



Executive Vice President and University Provost

Northern Arizona University (NAU) invites inquiries, nominations and applications for the position of Executive Vice President and University Provost (Provost). The Provost will have the extraordinary opportunity to lead the academic enterprise at NAU and serve as its primary advocate and champion.

The University

NAU aims to be the nation's preeminent engine of opportunity, vehicle of economic mobility, and driver of social impact by delivering equitable postsecondary value in Arizona and beyond. NAU delivers a student-centered experience through rigorous academic programs in a supportive, inclusive, and diverse environment. The University currently serves over 20,000 students at the Flagstaff campus and approximately 7,100 students at more than 20 statewide locations and online. The Flagstaff campus is one of the largest residential campuses in the western United States. Over 66% of NAU's student body comes from the state of Arizona, with 34% from other states and countries. With its proximity to several Native American Nations, NAU hosts students from 80 tribes. Furthermore, 42% of the undergraduate student population are first-generation college students. The University's longstanding history of educating and partnering with diverse students and communities throughout Arizona is reflected in its strategic commitment to Indigenous Peoples and equitable access and pricing initiatives that focus on advancing prosperity and social impact, and they have been enhanced by its recent designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI).

NAU's 4,600 world-renowned faculty and staff are dedicated to helping ensure students achieve academic excellence, experience personal growth, have meaningful research and experiential learning opportunities, and are positioned for personal and professional success. NAU has a Carnegie classification as a "doctoral, high research" university, with annual research expenditures totaling \$66.7 million and an endowment of over \$198 million, which has been fueled by back-to-back record fundraising years in FY22 and FY23.

As a community-engaged engine of opportunity, NAU powers social impact and economic mobility for the students and communities it serves. Additional information about NAU and its history, programs, and local, regional, and global impact can be found at <http://www.nau.edu> and <https://nau.edu/impact/>.

The Position

The Executive Vice President and University Provost (Provost) leads NAU's academic enterprise and serves as the President's senior-most advisor and thought partner in carrying out the institution's vision and mission. The Provost serves on the President's Cabinet and University Advisory Board, and chairs and convenes the Deans' Council and Academic Leadership Collaborative, among other University-wide leadership responsibilities. The Provost is responsible for managing a budget of approximately \$200M.

The Provost is responsible for collaborating with University leaders to create a supportive environment for cultivating innovative approaches to student success; teaching excellence; research, scholarship, and creative activity across the disciplines; curriculum and program development; and interdisciplinary partnerships. In leading a broad institutional portfolio of units and initiatives that impact every dimension of the University's work, the Provost should have a sincere and demonstrated commitment to equitable postsecondary value,

inclusive excellence, and shared governance, and serve as an example of collaborative, mission-driven, and ethical leadership.

The Provost provides leadership to the Academic Affairs division, which includes the University's academic colleges; the Honors College; Yuma branch campus; and Cline Library; undergraduate and graduate education; institutional and program accreditation; the Center for International Education; faculty recruitment and development; academic operations; and more. As the chief academic officer, the Provost is responsible for academic policies and academic program portfolio alignment with workforce needs, and is expected to bring an integrative and holistic perspective to this work.

Qualifications

NAU seeks a Provost with exemplary academic achievements, together with strategic leadership ability; outstanding interpersonal and communication skills; and commitment to support the mission of the University. The successful candidate will bring many of the following skills and qualities:

- An earned terminal degree and academic qualifications appropriate for appointment as a tenured full Professor at NAU in one of the University's academic departments;
- A strong record of excellent teaching and distinguished research, scholarship or creative activity that exhibit a commitment to academic excellence;
- Developed strategic planning skills, a strong knowledge of budgets, and the ability to prioritize fiscal resources accordingly; demonstrated experience in aligning academic and budgetary priorities and an aptitude for entrepreneurship;
- A record of substantial administrative achievement, with a proven ability to recruit, retain, and mentor faculty from diverse academic disciplines;

To review the leadership profile, including information about NAU, *NAU 2025 – Elevating Excellence* Strategic Plan, President José Luis Cruz Rivera, complete list of qualifications, and desired personal characteristics, please visit <https://www.spaexec.com/pd/NAUProvost.pdf>.

Application/Nomination Process

The Search Committee will begin reviewing applications in mid-October and will continue to accept applications and nominations until the position is filled. Applicants must submit a current curriculum vitae and a letter of interest describing relevant experience and interest in the position. Submission of materials via e-mail is strongly encouraged. Nomination letters should include contact information for the nominee. All nominations and applications will be handled in confidence.

Applications and letters of nomination should be submitted to:



Alberto Pimentel, Managing Partner
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562-360-1353 (FAX)

Email: apsearch@spaexec.com
Refer to code "NAU Provost" in subject line