ANNOUNCING
A NATIONAL
SEARCH FOR THE

VICE PROVOST FOR ONLINE LEARNING AND EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION

MISSOURI
S&T

Missouri University of Science and Technology (Missouri S&T), one of the world's leading technological research universities, seeks a dynamic and experienced leader for the role of Vice Provost for Online Learning and Educational Innovation.

Joining the university during an exciting transformational era, the Vice Provost will serve as an influential change agent by providing strategic direction and oversight over a growing portfolio of online, distance, and hybrid educational offerings.

The incumbent will also lead efforts to broadly enhance program development and pedagogical delivery across the university, partnering with key stakeholders in instructional design, faculty development, graduate education, enrollment management, marketing and communications, and many other domains. As a result of these efforts, Missouri S&T will become a global leader in online learning and substantially broaden access to its high-quality academic offerings in science, technology, business, and organizational development.

The Role

Building upon a long history of online and distance education and customized educational solutions for corporate partners at Missouri S&T, the Vice Provost for Online Learning and Educational Innovation will be tasked with galvanizing new and continued innovation within these areas.

Missouri S&T has well-established online program offerings in fields such as engineering management and many other engineering disciplines, industrial-organizational psychology, technical communication, and business and information systems. The university holds the potential to scale these offerings more broadly as well as developing new offerings across each of Missouri S&T's three colleges in fields such as data science, innovation management, and artificial intelligence. The successful candidate will demonstrate the ability to successfully navigate this dynamic landscape, while serving as a thought leader and change agent by helping faculty to reimagine the possibilities for successful curriculum delivery in online and distance education venues.

In addition, the Vice Provost will foster a student-centered culture of teaching and learning across campus affecting our residential students. The Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence (CAFE) reports to the Vice Provost for Online Learning and Educational Innovation. CAFE provides training and consultation in teaching techniques, including the appropriate use of technology in classroom settings. Through CAFE the vice provost will cultivate close working partnerships with faculty and academic partners. They will also work closely with staff members in Enrollment Management and the three academic colleges at the university. In addition, they will work closely with Missouri S&T's distance education facility in St. Louis, which provides classrooms and online delivery studios.

The Kummer Foundation's Ignition Grants for Sustainable Educational Transformation is administered by the Vice Provost for Online Learning and Educational Innovation. These awards enable teams of faculty and academic departments to start development of educationally innovative programs, including online delivery of existing academic offerings. Through CAFE, the vice provost also administers a comprehensive suite of teaching awards and appreciation events.

The Vice Provost for Online Learning and Educational Innovation will supervise a growing department, which currently comprises four instructional designers, two administrative professionals, an IT specialist and will have dotted-line supervision of several marketing and communication and student recruitment specialists. However, the university anticipates the need to recalibrate organizational structures and/or add additional staff capacity in accordance with the vision and strategy proposed by the incumbent Vice Provost for Online Learning and Educational Innovation. The incumbent will also be responsible for maintaining the university's partnership with Missouri Online, a support unit established by the University of Missouri which provides the technical infrastructure for online and on-campus education, including the learning management system, proctoring software, and team collaboration tools, and administers state authorization reciprocity agreements.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply please submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae and list of five professional references. Professional references will be contacted later in the process prior to any hiring decision and the university will not contact references without prior candidate authorization.

CLICK TO APPLY

All applications received by **August 9, 2024**, will receive full consideration. We anticipate a start date in late 2024 or early 2025.

Nominations and inquiries for this search may be directed to **Kelly Oliver**, executive recruitment consultant with the University of Missouri System, at umhrexecutivesearch@umsystem.edu.

KEY PRIORITIES

▶ Expand and Diversify Online Offerings

Develop and implement a strategic plan to expand the portfolio of online programs across Missouri S&T's three colleges, with an emphasis on non-thesis master's degrees, certificate programs, and stackable credentials. Work closely with faculty and other stakeholders to identify high-demand areas for growth and ensure alignment with the university's "North Star Goals."

▶ Elevate Online Education Quality and Pedagogy

Lead efforts to enhance the quality of online and distance education by promoting innovative teaching techniques, incorporating emerging technologies, and fostering best practices in instructional design.

▶ Demonstrate Thought Leadership in Curriculum Development and Innovation

Lead efforts to innovate classroom pedagogy and curricular structure. Direct the Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence (CAFE) to provide training and support for faculty and staff, ensuring that on-campus and online students receive a high-quality educational experience. Act as the university's educational innovation ambassador for with the higher education community.

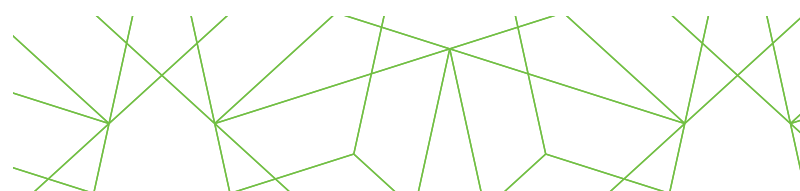### ▶ Strengthen Partnerships and Collaboration

Cultivate strong working relationships with faculty, staff, administrators, and external partners, including the University of Missouri System's Missouri Online. Foster collaborations with corporate partners, government agencies, and other stakeholders to support the growth of online education and create pathways for students to connect with industry and research opportunities.

▶ Enhance Student-Centered Online Experience

Develop and implement strategies to create a student-centered culture in online education, focusing on student engagement, support services, and outcomes. Work with Enrollment Management and other departments to improve online student recruitment, retention, and satisfaction. Implement systems to gather and analyze student feedback to drive continuous improvement in online programs.

▶ Optimize Administrative Structures and Resources

Evaluate and recalibrate the organizational structure for online education to ensure it aligns with the strategic vision and goals. Assess staffing needs and work with university leadership to secure resources for growth. Establish clear accountability, reporting mechanisms, and metrics for success to monitor progress and ensure effective use of resources in expanding and innovating online education at Missouri S&T.
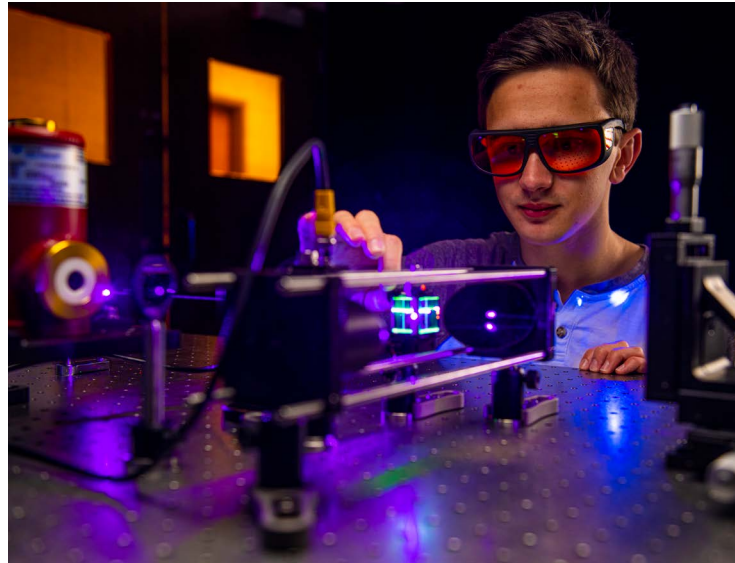
DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Candidates with advanced subject matter expertise in online education, pedagogical innovation, and various and emerging models of curriculum delivery will be particularly competitive for this role. Candidates must have a background that includes budgetary and administrative oversight of online learning and/or educational innovation initiatives. A terminal degree is preferred for this role. The minimum requirements for the Vice Provost position include a master's degree.

- Leading candidates will also possess the ability to cultivate complex networks of partnerships among faculty, staff, administrators, and external partners. It is necessary for the Vice Provost to serve as a credible influencer among faculty colleagues across a variety of disciplines. Although not a requirement for hire, candidates with the necessary qualifications may be considered for a tenured appointment within a relevant academic discipline at Missouri S&T.

Additional qualifications for the Vice Provost of Online Learning and Educational Innovation are as follows:

- Demonstrated thought leadership in curriculum development and innovation, particularly as it relates to the diverse STEM and STEM-adjacent academic disciplines at Missouri S&T.

- Ability to communicate a student-centered approach toward program development and educational innovation to all stakeholders.

- Experience leading educational delivery across a variety of modalities, including direct experience growing enrollment in one or more large online programs.

- Relevant technical expertise to effectively support the design of innovative online education programs.

- Significant academic administrative experience, including demonstrated understanding of the principles of shared governance and the ability to nurture key partnerships, including with corporate and government partners.

- Ability to serve as a convener of and meaningful contributor toward strategic discussions about student recruitment and retention, marketing, and outreach.

ABOUT MISSOURI S&T

Designated as both a land-grant and space-grant institution, Missouri S&T has a rich academic tradition dating back to its founding in 1870 as the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy.

The university currently enrolls over 7,000 students and is home to more than 350 faculty, many of whom are among the top two percent of cited scholars in their respective fields. Missouri S&T is frequently commended as a leading institution for career placement and return on investment and a top destination for engineering majors. The university counts around 60,000 living alumni, including astronauts, scientists, engineers, inventors, and business leaders. One of four universities within the University of Missouri System, Missouri S&T also benefits from shared services, partnership agreements, and other forms of collaboration with its peer institutions.
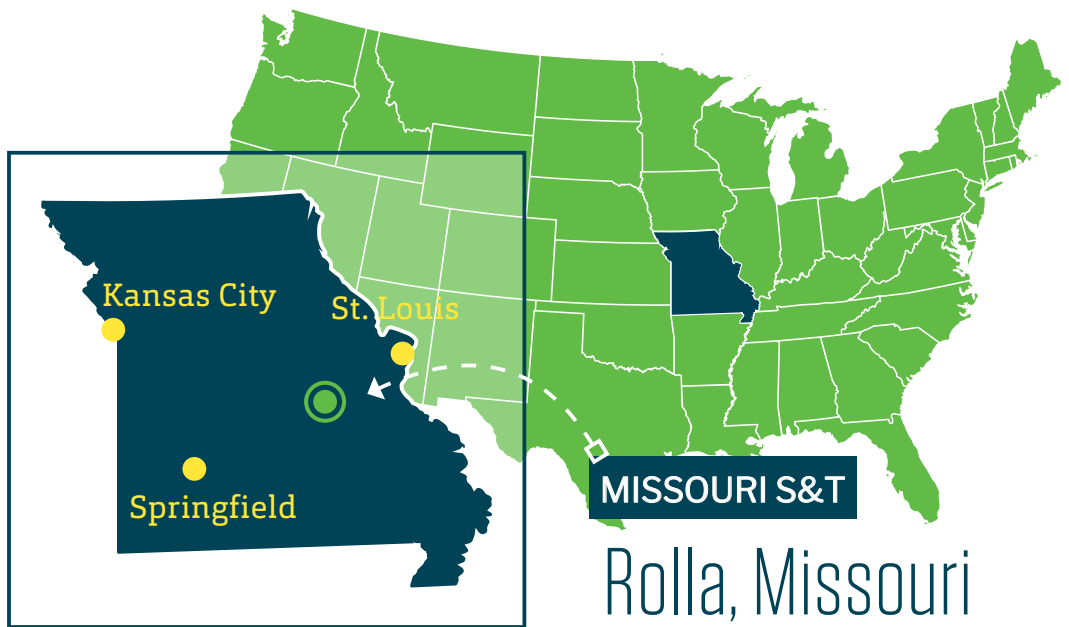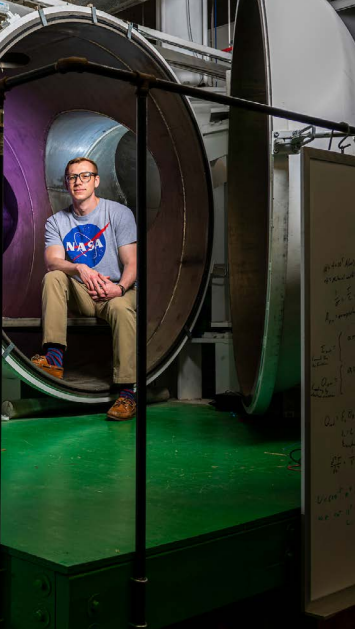

NORTH STAR GOALS

Under the leadership of Chancellor Mohammad Dehghani and Provost Colin Potts, Missouri S&T is pursuing three primary "North Star Goals" in the coming years: growing enrollment, elevating the university's rank and reputation, and advancing to an R1 Carnegie Classification. Missouri S&T is committed to educational innovation across its offerings on campus and online. S&T's commitment to remaining in the forefront of experiential education is demonstrated by its 19 design teams, the most extensive of any university in the world and its recent decision to integrate academic student support and extracurricular student affairs into a single division of Student Success under the direction of a vice chancellor. S&T recently opened the state-of-the-art Innovation Lab, which features reconfigurable classrooms, maker spaces, a media space and facilities for student teamwork. Missouri S&T is a member of the Kern Entrepreneurial Engineering Network (KEEN), the Public Interest University Network (PIT-UN) and the Association for Undergraduate Education at Research Universities (UERU).

A substantial portion of the university's enrollment growth in the coming decade is projected to occur in online education, with emphases on non-thesis master's degrees, graduate certificate programs, and similar graduate and/or continuing education offerings. The university has a solid foundation for this growth trajectory, with several established online programs in each of its three academic colleges. Missouri S&T's online programs in engineering management and industrial-organizational psychology were recently ranked among the Top 10 in the nation according to *U.S. News and World Report* and *Forbes Advisor*, respectively.

Kansas City

St. Louis

Springfield

MISSOURI S&T

Rolla, Missouri

LOCATED IN ROLLA

Missouri S&T is located in the community of Rolla and surrounded by the scenic beauty of the Missouri Ozarks. Known as a welcoming, family-friendly, and affordable community, Rolla offers plentiful opportunities for outdoor recreation, quality K-12 schools, and a comprehensive medical center. Rolla is approximately 90 minutes away from numerous urban amenities in the St. Louis area, including world-class museums, shopping, sporting events and other cultural attractions.

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