Position Description – Vice-President (Research)

Position Title:  Vice-President (Research)

Date Completed:  November 2012

Purpose:

Reporting directly to the President with ongoing consultation on major operational matters with the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), in his/her capacity as Chief Operating Officer; the Vice-President (Research) plays a vital role in the achievement of the University’s vision by providing leadership and direction to research activities and initiatives on campus.

Without restricting the generality of the above statement and in accordance with Article 82(2) of the Post-Secondary Learning Act, the Vice–President (Research) has the following powers, duties and functions as assigned by the Board of Governors on the recommendation of the President:

Key Accountabilities:

• Creates a climate that fosters the development and enhancement of excellence in research and scholarship in all areas of the University.
• Provides mechanisms that support research so individuals can achieve success in attracting research funds in international and national peer-reviewed competitions, and from other government and private partners.
• Renews and enhances the University’s research services and provides high-quality support to faculty to meet their needs into the future.
• Develops the appropriate policies and processes to ensure funds given to the University by granting agencies are appropriately spent and accounted for. Authorizes action be taken with trustholders when funds are not appropriately managed.
• Identifies and supports interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary research both through direct leadership and through support of academics taking the lead in areas undergoing evolution.
• Celebrates the University of Alberta’s outstanding faculty, staff, and students whose research contributes to the attainment of the University’s vision. Ensures the research achievements of the University community are acknowledged by making the community aware of available research awards, suggesting possible nominees, and taking a lead role in reviewing nominations prior to submission.
• Fosters research leadership development and stewardship throughout the institution.
• Designs a strategy to articulate the value, both internally and externally, of pure and applied research and the importance of the link between teaching and research.
• Aggressively pursues, through strategic partnerships and alliances, increased research capacity and major external funding for areas of strength and potential strength.
• Contributes, both personally and via University representatives, to the formation and communication of research policy at the federal and provincial levels.
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- Builds and facilitates productive partnerships that enhance collaborative research, knowledge transfer, and commercialization.
- Ensures the overall effectiveness of the University through maintenance of close working relationships with various orders of government and key granting agencies.
- Builds a senior team within his/her portfolio committed to fulfilling the vision, goals and priorities necessary to ensure the long-term success of the Portfolio and the University.
- Participates as an active member of the President’s executive committee to establish institutional vision and goals, and to effectively communicate and organize to achieve those goals.
- Maintains a professional reputation which preserves the values and standing of the University and permits him or her to effectively represent the many achievements of the University both internally and externally.
- As a member of senior administration, participates actively on Board and other committees relating to the areas of mandated responsibility.
- Carries out other responsibilities as set out in policies and procedures approved by GFC and/or the Board of Governors.