



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

POSITION PROFILE

The University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) seeks an outstanding leader to serve as its next Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA). As the Chief Academic Officer for the university, this individual promotes a high-quality and dynamic academic environment through excellence among the faculty and staff, collaborative and innovative programs and research efforts, and effective and efficient operations.

The University

ULM is a comprehensive, state-funded institution of higher education that offers high-quality educational and experiential opportunities to meet the academic, cultural, vocational, social, and personal needs of undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education students. ULM's mission is to "seek students who find value in our programs and prepare them to compete, succeed, and contribute in an ever-changing global society through a transformative education." ULM has awarded a combined total of over 72,000 academic degrees to more than 65,000 alumni, including awarding degrees to a record number of graduates (923) in the spring of 2018. The university, which has significant health science offerings, will welcome the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) on its campus starting in 2020.

Founded in 1931, ULM's campus — one of the state's most attractive with beautiful Bayou DeSiard flowing through its 238-acre, tree-shaded campus — is located in the eastern part of Monroe. Together with its sister city of West Monroe, Morehouse Parish, and Union Parish, these communities comprise a metropolitan area of nearly 202,000 residents and serve as the commercial, medical, and cultural hub for the northeast Louisiana region.

The Division

The Division of Academic Affairs serves a student body of more than 9,000 across 89 different majors and minors. Approximately 85% of the student population is undergraduate and more than 1,000 students are enrolled in graduate and professional programs. The university boasts an 18:1 student-teacher ratio and 48% of incoming students receive scholarships.

The division includes more than 420 faculty (nearly 80% of which are full-time faculty) and 155 staff. A number of key campus leaders report to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, including the:

- Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs;

- Dean, College of Arts, Education, and Sciences;
- Dean, College of Business and Social Sciences;
- Dean, College of Health Sciences;
- Dean, College of Pharmacy;
- Dean, Graduate School;
- Director, Assessment and Evaluation;
- Director, Extended Learning;
- Director, Sponsored Programs and Research; and
- Director, ULM Online.

Some noteworthy academic programs, honors, and achievements include:

- The ULM Honors Program is a unique program seeking intellectually curious students who desire to challenge themselves. Honors students are exposed to more in-depth topics and work closely with the Honors faculty;
- ULM's Emerging Scholars Program joins students and professors in cooperative research and professional activities. Students selected for the program receive a stipend to participate as "junior colleagues" in the extra-class professional activities;
- The university's Atmospheric Sciences program is the only one in the State of Louisiana;
- The College of Business is accredited by AACSB International and its Risk Management and Insurance program was ranked in the top 20 in the nation;
- The College of Pharmacy is the only state-funded pharmacy program in Louisiana; and
- ULM enjoys a 100% pass rate in national exams for nursing, dental hygiene, speech language pathology, marriage and family therapy, counseling, and radiologic technology.

The Position

The VPAA will be a key leader as the university continues to advance its [2016-21 Strategic Plan](#). Several of the priorities for the Vice President include:

- **Facilitating a review of academic programs:** The Vice President will work closely with the university's faculty and administrative team to strategically assess the institution's academic programs and identify resource allocation strategies that advance the goals of ULM. The university seeks to continue offering comprehensive programs that support the region, while also developing distinctive programs that draw attention from outside the region and leverage the institution's existing strengths in the health sciences.
- **Building a world-class faculty:** The VPAA will strategize and support the institution's recruitment, retention, and development of faculty that excel in teaching and research and enhance future areas of opportunity at the university.

- **Developing an online strategy:** The Vice President will evaluate existing online offerings, explore new opportunities, identify the best structures to support online learning, and examine the financial impacts of the university's online strategy in the future.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for the following (along with other duties assigned by the President):

- Leading strategic planning for academic affairs, ensuring academic priorities are accomplished with the highest possible quality, and supporting innovation in academic programs;
- Supporting a culture of collegial and engaged governance across campus;
- Working collaboratively with other senior administrators to advance the goals of the university while also acting as a strong advocate for academics;
- Ensuring that personnel, space resources, and university funds are used effectively and efficiently to advance the goals of the institution;
- Working with faculty, deans, and other academic leaders to ensure the university's policies are effective, support the university's faculty, staff, and students, and align with the university's vision;
- Overseeing the accreditation processes for the university (SACSCOC), colleges, departments, and programs, and ensuring that academic programs comply with governing rules, regulations, and accreditation guidelines;
- Overseeing and supporting the processes related to faculty recruitment, appointment, development, retention, evaluation, promotion, tenure and post-tenure review, and faculty grievances;
- Chairing the Dean's Council, the Strategic Planning Committee, the Student Technology Assessment Plan Committee (STAP), and the Institutional Effectiveness Committee;
- Annually evaluating direct reports;
- Engaging with external stakeholders to identify workforce development priorities for the region, applied research possibilities for faculty, and fundraising opportunities (in coordination with the ULM Foundation); and
- Representing the university in the President's absence, as needed.

Leadership

Dr. Nick J. Bruno became the eighth president of ULM in November 2010, and now has more than 40 years of work in Louisiana higher education. A Louisiana native, President Bruno arrived at ULM from the University of Louisiana System, where he managed the business, financial, and facility operations as the UL System's Vice President for Business Affairs. Prior to his appointment at the UL System, he served as Vice President for Business Affairs at ULM, helping revitalize the campus during a critical juncture in the university's history beginning what now totals over \$100 million in campus improvements.

In addition to his higher education experience, President Bruno is regionally and nationally recognized for his consulting expertise in areas such as organizational efficiencies and alternatively financed facility construction. He has also conducted numerous professional development programs for several national

professional organizations including the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO).

President Bruno earned a bachelor's degree in accounting and an MBA from Southeastern Louisiana University. He earned a Ph.D. in Higher Education Leadership from the University of Mississippi. He served as an adjunct member of Southeastern Louisiana University's College of Business faculty where he taught Strategic Management.

Qualifications

The successful candidate must have:

- An earned doctorate from an accredited institution;
- Recognized accomplishment as a leader, teacher, and scholar appropriate for appointment at the rank of professor in a university department;
- Broad-based experience and leadership in academic administration, assessment, and accreditation, preferably at the dean's level or above;
- A record of support for excellence in teaching, scholarly activity, and faculty development and experience with faculty promotion and tenure processes;
- Demonstrated success in strategic planning and assessment of academic programming;
- A track record of creativity and innovation in administration, including the advancement of technology to support positive academic outcomes;
- Strong managerial, interpersonal, and communication skills;
- Experience with budget development and resource allocation;
- Demonstrated commitment to equal opportunity, cultural diversity, inclusive excellence, and global education;
- An understanding of the essential values of academic integrity and civility in a community of learners;
- A commitment to and knowledge of the multiple missions of a doctoral university, including experience supporting research and scholarship amongst faculty;
- Experience supporting collaboration and furthering interdisciplinary opportunities; and
- The highest personal integrity.

Nomination and Application Process

The Search Committee will begin reviewing applications immediately and continue to accept applications and nominations until the position is filled. However, in order to assure the fullest consideration, candidates are encouraged to have complete applications submitted to the search firm assisting the university by March 21, 2019. Requested application materials include a letter of interest; curriculum vitae; and the names, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of at least five professional references. References will not be

contacted until after the first screening of applications and then only after the applicant has given explicit permission. The selected candidate will be required to pass a criminal history background check.

Please direct all applications, nominations, and inquiries for the position to the search firm assisting the university at the contact information below. All application materials must be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word or PDF format.

Ryan Crawford, Partner | Gretchen Hoffman, Senior Associate
7500 Rialto Blvd
Building 1, Suite 250
Austin, TX 78735
(737) 207-0568
r.crawford@storbeckpimentel.com | g.hoffman@storbeckpimentel.com

Refer to code "ULM VPAA" in subject line

The University of Louisiana at Monroe is an equal opportunity / affirmative action employer. We invite applications from qualified individuals who possess the experience, knowledge, and commitment to work in a diverse learning environment. Women, minorities, and members of all groups are strongly encouraged to apply.