POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

CHANCELLOR

The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (Commission) invites applications and nominations for the position of Chancellor. The Commission has charged the Search Committee to identify a mature, student-centered, politically astute leader with proven skills in innovation, fiscal management, and creative problem solving. The Commission is the coordinating board for a system comprising 10 colleges and universities and serving a student population of more than 65,000 undergraduate and graduate students. The Commission’s annual agency budget is approximately $110 million, with coordination of an additional $286 million in state appropriations at the 10 public baccalaureate institutions. The Chancellor’s coordinating role varies with each institution according to their size, mission and statutory or performance-based exemption from state-level oversight.

The Chancellor is the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission and reports to the Commission, serving at its will and pleasure. The Chancellor also is a member of the West Virginia State Board of Education and several other state boards and commission, and exercises oversight for fiscal, academic, administrative, and health sciences education functions.

EXPECTATIONS

The Chancellor will track national higher education trends, communicate with peers in other states and collaborate with the leadership at the state’s institutions to provide strategic direction sought for Commission, college students, and the state. The Chancellor will be an outspoken and bold advocate for students, the universities and colleges—free of institutional or regional biases. Together with the Commission and institutional leadership, the Chancellor will work to improve access to higher education and raise degree completion, and make a lasting, positive impact on the state's economic future by increasing the state’s educational attainment level. The Commission requires a staunch advocate with the ability to bring differing opinions together through sound, stable leadership and professional collegiality. The Chancellor should bring experience and skills in the following areas:

ATTRIBUTES

- Appreciation for the mission, characteristics, and distinctive qualities of a diverse system of universities and colleges;
- Capacity to develop and maintain cooperative relationships with K-12, the West Virginia Community and Technical College System, and sister institutions;
- Business acumen with a record of success in fiscal management, budgeting, and implementation of higher education funding models;
- Ability to establish rapport with multiple constituencies, including the Governor, Legislature and state agencies, institutional boards of governors, business, and residents from all parts of the state;
- Student-oriented focus with experience in sound recruitment methods, retention, and enrollment management;
Commitment to an affirmative environment with a diverse, multicultural, inclusive culture in all levels of system work;

Working knowledge of information technology capabilities and applications in relationship to the delivery of higher education;

Ability to analyze data for research-based development and implementation of higher education policy;

Excellent communication skills with the ability to be the statewide champion of higher education;

Ability to resolve complex, strategic, and challenging problems and take decisive action;

Transparent and supportive team player, balancing presidents’ leadership with the work of the Commission’s staff;

Ability to listen carefully, communicate openly, and build a climate of candor, change, and continuous improvement;

Commitment to guiding and carrying out the Commission’s mission and policies;

Senior level administrative work in a higher education/system setting (preferred); and

Advanced degree required (terminal degree preferred).

NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Applications must be received by May 15, 2020. The application must include a letter of interest; a current résumé (or Curriculum Vitæ); and the names of five professional references with each person's position, office or home address, e-mail address, and telephone numbers.

Applications will remain confidential until the finalist stage of the search. References will not be contacted without prior authorization from the applicant.

Nominations and applications should be sent electronically (PDF format) to cindy.anderson@wvhepc.edu.

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer/Veterans/Disabled

The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, or protected veteran status and will not be discriminated against on the basis of disability. The Commission provides a collegial, respectful and inclusive environment that values the diversity, creativity and contributions of its staff.