The University of Windsor invites nominations, applications, and expressions of interest for the position of Vice-President, Research and Innovation (VPRI) with the appointment to begin late 2022 or early 2023. This is an excellent opportunity to lead the University in setting a new course to advance the University’s existing research culture through enhancing the development of interdisciplinary research teams that stimulate scholarship, creative activity, and innovation locally, nationally, and internationally; expanding and enriching internal and external partnership opportunities; capitalizing on strategic research funding; and supporting enhanced student and community engaged research.

The University of Windsor is a comprehensive research and teaching university with more than 600 faculty and over 16,000 students enrolled in a broad range of undergraduate and graduate programs, including several professional schools. With strong student-faculty partnerships, exceptional award-winning faculty and research units, and innovative staff, UWindsor provides students with an enriched and supportive learning environment. As Canada’s southernmost university, UWindsor overlooks the Detroit River on one of Canada’s most beautiful waterfronts and is on the doorstep of North America’s busiest international border crossing. Strong local and regional engagement contributes to the University’s identity as a diverse community providing rich cultural, recreational, and educational opportunities for faculty, staff, and students. UWindsor is a key player in a wide range of distinctive industrial, entrepreneurial, and cultural activities throughout the city of Windsor and Essex County and has an evolving network of international academic and industrial partnerships, particularly with leading universities in Michigan.

A richly comprehensive institution, UWindsor has demonstrated excellence in research and creative activity and potential for further growth and success in areas ranging from medical and environmental sciences; to engineering and automotive research; to arts, humanities, and social science research and creative activity. UWindsor highly values and actively supports interdisciplinary research and collaboration with industry, non-profit, government organizations, and community partners. The University currently has more than $30 million in annual research funding, over 40 research centres, institutes, and collaborations, and 11 Canada Research Chairs. Since 2011, UWindsor has invested over $330 million in new world-class buildings and facilities, including its award-winning downtown campus expansion and the Essex Centre of Research (CORE) on its main campus. For more information, please visit UWindsor’s website at www.uwindsor.ca.

Reporting to the President and Vice-Chancellor as part of UWindsor’s senior leadership team, the VPRI is the University’s internal and external advocate for research, scholarship, and innovation, providing leadership and vision in shaping strategic directions, advancing areas of opportunity to further accelerate growth and success, and ensuring effective and efficient support of researchers. Within the University, the VPRI promotes the research and academic mission; communicates and celebrates achievements; enhances multidisciplinary activities and collaborations; and fosters an equitable, diverse, and inclusive environment that allows research excellence and innovation to flourish. Research reputation and strength also is one of the important drivers of the University’s efforts to attract and retain excellent students, staff, and faculty, and is important to its ability to compete for enrolment. Externally, the VPRI advances knowledge translation by working effectively with businesses, communities, and governments, while showcasing the accomplishments of the University’s research community and advancing partnerships, initiatives, and funding on a local, provincial, national, and international level.

The successful candidate will be a visionary leader with a global perspective and significant management and collaboration experience, and an accomplished scholar with a proven record in inter-institutional and industry collaboration, government relations, and community engagement. The VPRI will be an innovative problem solver with a sophisticated understanding of the relationships among research, innovation, creative activity, community engagement, knowledge mobilization, and the student experience. With an open, transparent, and collegial approach to leadership, communication, and interpersonal relationships, the VPRI will demonstrate a sustained history of championing equity, diversity, and inclusion, and of leading efforts to promote Indigeneity and Decolonization supported by meaningful community engagement.

UWindsor is a welcoming community committed to equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility in its teaching, learning, and work environments. In pursuit of the University’s Employment Equity Plan, members from the designated groups (women, Indigenous/Aboriginal (First Nations, Metis, Inuit) persons, racialized persons/visible minorities, persons with disabilities, and persons of a minority sexual orientation and/or gender identity) are encouraged to apply and to self-identify.

If you need an accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify Laverne Smith & Associates at UWindsorVPRI@lavernesmith.com. Should you require further information on accommodation, please visit the website of the Office of Human Rights, Equity & Accessibility (http://www.uwindsor.ca/ohrea). All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

The Search Committee will begin consideration of candidates immediately and will continue until the position is successfully filled. Applications, including curriculum vitae, a letter of introduction, and the names of three references (who will not be contacted without consent of the applicant) should be submitted, in confidence, to the university’s executive search consultants:

Laverne Smith & Associates Inc.
UWindsorVPRI@lavernesmith.com

The University of Windsor is situated on the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations: the Ojibwa, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi.