Texas Tech University invites nominations, inquiries and applications for the role of Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Texas Tech University. The Provost is the Chief Academic Officer of Texas Tech University and is responsible for the overall academic mission of the university. This role is highly visible and requires executive presence and strong planning, execution and collaborative skills, as the position involves successfully working with the President, Deans, faculty, staff, and students to promote academic excellence, equity, and diversity throughout the institution. Specifically, the TTU Provost reports to the President and is the most senior advisor to the President on all academic matters.

Position Overview
As the top academic officer of the university, the Provost is responsible for the academic planning of the university; the quality of the educational experience through oversight of the curriculum and support of educational initiatives; the review of all faculty appointments, promotions, and tenure; compliance with institutional policies and external regulations, including accreditations; and establishing collaborations to support sustainable institutional budgeting, the development and enhancement of the research effort, and the expansion of diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.

Provost Role Specifications
Background/experiences and skills/accomplishments that are key to the success of the Provost
• The Provost will possess an earned terminal degree from an accredited institution and demonstrate a record of research/scholarly excellence meriting appointment as a full professor with tenure in a university academic department as well as an accomplished record of achievement in extramural funding.

• TTU seeks a Provost with a record of successful advocacy for the concerns and opportunities of the fields/disciplines of a large comprehensive public university including the arts & humanities, the social sciences, STEM, and the professional programs, along with the commitment and ability to bring effective multidisciplinary collaboration to reach shared institutional goals.

• The Provost will possess a wide range of excellent communication skills to clearly and succinctly articulate the Texas Tech academic mission and vision to both internal and external constituencies.

• The Provost will create and foster strategic partnerships aimed at enhancing the quality and diversity of TTU undergraduate and graduate students.

• The Provost will coordinate initiatives, priorities, and policies with other institutional vice presidents in order to advance institutional strategic priorities.

• The Provost will show commitment to hiring and retaining a high quality, diverse faculty and staff, and will encourage diversity, inclusion, and equity at all levels of the institution.

• The Provost will partner with institutional leaders in scholarship, outreach, and education to build international collaborations, and enhance the international reputation of TTU.

• The Provost will demonstrate a commitment to the concept of a student-centered institution, with a strong student orientation and a dedication to preparing students for success in a global environment.

• The Provost will possess unquestioned integrity and demonstrated leadership accomplishments and administrative abilities.

• The Provost will have a strong commitment to shared university governance.

• The Provost will ensure institutional accountability, fiscal responsibility, and the effective performance of all academic divisions in the University.

• The Provost will ensure excellence in academics throughout the institution while sustaining institutional enrollment and strengthening TTU’s current high academic standards for undergraduate and graduate students.

• The Provost will partner in promoting strategic investment targeted toward growing TTU’s portfolio of research, scholarship, and creative activity, and international recognition as a top public research institution.

• The Provost will bring a strong understanding of the workings of a complex university system, to include knowledge and experience concerning current “best practices” in higher education, skillful resource allocation, and familiarity with the business operations of other successful large comprehensive organizations.

Texas Tech University

Texas Tech University was created by legislative action in 1923 and has the distinction of being the largest comprehensive higher education institution in the western two-thirds of the state of Texas. The university is the major institution of higher education in a region larger than 46 of the nation's 50 states. Originally named Texas Technological College, the college opened in 1925 with six buildings and an enrollment of 914. Graduate instruction began in 1927 within the school of Liberal Arts. A “Division of Graduate Studies” was established in 1935 and eventually became known as the Graduate School in 1954. By action of the Texas State Legislature, Texas Technological College formally became Texas Tech University on September 1, 1969. Committed to teaching and the advancement of knowledge, Texas Tech University, a comprehensive public research university, provides the highest standards of excellence in higher education, fosters intellectual and personal development, and stimulates meaningful research and service to humankind. It ranks at the highest level of
Carnegie-classified (R1: Very High Research Activity) doctoral granting universities, one of 131 U.S. institutions with this designation. Texas Tech’s campus covers 1,869 acres and is comprised of 10 colleges, a graduate school, a law school, and a new School of Veterinary Medicine located in Amarillo, Texas.

Even with an enrollment of more than 40,000 and a budget exceeding $1 billion, the University prides itself on the ability of students to engage with some of the most inventive, innovative, and creative faculty in the nation. The University strives to foster an environment that celebrates student accomplishment. Texas Tech provides the best in facilities and academics, and places a strong emphasis on student success. Texas Tech students come from almost every county in Texas, all 50 states, and more than 100 foreign countries. The campus serves as a rich cultural asset in the city of Lubbock, featuring Spanish Renaissance architecture, one of the nation’s greatest collections of public art, and a vibrant calendar of musical and theatrical performances.

The University offers more than 150 undergraduate, over 100 master’s, and 50 doctoral degree programs. Texas Tech provides educational opportunities and programs that enhance the student experience, including the Program in Inquiry and Investigation (Pi2), the Center for Transformative Undergraduate Experience (TrUE), the TTU Honors College, the STEM Center for Outreach, Research & Education (STEM-CORE), and the Teaching, Learning and Professional Development Center. Texas Tech has experienced sustained state support for program enhancement over the past two years, with the creation of a new School of Veterinary Medicine and the construction of a new 80,000 square foot research facility.
In 2011, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved major revisions to the rules applying to curriculum for Texas public institutions of higher education, enabling Texas Tech to launch a new university core curriculum for 2014-2015. Accreditation is provided by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools’ Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate, master’s, and doctoral degrees and certificates. SACSCOC reaffirmed the University’s accreditation for 10 years in 2015. Numerous departments or programs also hold accreditation from professional associations, including the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, American Bar Association, American Psychological Association, Association of American Law Schools, Engineering and Technology Accreditation Commissions of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, National Architectural Accrediting Board, National Association of Schools of Art and Design, National Association of Schools of Music, National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, the Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics, the Texas Education Agency, and the National Association of Schools of Theatre and Dance.

TTU has also earned the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification, recognizing collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity. TTU research expenditures set a record, exceeding $192 million in 2020, while awards from federal agencies set an all-time institutional record in the same year.

Texas Tech is consistently recognized as a top institution for military veterans and their families. Approximately 70 percent of the University’s students receive financial aid including scholarships, grants, federal work-study and loans, with $300 million disbursed annually. Students perform at a high academic level as demonstrated by the presence of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi chapters, as well as other disciplinary honor societies, and graduate and undergraduate students also win prestigious, nationally competitive scholarships such as the William J. Fulbright and Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships. In Fall 2019, Texas Tech was designated a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), making it one of only 16 HSIs that are also Carnegie Research 1 institutions. Texas Tech also recently received a ninth consecutive Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from INSIGHT into Diversity magazine, and this fall earned a five out of five stars on the Campus Pride Index, a national benchmark for measuring progress in creating an inclusive campus learning environment for LGBTQIA students, faculty, and staff. Texas Tech University was also ranked in the top 10 (#9) in an APLU-sponsored poll of corporate recruiters nationwide as the school whose graduates were the best-trained, educated, and able to succeed once hired.

The university embraces the essence of lifelong learning. Texas Tech’s vision is to be an inclusive environment where students and faculty collaboratively share ideas while cultivating a culture of inclusive excellence by engaging in programs,
activities, and events that advance the university's priorities. In Fall 2020, a record 40,322 students are enrolled in the university. Of those, 33,269 are undergraduate students and 7,053 are graduate and law students. **Texas Tech is a very diverse campus, and it is critical that the successful candidate help the campus to continue the trajectory and momentum for equitable, ethical, and inclusive improvements.**

Texas Tech’s 17 intercollegiate athletics programs compete in the Big 12 Conference. The Red Raiders and Lady Raiders programs have enjoyed strong runs in the postseason in recent years, including a men’s outdoor track and field NCAA National Championship in 2019 and the school’s first NCAA Final Four appearance in men’s basketball that same year. The baseball team has competed in four NCAA College World Series since 2014. The women’s basketball program won the institution’s first NCAA National Championship in 1993 and the women’s soccer team is consistently ranked among the top programs in the country.

**Mission Statement and Strategic Plan**

*Mission Statement:* As a public research university, Texas Tech University advances knowledge through innovative and creative teaching, research and scholarship. The University is dedicated to student success by preparing learners to be ethical leaders for a diverse and globally competitive workforce. The University is committed to enhancing the cultural and economic development of the state, nation, and world.

*Strategic Plan:* The current strategic plan, “A Foundation for the Next Century: A Pathway to 2025,” ([http://www.ttu.edu/stratplan/](http://www.ttu.edu/stratplan/)) focuses on three primary, comprehensive areas of focus as the university nears completion of its first century of service – 1) educate and empower a diverse student body; 2) enable innovative research and creative activities; and 3) transform lives and communities through strategic outreach and engaged scholarship. As the institution prepares to recognize its centennial anniversary in 2023, this plan provides a framework for the university moving forward and supports our efforts to solidify Texas Tech’s position as a premier public research university in the next century.

**The Texas Tech University System**

The Texas Tech University System was formed in 1996 and formally established by the State of Texas three years later in 1999. Since its inception, the TTU System has emerged as one of the top public university systems in the nation and is a dynamic force in higher education.

Today, the TTU System is comprised of four institutions—Texas Tech University (TTU), Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC), Angelo State University (ASU) and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso—and operates in 17 cities throughout the State of Texas and internationally. Overall, the TTU System and its universities provide academic offerings in 20 locations.

**Public Higher Education in Texas**

In addition to having a strong endowment and financial standing, the institutions of the Texas Tech University System are prominently positioned in a state committed to investment in higher education. Under the leadership of Texas Governor Greg Abbott, the state of Texas has committed billions in new funding for higher education, one of only two states nationwide making significant investment in its colleges and universities. In November 2015, Abbott announced the state’s [60x30TX Higher Education Plan](http://www.ttu.edu/stratplan/) to ensure 60 percent of Texas’s 25- to 34-year-old workforce achieves a post-secondary education by the year 2030. Governor Abbott has established the Governor’s University Research Initiative, which helps Texas universities attract prestigious researchers and faculty, including a focus on Nobel laureates and National Academy members.
About the Community

The City of Lubbock is the economic, educational, and health-care hub of the South Plains. With 265 days of sunshine, and an average temperature of 74 degrees, the Lubbock area is home to more than 300,000 Texans. Perfect for outdoor living, the community includes over 75 public parks, nearby recreational lakes, running, biking, and hiking trails, and eight golf courses, including the nationally-ranked Rawls Course at Texas Tech. Lubbock is proud of its diversity and strives to create a more inclusive atmosphere in order to embrace its increasingly multicultural and international community.

Consistently listed among the best places to raise a family in Texas, Lubbock hosts several unique attractions and museums including the Science Spectrum and IMAX Theater, the National Ranching Heritage Museum, the Silent Wings Museum, American Wind Power Center, American Museum of Agriculture, and the Museum at Texas Tech University. The Hub City is also home to five public school districts with outstanding academic and athletic opportunities, including Lubbock Independent School District’s International Baccalaureate program.

As the first designated cultural district in the state of Texas, Lubbock celebrates its artistic roots on stage, on display, and on record. Home to local theater groups and galleries, the community also plays host to national and international artists and performers. The Buddy Holly Hall of Performing Arts and Sciences, opening in 2020, will be the centerpiece of a revitalized downtown district. The world-class venue’s 2,200 seat main theater will be the home of Ballet Lubbock, Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, as well as hosting Texas Tech visual and performing arts events.

Lubbock is the center of regional and national viticulture, cultivating over 90% of the varietal wine grape production in Texas. In additional to a vibrant wine industry, Lubbock is home to diverse culinary destinations where you can get the best of Texas and international cuisine, perfectly paired with a local craft brew.

The Hub City is also a regional healthcare destination with two large, comprehensive medical centers and numerous specialty clinics that serve patients from as far away as eastern New Mexico.

Situated on the Llano Estacado, Lubbock is a half day drive to Dallas, Austin, and the famed Hill Country to the east, and the ski slopes of New Mexico to the west. Preston Smith International Airport offers regular daily service through Southwest Airlines, United Airlines, and American Airlines, to destinations throughout Texas and connections across the country.

For more information on everything Lubbock has to offer, visit www.visitlubbock.org.

Texas Tech University System will not discriminate in its employment practices because of an applicant's race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, status as a protected veteran, or any other legally protected category, class or characteristic.

As an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, Texas Tech University is dedicated to the goal of building a culturally diverse faculty committed to teaching and working in a multicultural environment. We actively encourage applications from all those who can contribute, through their research, teaching, and/or service, to the diversity and excellence of the academic
community at Texas Tech University. The university welcomes applications from minorities, women, protected veterans, persons with disabilities, and dual-career couples.

**Application and Nomination Process**
The Search Committee will begin reviewing applications immediately. Applicants must submit a current curriculum vitae and a letter of interest describing relevant experience. Submission of materials via e-mail is strongly encouraged. Nomination letters should include the name and contact information of the nominee. All nominations and applications will be handled in confidence. Applications will remain confidential until the selection of the finalists, whose names and application materials will be made public.

Applications and letters of nomination should be submitted to:

**Alberto Pimentel**, Managing Partner  
Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates  
6512 Painter Avenue  
Whittier, CA 90601  
Email: apsearch@storbeckpimentel.com  
Refer to code “TTU-Provost” in subject line

As an EEO/AA employer, the Texas Tech University System and its components will not discriminate in our employment practices based on an applicant’s race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or status as a protected veteran.

For more information or to discuss this position, contact:

Joseph A. Heppert, Ph.D., Search Committee Chair  
TTU Vice President for Research and Innovation  
joseph.heppert@ttu.edu