative and cross-disciplinary scholarship, connects Western’s work to community, implements inclusivity initiatives, and recognizes and celebrates research successes.

Reporting to the Vice-President (Research), the AVPR will provide leadership for a shared vision for 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. This is one of three distinct but complementary academic AVPR positions to be filled. Each of the three AVPRs will provide broad leadership across the campus, while having differentiated mandates and distributed, but complementary accountabilities.

All AVPRs will play a broad leadership role in advancing and supporting research, scholarship, and creative activity. Among other responsibilities, they will:

- Participate in strategic research planning
- Promote an inclusive research culture across campus through a lens of equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonialization
- Collaborate on workshop development
- Be attentive to REB issues in their portfolio
- Engage and support research institutes
- Collaborate with Associate Deans (Research) across campus
- Work as necessary with other units such as Advancement, Legal, Advisors to President and Government Relations
- Liaise with Tri-Council and other funding bodies as appropriate
- Provide leadership in implementation of support, policies, and procedures necessary to achieve our research goals
- Foster internal and external collaborative research partnerships
- Facilitate the establishment of national and international partnerships
- Liaise with affiliated research institutes and teaching hospitals
- Build productive, collaborative relationships with the university’s academic and administrative units
- Perform other duties as assigned by the Vice-President (Research).
Specific Mandate: This AVPR will primarily focus on research and projects related to science, engineering, and technology. This AVPR will also work with campus champions (including the other AVPRs) on large granting initiatives and provide strategic oversight to ensure resources and internal funding mechanisms support granting success. This portfolio will oversee activities and programs for increasing external awards and distinctions. Working with partners and investigators across campus, the Associate Vice-President (Research) will deepen connections locally and internationally to support activities and outcomes related to research and scholarship that support innovation.

This AVPR will have the following accountabilities:

- Champion large granting initiatives on behalf of Western Research
- Enhance Western’s success in external awards and recognitions (e.g., NSERC Steacie, Royal Society of Canada, etc.)
- Support EDI&D initiatives in research, scholarship, and creative activity
- Liaise with external organizations as appropriate (e.g., NDRIO, SOScip, OSC)
- Work with relevant institutes regarding applications, renewals and ongoing activities (e.g., Institute for Earth and Space Exploration)
- Provide strategic oversight of internal funding programs (e.g., Western Strategic Support, SSHRC Explore and Engage, Interdisciplinary Initiatives, etc.)
- Liaise with principal investigators regarding pre- and post-grant support for Tri-Council grants
- Collaborate with Western Research on grant-related education, training and support
- Work with Western Research and investigators to enhance existing pre-screening grant submission processes

The initial appointment is for a 5-year term commencing July 1, 2021, with the possibility of renewal.

The ideal candidate will hold a current academic appointment at Western, at the rank of tenured Associate or Full Professor. 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 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 March 19, 2021, in confidence to gstuebin@uwo.ca or

Gayle Stuebing,
Western University,
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/visible minorities, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression. In accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements, priority will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities throughout the recruitment process. If you require accommodations for interviews or other meetings, please contact Gayle Stuebing at gstuebin@uwo.ca or 519-661-3109.

Posted on Faculty Relations website February 17, 2021.