

Subject: Vice Provost for Research search
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Colleagues –

Now that the Provost search has concluded, I am beginning to address some of the vacancies and interim appointments with administrative positions in the Academic Division. I believe most of you know that we are in the midst of a national search for the position of Dean of the College of Business.

Since the untimely death of Dr. John Noftsinger, we have held the Vice Provost for Research and Public Service position vacant. At this time, I believe it is important to conduct national search for the position of Vice Provost for Research. In conducting this search, it will be important to reflect the unique experience this position offers potential candidates – not the run of the mill VP for Research. The Vice Provost for Research will provide leadership of and support for the research and creative activities of our faculty and students, as well as support economic development and entrepreneurial activities across campus and with external partners. James Madison University embraces and prizes the broad spectrum of research, scholarly and creative activities. The excellence of the University is grounded in the quality of its faculty and students and the recognition of the importance of the mutual influence and integration of research and teaching in providing the quality of educational experiences to “prepare students to be educated and enlightened citizens”. The University further encourages and supports cross and interdisciplinary research and learning activities. We have received national recognition for our undergraduate activities in research and creative activities and as a Carnegie Foundation Community Engaged University. This position offers the successful applicant the opportunity to foster excellence in these endeavors across all units of the Academic Affairs Division.

The Vice Provost, working collaboratively with college and academic unit level administration and with faculty, will be the principal champion for research activities. Primary to the responsibilities of the position will be furthering the university’s educational mission by fostering and supporting high quality research and creative activity by students and faculty, and promoting these institutional activities and products. The Vice Provost is responsible for supporting growth of the research and creative activity profile of the institution. The Vice Provost will also oversee technology transfer, sponsored program development and administration, and research compliance matters. Other units and offices previously in Research and Public Service focused on economic development and public service will now be administratively housed in Outreach and Engagement. I believe this creates a stronger unit and synergy regarding the services of the university to the external community.

The search committee includes Bob Kolvoord (CISE) as Chair, Kate Stevens (CVPA), Melinda Adams (CAL), Mark Gabriele (CSM), Steve Whitmeyer (CSM), Ralph Alberico (L&ET), Robin Anderson (CHBS), Sharon Mazzarella (CAL), Eric Maslen (CISE), Rick Mathieu (COB) and Kristi Doubet (COE).

Finally, with further changes in the reporting structure within the Academic Affairs Division, the position of Vice Provost for Science, Technology, Engineering, Technology, Health and Human Services will not be filled.

Jerry

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