The University of Minnesota, a five-campus, statewide system, invites nominations and applications for the position of Vice President for Research (VPR). The ideal candidate will be a visionary, strategic, collaborative, and inclusive leader with a track record of furthering pure, applied, and translational research. The University seeks a person with integrity who is committed to the highest standards of academic and research excellence.

**POSITION OVERVIEW**

The VPR is responsible for providing vision and leadership to the University's research programs, providing institutional research support, and representing the University's interests on its campuses and to external constituencies. Reporting to the University President, the person in this position serves as the institution's chief research officer overseeing research support and services at the University's five campuses, providing guidance to individual researchers, and managing the systemwide research enterprise. The VPR serves as a member of the President’s Senior Leadership Team and Cabinet.

Working with academic leaders, deans, and faculty across the campuses, the VPR will explore and support new areas for research and oversee systemwide planning efforts for research facilities and support services in collaboration with the Executive Vice President and Provost and the Vice President for Health Sciences. The VPR will help develop innovative approaches to enhance research productivity and encourage university-industry partnerships; coordinate multidisciplinary research programs; and represent the University of Minnesota to local, regional, national, and international constituencies, as well as to federal and other funding agencies. This position oversees the responsible planning, stewardship, management, and accountability of all fiscal, capital, and human resources of the units that report to the OVPR.

**MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

As leader of the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR), the VPR bears ultimate responsibility for policies and procedures regarding intellectual property, technology transfer,
commercialization, research ethics and regulatory compliance, especially as it pertains to animal research subjects, human research participants, and clinical research activities. The OVPR’s administrative offices manage proposal and award processing both pre- and post-award, oversees regulations that govern research, ensures safe treatment of human and animal subjects, and evaluates the commercial potential of discoveries. Collectively, the OVPR’s FY2018 operating expenditures were $25 million, with close to 95% coming from state funds (80%) and earned income (20%). The OVPR is an academic home to several centers, institutes, and programs that focus on particular facets of the research process. The units that report to the OVPR include the Hormel Institute; University Press; the Institute for Social Research and Data Innovation (formerly the Minnesota Population Center); MN Supercomputing Institute (MSI); Informatics Institute (UMII); Institute on the Environment (IonE); the Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment and the Life Sciences (Consortium); and the Center for Transportation Studies (CTS). These units are systemwide centers and institutes that contribute to basic and applied research through research infrastructure and ways to convene researchers across the system for collaborative and inter/transdisciplinary research.

The OVPR serves the university's five campuses by advocating for and facilitating the research and scholarly activities of faculty, staff, and students through several distinct units:

**Human Research Protection Program**

The Human Research Protection Program processes IRB submissions, supports independent research review committees, and assists the executive committees comprising chairs and vice-chairs from other panels.

**Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee**

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee reviews research projects involving animals to ensure proposed activities follow all policies and procedures governing animal research.

**Institutional Review Board**

The Institutional Review Board reviews research projects involving human participants, working with investigators to ensure adequate protection and informed, uncoerced consent.

**Office for Technology Commercialization**
The **Office for Technology Commercialization** protects and licenses University-developed technologies and nurtures University technologies with startup potential.

**Office of Biotechnology Activities Oversight**

The **Office of Biotechnology Activities Oversight** is the administrative unit for several University committees that provide research oversight including: biosafety (IBC), embryonic and pluripotent human stem cells (SCRO), dual use research of concern (DURC), human gene transfer pre-review, and fetal tissue (FTR).

**Office of Cost Analysis**

The **Office of Cost Analysis** provides analytical, cost accounting, and effort reporting expertise in support of the University’s research mission.

**Research Advancement**

Research Advancement supports interdisciplinary initiatives, administers University research grant programs, guides research infrastructure planning, and directs research policy and review.

**Research Compliance Office**

The **Research Compliance Office** investigates compliance concerns, oversees research ethics and compliance education, and manages compliance programs related to financial controls and the protection of humans and animals in research.

**Research Computing**

**Research Computing** manages several research computing services that provide resources for compute- and data-intensive research to the University research community.

**Sponsored Projects Administration**

The **Office of Sponsored Projects Administration** supports faculty in seeking, acquiring, and managing externally sponsored funding for research, training, and public service projects.

**University Economic Development**

The **Office of University Economic Development** is a front door to the University, helping external partners to connect with the resources, services, and expertise across the University system.
The University has invested in its research infrastructure and has experienced a significant growth in its research operations over the last several years. In the most recent rankings, the University of Minnesota was eighth among public research institutions in the Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) survey, the primary source of information on research expenditures at colleges and universities. In FY2017, the University competed for and won $745 million in externally sponsored research awards. Of these awards, federal funding remains the largest and includes the National Institutes of Health (NIH) which totaled $244 million and $72 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF). Business & Industry (B&I) funding totaled $84 million and continues to grow and to account for more than 10% of all externally funded research. The increases in B&I funding can be attributed in part to University strategies focused on public-private partnerships.

**ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

- Tenured full professor in a department at the University of Minnesota, or eligible to be at the time of appointment
- Earned doctorate or requisite terminal degree in the applicant’s area of study
- Strong personal record of externally funded research
- Experience in or understanding of effective fiscal management and staff supervision
- Demonstrated experience in the procurement and management of sponsored research programs, including compliance with federal rules and regulations
- Significant experience in policy setting and decision making in research
- Exceptional interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate verbally and in writing with multiple and diverse constituencies including faculty, staff, students, alumni, administrators, legislators, corporate partners, community leaders, and the public
- Demonstrated commitment and contribution to fostering and advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Strong relationship-building skills with an ability to work effectively within the organization, as well as to build trust and confidence with constituents across the institution
- Proven success in administrative leadership in the context of shared governance models and deeply held commitment to, and belief in, the value of collaborative decision-making
- Experience working in a highly decentralized higher education environment

**PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS**
• Work experience in a complex organization with a broad focus, including diverse disciplines such as liberal arts, engineering, medicine, and agriculture
• Experience in building collaborations with public and private sector organizations, higher education systems, and leaders and organizations in the community, region, and state
• Understanding of the role a public land-grant university plays in the vitality of the region and state

KEY LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

• Innovative
• Drives efficiency and effectiveness
• Thinks strategically
• Aligns resources
• Selects and develops talent
• Motivates and inspires others
• Builds relationships
• Resiliency and courage
• Operates with integrity
• Learns and adapts

APPOINTMENT

The Vice President for Research is a 100%-time, 12-month senior leader position appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the University President. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. The anticipated start date for this position is negotiable, but ideally by November 1, 2018.

NOMINATIONS, APPLICATIONS, & INQUIRIES

Applicants must submit a letter of interest, a vision statement for how to lead and manage the University’s OVPR that includes the applicant’s relevant skills and experiences, a current resume or curriculum vitae, and three professional references to be considered for the position. To apply, go to https://z.umn.edu/VicePresidentResearch. To ensure full consideration, materials should be received as soon as possible. Review of applications and nominations for the position will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. For more information on the search committee and process, visit https://president.umn.edu/vice-president-research-search.
Nomination letters should include the name, position, email address, and telephone number of the nominee, and should be sent to:

Brianne Keeney  
Office of the President, University of Minnesota  
100 Church Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455  
612-626-9145

All applications, nominations, and inquiries will be handled in strict confidence.

The University of Minnesota shall provide equal access to and opportunity in its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. To request an accommodation during the application process, please e-mail employ@umn.edu or call (612) 624-UOHR (8647).