

National Louis University (NLU)
Chicago, Illinois

Position Specifications
Vice President of Institutional Advancement
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Prepared by:
Summit Search Solutions, Inc.



NATIONAL LOUIS UNIVERSITY



www.nl.edu

THE INSTITUTION

Overview:

National Louis University (NLU) is looking to honor its past while defining a bold new future as a university focused on professional pathways, preparing students to be leaders ready to address tomorrow's challenges in the context of increasing global urbanization.

NLU is an institution that has been pursuing a bold new future as a university committed to providing access and opportunity while defining an innovative new paradigm in higher education; the University is deeply focused on its students. Under the leadership of its current president, Dr. Nivine Megahed, the University has focused on leading necessary change in higher education. As an example, over the last three years the University has begun to re-envision teacher preparation programming to insure that students are effective teachers upon graduation. Through an innovative technology leveraged model called the Adaptive Cycles of Teaching, students are prepared to be highly effective teachers from day one. This program has received the attention of national funders and program outcomes have been outstanding. NLU has also been re-engineering undergraduate education so it is affordable, scalable, customized, competency based, and focused on student success and employment. It has updated its programs to make them market relevant and outcomes focused, built strong online programs and has been applauded nationally for its support of veterans with "wrap around" services insuring their transition to civilian status and employment. The University has strengthened its tradition of partnerships with schools, community agencies, and businesses and was described by the leadership of the Gates Foundation as a "positive deviant" for its commitment to address the need for scalable models of college completion. In a nutshell, NLU is undergoing a transformative change and it is being increasingly recognized for its contributions and bold commitment to lead necessary change.

Founded in 1886 as a school to prepare teachers, today the University is a multi-disciplinary and diverse private university with programs from the bachelor's to the doctoral level. NLU has an enduring commitment to the founding values of innovation, access, and excellence with a focus on the professional preparation of students who seek to inspire and change their lives and their communities. NLU serves non-residential and predominantly non-traditional undergraduate and graduate students through two colleges: the National College of Education and the College of Professional Studies and Advancement. The latter is comprised of three schools – Health and Human Services, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and Business. NLU serves nearly 8,000 students annually on campuses and academic centers in Chicago, Elgin, Lisle, Skokie and Wheeling, Illinois; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Tampa, Florida; and Nowy Sacz, Poland.

To learn more: <http://www.nl.edu>

Location: NLU is located in Chicago, Illinois, a multicultural city that thrives on the harmony and diversity of its neighborhoods. Chicago today embodies the values of America's heartland – integrity, hard work, and community and reflects the ideals in the social fabric of its 77 distinct neighborhoods. Visitors and residents alike find world-class dining, museums, entertainment, and striking architecture in the largest and most visited city in the Midwest.

THE OPPORTUNITY

The **Vice President of Institutional Advancement** will be an energetic, imaginative leader who will possess the vision to plan and execute an innovative, comprehensive advancement program for the University that will involve institutional leadership in the creation of new opportunities for support.

The Vice President of Institutional Advancement will have knowledge of and familiarity with philanthropic leadership that is demonstrated through a variety of both corporate and foundation experiences. The successful candidate must also have exceptional verbal and written communication abilities and strong interpersonal skills. The Vice President will be expected to represent the University effectively on a variety of public forums, as well as with small groups. The incumbent will have extensive experience working with Trustees, key volunteers, major donors and other constituents, as well as setting and achieving goals and leading participation and follow-through on various fundraising calls and activities. The successful candidate will have knowledge of and experience with the business and philanthropic community across Chicago.

Reporting directly to the President, the Vice President of Institutional Advancement will be a member of the President's Cabinet and will have broad strategic and management responsibility for conceiving and implementing both long and short term advancement plans including fundraising, Board development, alumni relations, and, in conjunction with the Vice President of Marketing and Communications, associated public relations and marketing. The Vice President will serve as the chief advisor to the President and Board of Trustees on all matters related to institutional advancement, cultivating and leading the efforts to provide key leaders with significant opportunities to present their programs to major donors, corporations, foundations and community groups. The Vice President will be a highly visible representative of the University to a wide array of internal and external audiences.

Qualifications of the successful candidate include:

- Broad experience as a development professional with superior communication and interpersonal skills, who can passionately and articulately espouse the mission of and case for support of National Louis University, and thrives working with a dynamic and engaged leadership team.
- A history of success in both solicitation of major gifts and cultivation of donors (on behalf of the President and governing body) will be required, as well as a demonstrated ability to plan and execute follow-through on fundraising plans.
- Supervisory skills and the ability to lead and organize people.
- The ability to utilize appropriate consultation and fact-gathering in support of decision making.
- The ability to work well with diverse groups, including donors, volunteers, Trustees and others.
- Experience making effective and persuasive presentations.
- Sound administrative experience with strategic planning, goal setting, budgeting and fiscal reporting procedures.
- A bachelor's degree is required. A graduate degree is preferred.

Why consider the opportunity?

- **Mission & Reputation.** NLU has a 127 year history of transforming lives through innovative, high-value educational programs that combine the best of theory and practice. The university is sought after as a thought leader by prestigious organizations like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and The Clinton Foundation.
- **Opportunity.** This leader will play a pivotal role in forming and enacting the strategies that will contribute to NLU's continued growth and success.
- **Lifestyle.** Chicago provides an exciting urban environment in which to live, work, and play.

PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

Confidential review of applications will begin immediately. Click the following to apply and submit your CV/resume. [Apply Now](#) Or copy and paste the following link into your browser:

<http://summitsearchsolutions.catsone.com/careers/index.php?m=portal&a=apply&jobOrderID=5110743&portalID=5652>

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National Louis University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Access/Equal Opportunity Employer dedicated to the achievement of excellence and diversity among its students, faculty and staff. NLU is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive community and strongly encourages all qualified individuals to apply.



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