Opportunity Profile

PROVOST/SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

Fresno Pacific University is seeking a dynamic, innovative leader to join the leadership team of newly appointed President Joseph Jones. The new President has brought a burst of energy and enthusiasm throughout the university community and the excitement is growing as the students, faculty and staff look forward to the appointment of a new academic leader to join their new President’s leadership team. The Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs (Provost/SVPAA) is the chief academic officer and provides leadership for all aspects of the academic and intellectual life of the university. The Provost/SVPAA guides collaborative leadership in accomplishing the educational mission of the university as expressed in the Fresno Pacific Idea and mission statement. The position reports to the President, serves as the first among equals among the university’s vice presidents, and also serves as acting president in the absence or incapacity of the President.

With a strong fall 2017 semester kicking off the new academic year and a total enrollment exceeding 4000 students the university is off to a great start under the new President. FPU is the Christian university for the entire Central California/San Joaquin Valley region and has a strong reputation in the region for serving its educational needs. The new Provost/SVPAA will have the opportunity to provide innovative, creative, collaborative leadership for further growth and development of academic programs to serve the area and fulfill the university’s mission.

The Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs (Provost/SVPAA) is the chief academic officer and leader of the faculty. The Provost/SVPAA is charged with the quality of academic programming and curriculum, and ensures the highest quality of educational experience that aligns with the mission, vision and values of the university for graduate, undergraduate, distance learning and continuing education.

The Provost/SVPAA’s main focus is student-centered, providing guidance to the faculty and staff in modeling and facilitating service and experiential learning. The successful candidate will support faculty development in the areas of technology in the classroom, curricular integration of faith and learning and promotion of student research.

As leader of the faculty the Provost/SVPAA is responsible for quality instruction through recruiting and hiring of faculty and staff in associated areas. The Provost/SVPAA directs assessment, academic planning, faculty performance reviews, academic program viability and sustainability, and the development of innovative best practices.

The Provost/SVPAA reviews recommendations from the faculty governance body and advises the President and Board of Trustees on policy matters related to curriculum and academic programs. The Provost/SVPAA is the chief collaborator for academics among the President’s Cabinet members, and serves as the chief diversity officer in promoting curricular integration and personnel recruitment for all academic areas.
ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

CULTURE
- Be in agreement with the university’s Confession of Faith, have a personal commitment to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, be active in the life of the church and live a life consistent with a commitment to the Lordship of Christ.
- Embrace the mission, vision and values of Fresno Pacific University.
- Be Christ-centered in all areas while working with staff, faculty, students and guests.
- Strive to build healthy relationships among faculty and between faculty and administration.

SERVICE
- Provide intellectual and academic leadership for the university’s educational mission.
- Articulate the academic mission and vision of the institution.
- Supervise the Associate Provost, four academic deans, registrar and academic support units.
- Oversee academic personnel functions and advise the CFO on academic budget priorities.
- Serve as a member of the president’s cabinet, chair of the academic cabinet and liaison to the academic committee of the board of trustees.
- Encourage collaborative governance among the many stakeholders of the university.

QUALIFICATIONS
- Earned doctorate in an appropriate discipline.
- Record of successful leadership and administrative experience as the head of a major academic unit.
- Demonstrated excellence as a college/university teacher and/or evidence of scholarly achievement.
- Commitment to and understanding of co-curricular activities.
- Demonstration of and commitment to integration of Christian faith and learning.
- Clear understanding of and commitment to the theological distinctive and mission of the university, including its foundation in the Anabaptist Believers’ Church tradition.
- Commitment to the value of diversity and interdisciplinary approaches in higher education.
- Ability to work collaboratively in an environment of collaborative governance.
- Evidence of fiscal planning and management skills.
- Ability to effectively represent the institution to its various constituencies.
- Experience with accreditation processes.
Traditional and adult students on the main campus in southeast Fresno or regional campuses in North Fresno, Visalia, Bakersfield and Merced as well as online.

4,000

Traditional undergraduate student–faculty ratio.

Annual budget in excess of 57 million. Foundation–controlled assets valued at $28.5 million.

ABOUT FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

Fresno Pacific University offers undergraduate and graduate programs that couple academic preparation and a strong ethical foundation. Traditional and adult students study on the main campus in southeast Fresno or regional campuses in North Fresno, Visalia, Bakersfield and Merced as well as online. FPU’s undergraduate graduation rate—60 percent in four years—is the highest in its region. The university has a Hispanic student population of 44 percent and is among the top 10 Hispanic Serving Institutions nationally in graduating Hispanic students with baccalaureate degrees. FPU is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary is accredited by the Association of Theological Seminaries. U.S. News & World Report ranks the university in the top tier among western universities—master’s category.

Governance is controlled by the Pacific District Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, which delegates all governance/management decision-making to the FPU Board of Trustees. The Board provides governance and oversight of the university through the office of the President and works with a collaborative leadership model including the FPU Board of Trustees, the FPU Foundation Board and the Seminary Standing Committee. All employees express a personal Christian commitment. More about the Mennonite Brethren, including the Confession of Faith, which FPU shares, at usmb.org/
A UNIVERSITY BUILT ON AN IDEA

The Fresno Pacific Idea defines our commitment to Christian higher education, serving as a center for reflection and action. See the full version at fresno.edu/about/our-mission/fpu-idea

A Christian University

We seek to be a collegium centered upon Christ and his church. We are committed to

the ideals of God’s Kingdom and to the perspective of the arts, sciences and professional studies in which integration of faith, learning and action is a primary goal in all professional and personal roles.

A Community of Learners

We recognize the importance of the interpersonal dimension of learning. We believe that community grows out of common commitments and that learning is the result of interaction between persons, ideas and experiences.

Prophetic

We believe that to be prophetic is to serve the church and society by engaging in dialogue with and critique of contemporary culture and practice. We encourage informed reflection on personal, institutional and societal values which contribute to developing a vision for wholeness, justice and reconciliation.

Highest four-year graduation rate of any Central Valley college or university.

Low graduation debt rate
Traditional undergraduate debt rate is 20% below the national average.
ACADEMICS THAT EXPAND THE POSSIBILITIES

FPU students are prepared for leadership in professions, communities and churches through a wide variety of academic programs.

**The School of Business**
- The largest number of students as majors
- Bachelor’s degrees in accounting, finance, management, marketing and organizational leadership
- A global MBA and a master of arts in leadership studies

**The School of Education**
- School districts seek our graduates because they see students as whole people
- Credentials, bachelor’s and master’s degrees across the range of the profession

**The School of Humanities, Religion and Social Sciences**
- The widest range of disciplines, with strengths in art, biblical/religious studies/ministry, communication/English/literature/drama, history/classics, languages, music and sociology
- Professional programs include criminology, psychology, pre-law and social work, with a master’s in peacemaking and conflict studies

**The School of Natural Sciences**
- Majors in biology, chemistry, environmental science/studies, mathematics and kinesiology with a bachelor’s degree completion program in nursing
- Pre-professional programs in dentistry, nursing, medicine, physical therapy and pharmacy
- Master’s degrees in nursing and kinesiology

**Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary**
- About 60 percent of students seek degrees related to ministry and theology, while the rest study marriage & family therapy
- The new M.A. in Ministry Leadership & Culture is the first all online program

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- 44% Hispanic Student Population
- HSI National HSI Ranking
  one of the top 10 Hispanic Serving Institutions nationally in graduating Hispanic students.
- ONLY The Valley’s only Christian university.

Hispanic Student Population

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ACADEMIC INNOVATION

A new area focusing on and developing online and other innovative academic programs.

The Center for Anabaptist Studies

Fosters communication about Anabaptist theology through academic scholarship, theological training and leadership resources.

The Center for Community Transformation

Connects the strengths of FPU with the resources of the region to transform cities through entrepreneurial and outreach programs.

The Center for Peacemaking & Conflict Studies

Works across the university as well as offering a master’s and a bachelor’s degree, a minor, certificates and community services.

The Center for Professional Development

Distance learning for about 6,000 people annually in education, business and other fields through in-person and online workshops. certificates and personal and corporate training. New for 2016 was the Google Educator Level 1 Certificate.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

FPU is home to or has close institutional ties with:

The Central Valley Teacher Prep Partnership

A seamless career pathway for UC Merced students who wish to enter the education profession while staying local as UC graduates enroll directly in the FPU teacher education credential program.

AIMS Center for Math and Science Education

Independent nonprofit agency that makes research accessible to teachers so they can inspire students in new ways.

Chaplaincy with Clinical Pastoral Education

Seminary partnership with Clinical Pastoral Education of Central California (CPECC) qualifies students as chaplains in a variety of settings.

On-Site Counseling

Provides quality, affordable counseling to FPU students, other individuals and groups as well as supervised experience to students and recent graduates of the seminary marriage & family therapy program.
FRESNO & THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

A place of possibilities

Fresno is the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, the nation’s leading agricultural area. But the city—fifth largest in California and largest in the Valley—also enjoys a burgeoning tech scene, music, theater, museums and cultural venues and Triple-A baseball’s Fresno Grizzlies, 2015 champions of the Pacific Coast League. Continuing urban renovation promises more benefits, including a hub for California’s high-speed rail, bringing the Bay Area and Los Angeles, now just hours away, even closer. Also in easy driving distance are three national parks, including the iconic Yosemite, as well as beautiful beaches and the snow-capped peaks of the Sierra Nevada.

Always a multicultural center, the region’s rich mix of 80 nationalities began with Native Americans and embraced people from China, Scandinavia, Germany, Russia, Japan, Armenia and a large Hispanic population. These and many other cultures make this metropolitan community of 930,517 people a true mosaic.

As so often happens, an area’s strongpoints present great challenges and opportunities. More than 100 languages are spoken by students in Fresno schools and many families move with the crops. FPU has long produced educators, businesspeople and other professionals who become local leaders. Growth in degree completion programs has provided a way for the large number of adults with community college credits to attain a bachelor’s degree. Many go on to earn a master’s degree. We have an important role in the issues of national import played out in California.

More on Fresno at fresno.gov/Visitors/ThingsToDo/Default.htm and fresnobee.com/entertainment/article52496915.html
Seeing a need for godly and discerning Christian leaders, a group of Mennonite Brethren founded Pacific Bible Institute in 1944 with 28 students in a residence on Van Ness Avenue. By the time the school moved to its present location in a former cotton field at the corner of Butler and Chestnut avenues in 1959, a junior college curriculum had been added. PBI became Pacific College in 1960. In 1963, a four-year liberal arts program was introduced and in 1965 came full accreditation as a four-year liberal arts institution. Accreditation was extended to master’s degrees in 1975 and Fresno Pacific College was born in 1976.

Seeking to make a still greater impact, in the early 1980s the college formulated a plan to extend its mission. “Broadening the Base” expanded facilities, enlarged the curriculum and more deliberately related the school to churches beyond the Mennonite Brethren. In an acknowledgment of its increasing growth and complexity, the college became Fresno Pacific University in 1997. By 2005 FPU had established regional campuses in Bakersfield, North Fresno and Visalia to better serve working adults in bachelor’s degree completion and graduate programs. The Merced Campus was added in 2012 and 55 percent of FPU students now attend a regional campus. In 2010 the Fresno operations of Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, founded in 1955 on land adjacent to the main campus, formally became a part of FPU.

Like the region it serves, diversity is part of the fiber of FPU. There is, in fact, a diversity of diversities in ethnicity, social background and religious tradition among students, faculty, staff, alumni and supporters. The university meets these opportunities with a strong faculty, more than 80 percent of whom hold highest degrees in their field and programs to attract top students, such as a four-year graduation guarantee for qualified undergraduate students and a two-year graduation guarantee for qualified transfer students in STEM fields. Looking to the future, the FPU Board of Trustees has approved plans for a fine arts center, which will be our top campaign priority.

With the need for educated Christian leaders even greater today than it was in 1944, FPU has steadily broadened its scope to bring learning and faith to bear on all aspects of life and to prepare graduates for involvement in the world and Christ’s Kingdom. Education that serves God and others remains our enduring core.
Applications, Nominations, Inquiries

The Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Search Committee will begin reviewing applications immediately and continue work until an appointment is made.

Applications must include:

1. Personal Statement (not more than one page each) on each of the following topics:
   • Your philosophy of education
   • Please share your faith journey by communicating your relationship with and commitment to Jesus Christ and the church.
   • How you would relate your Christian faith to your discipline in your teaching.
   • Read the “Diversity Rationale” document located at fresno.edu/about/our-mission/diversity-rationale. Write a brief statement about your leadership experience in diversity, and how you can help advance the work of diversity based on the FPU Diversity Rationale.

2. A letter of interest (not more than three pages) that addresses the relevancy of the applicant’s background and experience to each of the topics identified in the “ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS” and “QUALIFICATIONS” sections of the Profile.

3. A curriculum vitae.

4. Five professional references with email addresses and telephone numbers (references will not be contacted without prior authorization from the applicant).

Applications should be sent electronically (MS Word or PDF Format) to:

fpu-provost-svpaa@agbsearch.com

Please direct nominations and inquiries to:

Paul R. Corts, Ph.D.
Executive Search Consultant
AGB Search
paul.corts@agbsearch.com
571-243-8709

Fresno Pacific University is an equal employment opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnic or social background, sex, age or disability. Committed to excellence and actively supportive of cultural diversity, FPU invites individuals who contribute to such diversity to apply.