

Greenwood
Asher &
Associates®



Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Position Profile





The Opportunity

Eastern Illinois University (EIU) invites nominations and applications for the position of provost & vice president for academic affairs. The university seeks a leader who will provide strategic leadership to shape and support the university's academic mission and ensure that EIU continues to be a consistent leader amongst the Midwest's top public regional universities with master's programs according to U.S. News and World Report.

Eastern's attractive 320-acre campus is big enough to offer quality programs, yet small enough to offer personal attention. Founded in 1895, Eastern Illinois University (EIU) offers more than 90 academic programs. The university's annual budget is more than \$165 million with more than 400 faculty members and more than 8,800 students. EIU's student population is characterized by its rich diversity (nearly one-third of all students identify as underrepresented) and includes more than 850 international students representing 60 countries from around the world.

TODAY. TOMORROW. TOGETHER.

Role of the Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Reporting to the President, the Provost provides leadership in the planning, development, implementation, and assessment of all academic programs, student success, and related services. The division includes the following units:

- [College of Education](#)
 - The College of Education prides itself on preparing educators, counselors, and leaders with a significant amount of practical experiences in schools and community organizations.
- [College of Health & Human Services](#)
 - The College fosters excellence, with a student-centered approach of teaching and learning through innovative, rigorous, and collaborative experiences, and promotes health and well-being of diverse populations across the lifespan.
- [College of Liberal Arts & Sciences](#)
 - Through a rich array of undergraduate and graduate programs, academically and professionally proven CLAS faculty offer dynamic and rigorous curricula that unite tradition and innovation, while advancing communication skills, critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, and responsible stewardship.
- [Lumpkin College of Business & Technology](#)
 - Lumpkin College – an inclusive environment, where students immediately begin their careers through an intensive educational experience that develops an extraordinary skill set and network, translating into a lifetime of professional success.
- [Pine Honors College](#)
 - The Pine Honors College helps strong students excel by providing exceptional Honors classes; service and extracurricular opportunities; and support for undergraduate research and study abroad.
- [Booth Library](#)
 - Booth Library is the center of campus – both geographically and culturally, offering study spaces, programs, research help, meeting spaces, books/e-books, music, movies and more.
- [Academic Success Center](#) – Advising, Accessibility & Accommodations, Student Success Center, and Testing
 - ASC offers academic support services, assesses student learning, guides students through the transition to college, and contributes to the University community's knowledge of its students and graduates.
- [Graduate School](#)
 - Graduate study at EIU offers students a favorable faculty-to-student ratio in our 40 master's degree programs, two specialist's degree programs, and our eleven certificate programs.

Required Qualifications

The ideal candidate for EIU's next Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs will have the following professional qualifications:

- An earned doctorate or other appropriate terminal degree from an accredited institution and a record of teaching, scholarship, and service meriting an appointment as full professor with tenure;
- At-least five years of combined experience as a senior leader as dean, vice president, associate/assistant vice president or the equivalent in an allied higher education organization;
- Demonstrated success and diverse leadership experiences including collaboration and transparency in decision-making that evidences an authentic commitment to shared governance;
- Experience leading in an environment that includes collective bargaining across multiple constituencies including both faculty & staff;
- Broad academic and administrative experience that evidence as an understanding of a regional comprehensive [university's mission](#), an ability to lead multiple colleges or units that include a diverse array of academic programs & student support services;
- A successful record of creative leadership in generating external resources including such activities as successful grant development, partnership development, constituency development, and philanthropy;
- A commitment to diversity & inclusive excellence that aligns with and advances EIU's Higher Learning Commission [Quality Initiative](#) entitled Diversifying Eastern Faculty & Staff for Student Success;
- Experience with strategic planning and the capacity to advance the objectives of [PLAN 2028](#); and
- A clear understanding of the reporting, assessment, and compliance requirements associated with the Higher Learning Commission as well as federal and state agencies.



About Eastern Illinois University

If you talk to students, alumni, faculty and staff of Eastern Illinois University, before long you'll start to notice a common theme: *family*. When you attend or work at Eastern, you're doing more than just going to classes or showing up to a job. You become part of a family that supports each other, in good times and bad. Panther Pride doesn't just have to do with athletics or wearing a blue shirt, it has to do with supporting each other – academically, personally, spiritually and sometimes even financially. Our impact can be local or global, but there is no doubt we have reason to be proud of being in this family that has produced some of the most impressive thinkers, workers and leaders the state of Illinois has ever seen.

Mission

Eastern Illinois University is a public comprehensive university that offers superior, accessible undergraduate and graduate education. Students learn the methods and results of free and rigorous inquiry in the arts, humanities, sciences, and professions, guided by a faculty known for its excellence in teaching, research, creative activity, and service. The University community is committed to diversity and inclusion and fosters opportunities for student-faculty scholarship and applied learning experiences within a student-centered campus culture. Throughout their education, students refine their abilities to reason and to communicate clearly so as to become responsible citizens and leaders.

Vision

Eastern Illinois University will be a premier comprehensive university, global in its reach and impact, where personal connections with faculty and staff support students' academic success.

98%

Classes taught
by faculty

NASPA
“lead institution”

14:1

Student-faculty
ratio

Top
Military/Veteran
Friendly School

57%

Graduation
Rate

Great Value
Institution

About Charleston, IL

Charleston is a culturally rich community, characterized by a safe environment, with active citizens, committed to excellent educational institutions, a growing and diverse tax base, and a collaborative local economy that provides opportunities for all citizens, residents and visitors.

Charleston is the most diverse community in Coles County and the City seeks to foster and create an inclusive and welcoming community for all residents and visitors. Home to Eastern Illinois University, the city actively cultivates a sense of community that values different points of views and collaboratively constructs a “New Ruralism” that embraces and reflects the city’s, region and state’s growing economic growth, innovation, and overall quality of life are inherently linked to ensuring every member of the community thrives.

The City of Charleston recognizes the importance of infrastructure, the natural environment, economic competitiveness, and cultivating an inclusive culture to enhance the overall sustainability of the community. The city embraces the concepts that create an attractive and thriving city that celebrates our history, the arts, culture, education, and the region’s natural amenities to advance economic growth and improve the overall livability of the city.

There are 9 miles of hiking and mountain bike trails around the 1000-acre Lake Charleston area. Adjacent to Lake Charleston is the 1000-acre Warbler Ridge Conservation Area that offers its own 10 miles of hiking trails, and is adjacent to the 2,000-acre Fox Ridge State Park with its 8 miles of a meandering trail system.

In addition, the Lincoln Prairie Grass Trail is a 10-mile multi-use trail that connects the City of Charleston with the City of Mattoon. The Lincoln Prairie Grass Trail is newly paved with an asphalt surface making the trail usable for all forms of outdoor recreation. Along the Lincoln Prairie Grass Trail, you will find a number of newly constructed trail heads in Charleston, and a modern restroom facility / convenience station at the trail’s midway point.

The city’s trail systems feature a number of pollinator and “butterfly hotspots” for all to stop and enjoy. Over four acres (10 sites) of butterfly hotspots have been created as part of the “Urban Butterfly Initiative” (UBI). The UBI was founded and created by local EIU professor Dr. Paul Switzer. The partnership of many groups including the City of Charleston, Eastern Illinois University and the UBI has transformed urban green spaces into beautiful, butterfly-friendly habitats. The focus of UBI is biodiversity and conservation; engagement and education; and science and research. With its efforts, the city has been named with the highest recognition as a “Monarch Champion” community by the National Wildlife Federation for the past two years.



Urban Butterfly Initiative



Fox Ridge State Park

About Charleston, IL (cont.)

The Charleston Parks and Recreation Department is dedicated in maintaining a superior system of greenways, parks and recreational facilities through support and planning. The City of Charleston has 18 parks and facilities in the city which includes 14 city owned parks and facilities and 4 township owned parks. Most of the 14 city parks have been established over the last 50 years.

The newly constructed Linder Sports Complex at Sister City Park is home to 13 natural grass fields for all age groups to enjoy and use. The Linder Sports Complex has a 1.5-mile multi-use path that connects to the Lake Charleston trail system. The Linder Sports Complex is available to the public and will be used for camps, clinics, games, travel programs and other uses to be enjoyed by the community.

Charleston is a historically rich community with various Lincoln Historic sites, historic district along with its historic downtown. Charleston is a conscientious community with a strong volunteerism base, low cost of living, a strong social services / service organization network with quality senior programs and a low crime rate.

- **Centrally Located Geographic Position:** Critical transportation links, close to regional airport, Amtrak station nearby, industrial rail, and close proximity to international airports and interstates.
- **Strong Education and Public School System / Stabilized and Increased Enrollment, New Curriculum and Programs at EIU:** Strong K-12 public school system and secondary schools including Eastern Illinois University in Charleston and Lake Land College nearby. Several K-8 programs are available in the community.
- **Stable and Affordable Housing Market:** Minimal blight issues and not an overall depressed housing market with affordable housing, senior living and nursing homes facilities, group homes and accessible options.



In 2020, the City of Charleston was ranked 9th in the United States, of the “10 Best “Hidden Gem” College Towns in the United States” by the College Gazette. According to the report, the evaluation considers “size, academic programs, reputation and rankings, cost, campus life, culture, and, of course, location”. The ranking is based on college towns “with the best student life, culture, and activity in combination with reputable local colleges and universities.” “These hidden gems represent some of the finest cities one could study in at the undergraduate or, in some case, the graduate level”. According to the report, Eastern Illinois University ranks 8th on the U.S. News and World Report’s list of top public schools in the Midwest. The goal of this list “is to highlight cities that, although beloved by their residents and students, are rising in reputation throughout the country for their excellence as quality college towns.”

We are proud to call Charleston home and the home of Eastern Illinois University.

Nomination & Application Process

Compensation

Salary will be competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

How to Apply

Greenwood Asher & Associates® is assisting Eastern Illinois University in this search. Applications and nominations are now being accepted. Inquiries, nominations, and application materials should be directed to Greenwood Asher & Associates. Application materials should include:

- A letter of interest that clearly states the applicant's interest and qualifications for the position
- A current résumé/curriculum vitae
- One-page leadership statement that aligns with EIU's Mission & Vision
- The name, title, phone number, and email address of at least five professional references

We strongly encourage submitting application materials as PDF attachments. The search will be conducted with a commitment of confidentiality for candidates until finalists are selected. Initial screening of applications will begin on November 17, 2023 and will continue until an appointment is made.

**Please direct inquiries, nominations, and
application materials to:**

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