Westfield State University

President

The Board of Trustees of Westfield State University invites applications and nominations for the position of President. Founded in 1838, Westfield State is a comprehensive public university that is part of the Massachusetts Public Higher Education system. A teaching institution offering quality programs in the liberal arts and sciences with complementing professional studies curricula, Westfield State is grounded in its founding principles of academic excellence and educating all in a diverse and welcoming community. Westfield State has been ranked among the top 40 public universities in the Regional Universities-North category by US News & World Report. The university is located in Westfield, Massachusetts in the Pioneer Valley region of western Massachusetts about 10 miles from Springfield.

Fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Westfield State offers 32 undergraduate majors in 24 academic departments and a wide array of masters degrees and certificate programs. Westfield State has particular strength in teacher preparation, ethnic and gender studies, geography and regional planning, environmental science, and criminal justice programs and is one of the largest producers of new teachers among Massachusetts universities. The university enrolls 4800 undergraduate day students, 685 continuing education students, and 670 graduate and post-baccalaureate students who are taught by 224 full-time and 470 adjunct faculty members.

The university seeks an innovative leader and strategic thinker to build on Westfield State’s successes and core strengths and lead it towards a bright and sustainable future. The president will oversee an energetic, committed and student-centered faculty and staff and a tightly knit campus community with campus spirit fueled by an enthusiastic, highly residential student body. The successful candidate will have demonstrated proven leadership as reflected in career accomplishments, a strong commitment to academic excellence with a balanced view of traditional liberal arts and professional programs, a track record of successful fundraising, and a passion for Westfield State’s public mission. The president will be an individual of creative vision, focused energy, and unquestioned integrity, with a passion for educating students and for serving a public mission that links the growth of the university to the well-being of the state and the strengthening of all its educational institutions.

Ideally, the president will possess an earned doctorate or terminal professional degree and a strong academic sensibility with an accomplished record of teaching, research and scholarship that merits a tenured appointment as a senior faculty member. Candidates with exceptional records of leadership in other complex environments will also be considered. Other requirements include at least ten years of progressively responsible senior leadership experience, a strong understanding of public higher education, proven experience crafting a vision and developing and implementing strategies that move an institution forward, a proven track record of success in institutional advancement, outstanding oral and written communication skills, an inclusive and collaborative management style, and the ability to build strong and enduring relationships with a wide array of internal and external constituents. Experience working within a collective bargaining environment would be desirable.

Nominations and applications (including cover letter, cv, and a list of five references) may be sent electronically to WestfieldStatePresident@divsearch.com and should be received by July 1, 2015 to be given fullest consideration. For further information, please contact:

Kim M. Morrisson, Ph.D., Senior Managing Director
Nancy Helfman, Vice President and Senior Associate
Diversified Search
2005 Market Street, Suite 3300, Philadelphia, PA 19103
Tel: 215-656-3579

For more information, please consult http://www.westfield.ma.edu

Westfield State University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and seeks excellence through diversity among its administrators, faculty, staff, and students. Application by members of all underrepresented groups is encouraged.