Vice-Dean, Indigenous

The College of Arts and Science is seeking a person of Indigenous ancestry for the position of vice-dean, Indigenous. Indigenous engagement is central to the University of Saskatchewan’s commitment to reconciliation and diversity, and hence the successful candidate will assume a leadership role in all matters associated with Indigenous engagement both within and beyond the College of Arts and Science.

The picturesque and historic University of Saskatchewan (UofS) main campus is located in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada on Treaty 6 Territory and the traditional Homeland of the Métis. The UofS strives to create an environment of collaboration, innovation and discovery, and to be recognized as a place where many peoples come together to engage in mutually respectful relations and dialogues. The UofS community includes over 24,000 students, 7,500 faculty and staff, more than 150,000 alumni, supporters and partners throughout Canada and the world. Our vision is to become the university the world needs and an outstanding institution of Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work, learning, knowledge-keeping, reconciliation, and inclusion with and by Indigenous peoples and communities.

Reporting to the dean, the vice-dean, Indigenous is the senior leader in the college for all matters relating to Indigenous engagement and, subject to the authority of the dean, has general supervision, leadership and direction over the implementation of Indigenous-related strategies as outlined in the college’s newly endorsed plan. In fulfilling the responsibilities of the role, the vice-dean, Indigenous will be informed by both the university’s and college’s mission, vision, principles, values and strategic plans, as well as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action.

Requirements include: extensive experience with Indigenous organizations; Research, Scholarly and Artistic Work focused on Indigenous topics; significant knowledge of the Indigenous communities of Canada; and expertise in Indigenous ways of knowing. Must possess knowledge and understanding of issues (including cultural, socio-economic, and other factors) affecting Indigenous peoples. Must possess the capacity to lead the college in matters relating to the university’s strategic priorities, and especially with respect to Indigenous engagement and reconciliation. Leadership experience is essential, as is demonstrated success in developing and implementing a vision and guiding people to achieve exemplary performance and outcomes. Strong interpersonal skills and experience working with Indigenous and other communities, as well as with students and stakeholders in a university setting will be considered assets.

The vice dean, Indigenous is an out-of-scope position. The anticipated start date is 1 July 2019, and carries an initial term of five years, with the possibility of renewal. The successful applicant must possess a PhD or terminal degree in a relevant area and must be appointable within a department in the College of Arts and Science commensurate with their background and expertise.

The UofS is committed to employment equity and diversity, and Indigenous engagement is a strategic priority. The UofS relies on section 48 of The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code to give preference in employment to a person of Indigenous ancestry for this position. In Canada, Indigenous persons refers to those who identify themselves as First Nations, Métis or Inuit. Candidates are asked to self-identify in their application package, and are also encouraged to complete an Employment Equity Survey as part of the application process. If you have Indigenous ancestry, but do not identify as First Nations, Métis or Inuit, please describe in your application your Indigenous identity and the terms/words that you choose to use in referring to your Indigenous ancestry.

Click here to view the entire position profile.
Applications are to be submitted to Peta Bonham-Smith, Dean, College of Arts and Science at dean.artsandscience@usask.ca. Review of applications will begin on 7 January 2019; however, applications will be accepted and evaluated until the position is filled. Applications are to include 1) a curriculum vita, 2) a statement of vision (maximum 5 pages), 3) a teaching philosophy (maximum 2 pages), 4) a research statement (maximum 2 pages), 5) contact information for four referees (one of which is to be an Elder, or a community leader who can attest to your connection to the Indigenous community), and 6) a statement of self-identification, as described above. Applications are welcomed from all qualified persons.

Inquiries regarding this position can be directed to Kate Wilson at 306-966-4232 or email kate.wilson@usask.ca.

The UofS is strongly committed to a diverse and inclusive workplace that empowers all employees to reach their full potential. All members of the university community share a responsibility for developing and maintaining an environment in which differences are valued and inclusiveness is practiced. The university welcomes applications from those who will contribute diversity to the community. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, in accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.