POSITION PROFILE

Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Research and Effectiveness

June 2019
Nestled amid the beauty of two mountain ranges in southeastern Wyoming, you will find the nationally recognized teaching and research institution, the University of Wyoming (UW). Established as a land-grant institution in 1886 when Wyoming was still a territory, UW has since grown to close to 200 areas of study, drawing 12,500+ students from all 50 states and 90 countries. UW is known for its accomplished faculty and world-class facilities, its small student/faculty ratio and quality undergraduate and graduate programs within its colleges of Arts & Sciences, Agriculture & Natural Resources, Business, Education, Engineering & Applied Science, Health Sciences, Law, School of Energy Resources, and Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources. To learn more: [http://www.uwyo.edu](http://www.uwyo.edu)

Throughout its existence, UW has been the only four-year university in the state of Wyoming, though it maintains close relationships with the state’s seven community colleges. UW’s global impact begins with innovative undergraduate and graduate research opportunities and extends through state and federal partnerships and recent initiatives such as the Wyoming Institute for Humanities Research and the School of Energy Resources. UW has played important roles in the lives of students, Wyoming residents, and communities for 133 years.

- Recognized by Forbes Magazine 2018 as being one of the nation’s best college values.
- Rated as a “Top 15 Outdoor Adventure College” by Outside Magazine.
- Wyoming was ranked #21 in US News and World Report 2018 “Best States Rankings.”

The University community is working collaboratively to help the University reinforce and strengthen its reputation as it adapts to changing economic factors in the state and beyond. The University recently published its new strategic roadmap, “Breaking Through 2017-2022: A Strategic Plan for the University of Wyoming.” It’s an exciting time to be a part of UW as it embarks on new and exciting opportunities.

**Location:** Located in Laramie, Wyoming, a town of more than 31,000 with a unique blend of sophistication and western hospitality, UW not only provides an environment for success but also offers varied academic and lifestyle opportunities. Laramie is a great place to live and work as it boasts low cost of living, no state income tax as well as incredible outdoor recreational opportunities, an eclectic downtown area, and a great public-school system.
THE OPPORTUNITY

The University of Wyoming has embarked on a process of collective visioning and planning as it looks toward the future of its institutional research and effectiveness capabilities. For the past year, committees, task forces, and university leadership have worked together (with the help of an external consultant) to map out the shared vision; to begin data governance planning and data integrity planning; and to plan the automation of state and federal reporting. A good deal of progress has been made – people are in sync - there is shared buy-in. The next step is to find the leader that will help implement, build, and structure an institutional research and effectiveness function that is integrated, responsive, and nimble.

The Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Research and Effectiveness (AVP-IRE) is a newly created leadership role that will report to the Provost. The AVP-IRE will provide strategic administrative leadership, effective management, and expertise related to institutional research, analysis, data infrastructure, data governance, compliance, and reporting. The AVP-IRE will serve as a university-wide leader and advocate for the IRE transformation and will spearhead and implement processes related to data analysis, standards, and data governance. In collaboration with other members of the Provost’s team, the AVP-IRE supports accreditation matters in the areas of assessment, and continuous improvement and compliance, including self-studies and reports, preparation of site visits, and compilation of data. The AVP-IRE will supervise a staff who provide technical programming/reporting, data analysis, interpretation of analysis, and preparation of reports for both internal and external constituencies. The current student system is Ellucian Banner. The Financial/HR system is Oracle Cloud. Changes in reporting relationships and organizational structures may occur over time; the AVP will influence these decisions.

Specific duties and responsibilities include:

- Willingness and ability to step into a transformative process that is “in process” and listen, learn, collaboratively lead, and at times be hands-on.
- Provide leadership and expertise to guide the Data Governance Committee - planning through implementation.
- Support institutional research and analysis activities including data collection, data quality, systems integration, business intelligence, and external reporting.
- Lead in the development and implementation of a comprehensive system for assessing the effectiveness of the University’s performance. Provide expertise in designing, developing, implementing, and maintaining a systematic and sustainable process and infrastructure for assessing student learning outcomes at all levels within the university, including academic, research, and co-curricular areas. Help integrate academic assessment findings into the larger framework of other institutional planning and assessment activities.
- Oversee interpretation, analysis, and communication of institutional effectiveness results that inform University, college, and departmental matters.
- Work with University leadership to support curricular matters ensuring quality, including academic program reviews, programmatic accreditation, learning outcomes, and academic assessment, all in alignment with institutional mission and relative to stated goals and objectives.
• Work with all University units to provide support for the development, discussion, and analysis of improvement metrics.
• Lead and manage ongoing accreditation matters including the creation of self-studies, reports, preparation for site visits, and creation of other supporting documentation.
• Provide leadership and expertise in quantitative and qualitative assessment techniques, survey methodology, and the application of psychometrics to measure outcomes and yield data for continuous improvement.
• In conjunction with relevant departments, provide oversight of indirect assessments such as student satisfaction, faculty satisfaction, employer satisfaction, research productivity, and other national benchmarks as appropriate.
• Assess needs of institutional units and oversee the development of an in-house program to provide training and professional development on best practices and methodologies in assessment for a broad range of institutional stakeholders.
• Maintain currency with policy issues and trends regarding performance measurement, accountability, and institutional effectiveness.

QUALIFICATIONS

Required:
• An earned master’s degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning - preferably in assessment, measurement, education research, social science research, program evaluation, curriculum and instruction, educational administration, or a closely related field.
• At least seven (7) years of progressively responsible leadership experience in institutional effectiveness and higher education assessment. Experience will include some combination of experience in programmatic assessment, methodology, educational research design, sponsored research activities, accountability issues, and student learning outcomes.
• Experience in institutional effectiveness related to change management, including the ability to conceptualize and manage implementation in key areas such as automation, processes, accountabilities, and governance.
• Leadership or supervisory experience that includes accountability for department, unit, function, program or team/student results.
• Budget management experience.
• Knowledge of research and design methods, including the use and interpretation of statistical data, appropriate to higher education environments.
• Demonstrated knowledge of and experience with regional accrediting agencies, and familiarity with accreditation requirements such as those of the Higher Learning Commission.
• Familiarity with state and federal mandated report requirements.
• Experience working with diverse populations and student success initiatives.
• Excellent communication skills are needed for working with faculty, staff, students, and other stakeholders.

Preferred:
• Doctoral degree.
• Seasoned change driver with expertise in the use of and presentation of data to improve/impact an institutional program, initiatives, operations, and/or functions; leadership of institutional effectiveness & continuous improvement processes.
• Expertise in analytical/statistical software applications (SAS, SPSS, STATA, etc.).
• Experience using national-level datasets such as the Association of American Universities Data Exchange, IPEDS, Academic Analytics, National Student Clearinghouse.
• Experience creating predictive models and key performance dashboards.
• Working knowledge of web development and reporting tools, data mining, desktop publishing software, and end user data access platforms.
• Participation in appropriate professional development associations.
PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

The University of Wyoming, in consultation with Summit Search Solutions, Inc., will begin a confidential review of application materials immediately and continue until the position is filled; **parties who apply by July 22, 2019, will be given first consideration.** Please submit curriculum vitae and letter of interest upon application. All applications and nominations will be held in confidence. To apply online, go to [https://theapplicantmanager.com/jobs?pos=su155](https://theapplicantmanager.com/jobs?pos=su155)

**For more information or to offer recommendations or nominations:**

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*Summit Search Solutions, Inc.* is a boutique executive search firm dedicated to serving education and nonprofit communities nationwide. Summit has a team of experienced recruiting consultants in strategic locations across the country including California, Kansas, New York, North Carolina, and Oregon.

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The University of Wyoming is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law and University policy. To review the [EEO is the Law Poster and its Supplement](https://uwyo.edu/hr/eoe), please see The Diversity & Fairness page.

Pursuant to Wyoming State law, W.S. 19-14-102, as amended, an honorably discharged veteran who has been a resident of the state of Wyoming for one (1) year or more at any time prior to the date when the veteran applies for employment, or any surviving spouse who was married to such veteran at the time of the veteran’s death, who is receiving federal survivor benefits based on the veteran’s military service and is applying for employment, shall receive an interview preference during the applicant screening process with the University of Wyoming. At the time of application, the applicant must possess the business capacity, competency, education or other qualifications required for the position. If disabilities do not materially interfere with performance of job duties, disabled veterans will be given preference over able-bodied veterans. **Appropriate documentation of veteran status must be provided at the time of application as outlined in the application process.** No preference will be given to a veteran currently employed by a public department.

The University of Wyoming conducts background investigations for all final candidates being considered for employment. Offers of employment are contingent upon the completion of the background check.

Applicants with disabilities may request accommodation to complete the application and selection process. Please notify Human Resources at least three (3) working days prior to the date of need.
LARAMIE, WYOMING

Living in Laramie, WY is like being on a year-round vacation—whether you’re looking for great food, entertainment or outdoor adventure. The name "Laramie, Wyoming" conjures up visions of the Old West like few others can, with a historic downtown, prairie and mountain vistas, rodeos, guest ranches and more. Laramie is filled with hospitality, entertainment, and excitement while providing a neighborly atmosphere and warm small town feel with a multitude of amenities and entertainment. Surrounded by the great outdoors, Laramie is also southeastern Wyoming’s center for arts events, with a lively music and theater scene, art exhibitions, festivals, and a variety of other entertainment. And don’t forget all the sports activities at the university and K-12 levels. Go Cowboys!

Interesting Facts:

- Also known as the “Gem City of the Plains”, Laramie is located in the southeastern part of Wyoming approximately 45 miles from the state capital, Cheyenne, and 130 miles from Denver, Colorado.
- Laramie sits at 7,200 feet above sea level in the Laramie River Valley surrounded by the Medicine Bow National Forest, the Laramie Mountains, and the Snowy Range.
- Laramie has a 6% sales tax but does not have a state income tax or state inheritance tax.
- The unemployment rate in Laramie is 3.20%.
- Laramie offers a variety of outdoor adventures with more than 250 days of sunshine.
- The quality of life and amenities Laramie has to offer brings several types of industries to the area including technology companies and academia.

About 20 minutes east of Laramie, the Vedauwoo Recreation Area boasts some of the best rock-climbing in the country. You can photograph abundant wildlife, dramatic alpine scenes, and jumbled rock formations. And with more than a hundred mountain biking trails, the Laramie area provides a paradise for exploration on two wheels. If you prefer walking or hiking, camping or day-trips, fishing or hunting, the mountains, lakes, rivers, and trails around Laramie offer something for everyone. Families will find fun and exploration close to town, while backpackers and sportsmen can spend a week in the high country of the Medicine Bow Mountains. And as a winter snow enthusiast, you can escape the crowds by exploring the hills, forested glens and rolling meadows of the Snowy Range from the back of a snowmobile or on downhill or cross-country skis. Laramie is Wyoming’s favorite playground!

For more information on Laramie please visit:

- Visit Laramie, http://visitlaramie.org/
- Laramie Main Street https://laramiemainstreet.org/
- Live the West in Laramie, WY, https://youtu.be/g48PeRSjBuY