



# *The* UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

## Search for the Vice President for Research and Partnerships

The University of Oklahoma

Norman, Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

### THE SEARCH

The University of Oklahoma (“University” or “OU”) seeks an ambitious, collaborative, and strategic leader to serve as the Vice President for Research and Partnerships (“VPRP”). The VPRP will join the University at an exciting inflection point in its trajectory and will work with leadership, faculty, staff, and students across all of OU’s campuses to accelerate growth in research and increase the impact the University can have on Oklahoma and beyond. This newly created role unites the powerful research enterprises on the three campuses in Norman, the OU Health Sciences Center (“OUHSC”) in Oklahoma City and the OU campus in Tulsa. This new leader will establish this novel configuration across the three campuses, building a powerful research enterprise that spans, coalesces, and ignites the whole of OU. Reporting directly to the President of OU, the VPRP serves as a key member of the President’s Senior Executive Leadership Team and will play a central role in advancing OU’s presence in national research rankings and meeting its most ambitious aspirations.

The University is at the midpoint of its current strategic plan, “[Lead On, University](#),” which outlines a priority goal of enriching and positively impacting Oklahoma, the Nation, and the World through pioneering research and creative activity. Since launching the Strategic Plan, the university has made tremendous progress with new, transformative initiatives like the creation of a fully integrated academic health system, launching the OU Polytechnic Institute and OU Online, joining the Southeastern Conference (SEC), and adding premier freshman housing, to name just a few. Additionally, the university has improved across all student success metrics, enjoyed record fundraising, research, and legislative funding, and has welcomed three consecutive record-breaking first-year classes.

OU’s research enterprise has grown significantly and the university has bold aspirations to further elevate its standing as one of the most impactful public research universities in the country. In 2023, OU ranked 71<sup>st</sup> in the nation for overall research expenditures at \$437 million, according to the published data from the Higher Education Research and Development survey released by the National Science Foundation. Over the last decade, research expenditures have increased 72% and continue to rise considerably, placing

OU among the [top 8 percent](#) of research universities nationwide and positioning it as the fourth-fastest-growing research institution in the country. The Norman campus continues to build on its established leadership in extreme weather and radar research, aerospace and defense, energy, and advanced manufacturing—areas that position the university as a significant player in addressing key national and global security challenges. At OUHSC, nationally recognized programs in diabetes and cancer research have propelled its success, and the University has advanced in the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research rankings, with a rank of 102 in 2024, up from 122 just a year earlier. OU's goals to increase its national recognition and impact and advance to the ranks of the American Association of Universities (AAU) under a new VPRP altogether make this among the most singularly transformative research leadership opportunities in the country.

A core priority for the next VPRP will be advancing the "One OU" vision—fostering greater collaboration, breaking down historical silos between campuses, and integrating research priorities across Norman, Tulsa, and OUHSC. By streamlining research administration and aligning faculty expertise, infrastructure, and funding strategies, the VPRP will create a more cohesive, efficient, and targeted research enterprise that will tap the institution's potential for transformative impact.

The successful candidate will possess a proven track record of research leadership at a large, complex institution, ideally with experience spanning both academic and health sciences environments. They will bring deep expertise in securing funding and developing strategic partnerships. They will be an inclusive and visionary leader, skilled at building relationships and inspiring collaboration across disciplines. The VPRP will be someone who embraces the challenges and opportunities inherent in a rapidly growing research environment and has the experience, integrity, and passion to help guide OU to new heights in its research mission. The ability to obtain a U.S. security clearance at the Secret or Top Secret level is required.

OU has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist with this important search. Confidential applications, inquiries, and nominations should be directed to the search firm as indicated at the end of this document.

## ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Founded in 1890, the [University of Oklahoma](#) in Norman, Oklahoma, is the state's premier institution of higher education and a leading research university. It spans three campuses and boasts a student body of 31,000 enrolled in 170 academic programs. OU is recognized by the Carnegie Foundation as being among the highest-tier research universities in the nation (R1: Doctoral Universities—Highest research activity) and encompasses a broad array of disciplines, ranging from the arts, architecture, chemistry, and engineering to meteorology, medicine, microbiology, physics, and more. With its significant commitment to research, OU expends \$416.6 million annually on research initiatives, driving a \$2.05-billion enterprise focused on transforming lives through scholarship and impactful research across Oklahoma and beyond. OU's move from the Big Twelve Academic Alliance to the SEC has further elevated its national profile, not only in athletics but also in academic and research collaborations. Membership in the SEC aligns the

university with a consortium of leading research institutions, fostering expanded partnerships, increased visibility, and greater access to funding opportunities in key areas such as health sciences, engineering, and national security.

## About the University of Oklahoma, Norman Campus

OU's central campus and administration are located on some 3,500 acres in Norman, a city of more than 100,000 residents. Norman is near the center of the state, 20 miles south of Oklahoma City, the state capital. The colleges housed on the Norman campus include the majority of OU's undergraduate and graduate non-health science academic offerings.

Norman is also home to OU's Research Campus, 277 acres that have been transformed from an empty field to a thriving economic engine representing over \$300 million in investment and nearly 1 million square feet of occupied office, lab, and applied research space. Today, the Research Campus brings together 1,700 workers across academic, federal, state, and industrial organizations in an environment that drives collaboration across disciplines, industries, and sectors. This includes the National Weather Center, a 257,000 square-foot facility that houses both academic and federal groups dedicated to forecasting, research, and training; the Stephenson Research and Technology Center and the Stephenson Life Sciences Research Center, which house cutting-edge research in fields including robotics, genomics, bioengineering, as well as the OU Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, which includes a National Institutes of Health-funded structural biology program. OU's Research Campus was named the nation's top research park for 2013 by the Association of University Research Parks, placing it among such past recipients as Research Triangle Park in North Carolina, Purdue Research Park in Indiana, and University City Science Center in Pennsylvania.

## About the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Located in Oklahoma City and with branch sites in Tulsa, the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) is one of the nation's few academic health centers with seven professional colleges on-site, including [Medicine](#), [Allied Health](#), [Dentistry](#), [Nursing](#), [Pharmacy](#), [Public Health](#), and [Graduate Studies](#). With an annual budget of \$900 million, OUHSC employs over 800 full-time faculty and 4,000 staff. It educates and trains nearly 4,000 students and 1,000 residents, post-docs, and fellows across over 70 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. An internationally prominent faculty, state-of-the-art facilities, and new technologies combine to make the OUHSC a leader in education, research, and patient care.

The OUHSC is a dynamic clinical environment that leads cutting-edge clinical and translational research through strategic, programmatic [centers of excellence](#) such as the [Stephenson Cancer Center \(SCC\)](#), the [Harold Hamm Diabetes Center](#), and the [Dean McGee Eye Institute](#). The SCC is Oklahoma's only National Cancer Institute (NCI)-Designated Cancer Center. It currently ranks number one among all cancer centers in the nation for the number of patients participating in NCI-sponsored treatment trials, and it is one of only 30 lead centers in the NCI's National Clinical Trials Network. The Harold Hamm Diabetes Center is

committed to curing diabetes and ending the diabetes pandemic in the 21st century by providing comprehensive care for people and families who live with diabetes and conducting world-renowned research toward a cure. The Dean McGee Eye Institute is one of the most highly funded and multidisciplinary research programs at OUHSC, investigating a wide range of conditions with translational and fundamental scientists. The OUHSC and OU Health partnership integrates the three missions of education, biomedical and public health research, and patient care to create a research-driven academic health system.

## About the University of Oklahoma, Tulsa Campus

OU-Tulsa is a nationally recognized center for higher education, offering more than 30 undergraduate, Master's, and Doctorate level degrees and graduate certificates. Situated squarely in Tulsa's geographic center, the campus has deep community roots but is proud to serve as a launching point for graduates from across the globe. OU-Tulsa is also home to the School of Community Medicine, a pioneering program dedicated to improving healthcare access for underserved urban and rural communities. Through an innovative curriculum and hands-on training, the School of Community Medicine educates a new generation of physicians and healthcare professionals committed to transforming health outcomes across the state. The University of Oklahoma Polytechnic Institute (OUPI), a cutting-edge center for applied technology education, is also based at the Tulsa campus. OUPI is designed to meet Oklahoma's growing demand for a highly skilled workforce in fields like cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, software development, and advanced manufacturing. With a strong emphasis on industry partnerships and hands-on learning, the Polytechnic Institute prepares graduates to drive innovation and fill high-demand jobs in the state's expanding technology sector.

## RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Research at OU is a cornerstone of its mission, encompassing a diverse array of disciplines and driving discovery and innovation that address challenges within Oklahoma and beyond. In recent years, OU's research funding has grown significantly at both the Norman and Health Science Campuses, supporting a key pillar in the university's ambition to become a top-tier public research university. In FY 2023, OU's Norman campus reported receiving [\\$210.4 million](#) in research funding, a nearly 33% increase from the previous fiscal year. Significantly, federally funded research increased by more than 50%. This includes a \$35 million award from the U.S. Economic Development Administration for the Oklahoma Biotech Innovation Cluster. OU also ranks number six in the nation for funding by the U.S. Department of Commerce and number 12 in the nation for funding awarded by both NASA and the U.S. Department of Education.

In FY 2024, OUHSC counted \$217.3 million in total sponsored awards. Notably, it grew its funding from the National Institutes of Health to [\\$64.4 million](#) in FY 2023, an increase of more than \$4 million over the previous year. It moved the campus up to 122 out of 2,886 institutions and other entities that receive NIH funding. NIH grants awarded include \$20.3 million over five years to fund the Oklahoma Shared Clinical

and Translational Resources. This program collaborates with over 30 state agencies, tribes, community organizations, research institutes, and universities.

## Office of the Vice President for Research and Partnerships (OVPRP)

The newly unified, university-wide [OVPRP](#) will be the fulcrum of an incredibly ambitious research vision. Guided by its [Research Strategic Framework](#), the OVPRP will ignite collaboration, anticipate the needs of top-tier investigators, marry the health sciences with the natural, physical, engineering, and applied science strengths of the Norman campus, and innovate and build a future-oriented, central research function. Through established mechanisms and future pathways, the OVPRP must ensure that faculty and investigators across all campuses have access to the resources needed to drive groundbreaking discoveries. The OVPRP portfolio of responsibilities spans research administration, compliance, commercialization, core research infrastructure, economic development, and more. With an FY 25 operating budget of \$43.5 million, the OVPRP will direct significant resources toward seed funding, strategic research incentives, start-up creation, and infrastructure development. On the OUHSC campus, there are also funds for pilots, translation, equipment, and bridge awards.

### Research Centers and Institutes

The OVPRP exercises oversight of a number of large [Research Centers and Institutes](#) across the Norman campus. The Centers were strategically created and designed around large collaborative sponsored research projects and strategic research verticals. They include:

- [Advanced Radar Research Center \(ARRC\)](#): The largest academic radar program in the nation, ARRC's mission is to enhance safety, security, environmental quality, and economic prosperity through interdisciplinary research and development of innovative radar solutions.
- [Data Institute for Societal Challenges \(DISC\)](#): Creates innovative advances in data science, artificial intelligence, machine learning, and real-world applications.
- [Institute for Public Policy Research & Analysis \(IPPRA\)](#): Conducts research by integrating public policy scholarship with the physical and engineering sciences to increase human well-being, improve social choice infrastructure, and enhance resilience by addressing complex public policy problems.
- [Institute for Resilient Environmental and Energy Systems \(IREES\)](#): Aims to develop equitable solutions that help drive the transformation of the U.S. energy sector toward a net-zero carbon economy.
- [Institute for Community and Society Transformation \(ICAST\)](#): Guided by a vision to transform societies by setting the national standard for convergent, community-engaged research and creative activity.
- [Oklahoma Aerospace and Defense Innovation Institute \(OADII\)](#): Brings together the full range of OU's capabilities and resources to provide holistic solutions addressing the aerospace, defense, and global security challenges of today and tomorrow.

In addition to Norman’s strong portfolio of research institutes, OUHSC is home to nationally recognized research centers in biomedical sciences, translational medicine, and public health. Two of these—the [Stephenson Cancer Center](#) and the [Harold Hamm Diabetes Center](#)—fall under the oversight of the OVPRP. The VPRP works closely with OUHSC senior leadership, including the Dean of the College of Medicine, the Provost, and the Associate VPR, to expand external funding opportunities and further establish OUHSC as a leader in specialized medical research and patient care.

### Research Core Facilities

The [Research Core Facilities](#) administered by the OVPRP provide access to instruments and technologies, as well as expert consultation and other services to scientific and clinical investigators, research partners from other universities, and private industry. On the Norman campus, these include:

- [Biology Core Molecular Lab](#)
- [Chemical Crystallography Laboratory](#)
- [Consolidated Core Laboratory \(CCL\)](#)
- [Electron Microprobe Laboratory](#)
- [Glassblowing](#)
- [Kessler Atmospheric & Ecological Field Station \(KAEFS\)](#)
- [Macromolecular Crystallography Laboratory \(MCL\)](#)
- [Mass Spectrometry, Proteomics & Metabolomics](#)
- [Microfabrication Research & Education Center \(MREC Cleanroom\)](#)
- [Microscopy Laboratory](#)
- [Nuclear Magnetic Resonance](#)
- [Protein Production and Characterization Core](#)
- [Stable Isotope Measurement Facility \(SIMF\)](#)
- [Stephenson Storeroom](#)

At OUHSC, core facilities are critical in supporting biomedical and translational research, providing state-of-the-art resources to advance discoveries in healthcare, drug development, and precision medicine. Facilities that fall under the OVPRP reporting structure include:

- [Institutional Research Core Facility \(IRCF\)](#): A shared research resource that provides cutting-edge instrumentation and expertise for cell and molecular biology, imaging, genomics, and proteomics research.
- [Center for Therapeutic Sciences \(CTS\)](#): A hub for drug discovery, preclinical development, and translational research, the CTS supports therapeutic innovation by offering specialized services in medicinal chemistry, high-throughput screening, and pharmacokinetics.

### Office of Innovation and Corporate Partnerships

The OVPRP also plays a key role in expanding OU’s industry partnerships and accelerating the commercialization of research discoveries. By strengthening ties with corporations, startups, and government agencies, OU translates cutting-edge research into market-ready technologies, new ventures, and workforce development initiatives.

- [Office of Corporate Partnerships and Regional Economic Development \(OCP\)](#): Serves as a central gateway for businesses and industry to engage with OU's research enterprise.
- [Office of Technology Commercialization \(OTC\)](#): Is dedicated to helping OU's faculty, staff, and graduate students bring their innovations to market. OTC provides resources and guidance on intellectual property protection, licensing, and startup formation.
- [iPath](#): Is both an ideation program and a launch process for OU founders (faculty, staff, or student) that helps participants articulate the value of their business proposition, create a launch plan, and participate in live pitches to actual investors.

## LEADERSHIP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

On May 9, 2020, the University of Oklahoma Board of Regents unanimously voted to name Joseph Harroz, Jr., the University's 15th president. President Harroz previously served as the dean of the OU College of Law. A native Oklahoman, President Harroz earned a Bachelor of Arts in economics from OU in 1989, graduating Phi Beta Kappa, and a juris doctorate from Georgetown University in 1992. Harroz rejoined the University of Oklahoma in 1994, the beginning of nearly 25 years of service to the University. He served first as vice president for executive affairs and then for 12 years as general counsel - the chief legal counsel to the president, the OU Board of Regents, Rogers State University, and Cameron University. In 2008, Harroz became president of a publicly traded healthcare company, growing its market capitalization to more than \$80 million before returning to OU in 2010 as the dean and director of the OU Law Center and Fenelon Boesche Chair of Law. Harroz has taught law for over two decades, focusing on employment, sports, and healthcare law.

## THE ROLE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH AND PARTNERSHIPS

One of OU's greatest strengths is its ability to conduct large-scale, cross-disciplinary research. The VPRP will be responsible for sustaining and expanding this momentum for research support by streamlining grant processes, investing in shared infrastructure, enhancing the efficiency of research services, reducing administrative burdens, and creating incentives that encourage ambitious and high-impact research efforts. As a member of the President's Senior Executive Leadership Team, the VPRP plays a critical role in shaping strategies that propel the institution forward. The VPRP must build strong working relationships with the President and other senior leaders to ensure alignment of research priorities with institutional goals. The VPRP will also collaborate closely with the 20 academic colleges across OU's three campuses, where Associate Deans for Research serve as key liaisons to the broader faculty research community. At OUHSC, the VPRP will also be responsible for strengthening clinical research infrastructure, including addressing long-term recruitment needs, building future research institutes and centers, and ensuring stability in research personnel. Reporting lines to the VPRP include the Associate VPRs at the Norman and OUHSC campuses, OU's Chief Innovation and Corporate Officer, and the Clinical Research Informatics Officer at OUHSC.



### Key Responsibilities:

- **Strategic Leadership:** Provide visionary leadership for OU's multi-campus research enterprise, ensuring alignment with the university's strategic priorities and fostering innovation in research across all disciplines.
- **Research Integration:** Integrate the research missions of the Norman campus, the OU Health Sciences Center, and the Tulsa campus, promoting collaboration between health sciences, clinical care, and other academic disciplines.
- **Resource Development:** Cultivate and expand relationships with industry, government, and private sector stakeholders to secure funding for research.
- **Facilitate Research Support:** Oversee the development and implementation of policies and processes that streamline research administration, grant management, and regulatory compliance. Ensure that faculty and researchers have access to the tools and support needed to succeed in their scholarly endeavors.
- **Research Infrastructure:** Lead the continued development of OU's research infrastructure, including physical space, lab facilities, and resources that support cutting-edge research activities.
- **Faculty Development:** Support the recruitment, mentoring, and retention of high-caliber research faculty, post-doctoral fellows, and graduate students. Promote a supportive environment for early-career researchers and facilitate professional development opportunities.
- **Compliance and Integrity:** Ensure adherence to research compliance standards, ethical guidelines, and regulatory policies across all campuses. Foster a culture of research integrity and accountability.

### KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The successful candidate will step into a pivotal leadership role, leading the research enterprise at an ambitious and rising institution. To sustain and build on OU's significant strengths, accomplishments, and momentum, the new VPRP will address the following key opportunities and challenges:

#### Champion a Unified Research Enterprise Through the "One OU" Model

OU's research enterprise spans three distinct campuses—Norman, OUHSC, and Tulsa—each with unique strengths, priorities, structures, and postures. Historically, research operations have been siloed. The VPRP has a unique opportunity to implement a "One OU" vision fully, integrating research efforts across all campuses to create a more cohesive, strategically aligned research enterprise. This will require streamlining research administration, harmonizing compliance and funding processes, and fostering greater interdisciplinary collaboration. The VPRP must work closely with faculty, deans, associate research leaders, and executive leadership to ensure that resources, policies, and infrastructure support a unified approach to research growth and impact. By strengthening ties between Norman's strengths in engineering, weather, and energy research, OUHSC's leadership in biomedical and clinical research, and



Tulsa's community focus and hands-on-learning environment, OU can drive high-impact, cross-campus collaborations that advance its national research standing.

### **Expand Industry Partnerships and Drive Economic Impact Across Oklahoma and Beyond**

OU is well-positioned to deepen its connections with industry, government, and nonprofit partners to drive economic growth and innovation across the state and beyond. With strengths in aerospace and defense, energy, weather and climate science, biotechnology, and advanced manufacturing, OU's research enterprise has the potential to accelerate commercialization, attract investment, and create high-impact workforce development initiatives. The VPRP will be pivotal in expanding corporate partnerships, strengthening applied research collaborations, and ensuring that OU's discoveries translate into real-world solutions. This includes working closely with the Chief Innovation and Corporate Officer at OUHSC, the Office of Technological Commercialization, and industry-facing initiatives like the Oklahoma Aerospace and Defense Innovation Institute (OADII) and the Oklahoma Innovation District. By fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship, the VPRP will help position OU as a key driver of economic and technological advancement in Oklahoma and a national leader in high-impact research fields.

### **Elevate OU's Research Profile to Achieve AAU Membership and Climb the Blue Ridge Rankings**

OU has made significant strides in expanding its research enterprise, but there is a strong desire to further elevate its national standing by advancing towards membership in the Association of American Universities (AAU) and increasing OUHSC's position in the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research rankings. Achieving these milestones will require sustained growth in federally funded research, a strategic approach to faculty recruitment, and strengthened infrastructure to support large-scale, interdisciplinary initiatives. The VPRP will play a critical role in expanding OU's federal research portfolio, deepening relationships with key funding agencies, and increasing success in securing NIH, NSF, DoD, DOE, and other major grants. The VPRP will be expected to develop strategies that increase OUHSC's NIH funding, enhance clinical research capabilities, and strengthen ties to national research networks.

### **Empower OU Researchers for Enterprise-Scale Success**

A thriving research University depends not only on funding and infrastructure but also on a culture that empowers faculty, staff, and researchers to excel. OU has an opportunity to strengthen support systems, enhance professional development, and create an environment that attracts and retains top-tier research talent. OU's research centers and institutes are already tackling grand challenges in fields critical to national priorities, positioning them to lead or contribute to major large-scale research awards. The Advanced Radar Research Center (ARRC) is at the forefront of weather and defense-related research, while the Oklahoma Aerospace and Defense Innovation Institute (OADII) is advancing aerospace technologies with direct applications in national security. At OUHSC, the Stephenson Cancer Center and the Harold Hamm Diabetes Center are leading biomedical research initiatives of national significance. The

VPRP will be central in expanding interdisciplinary collaboration across these and other research entities and strengthening institutional support for complex, multi-institutional projects.

### Strengthen OU's National Presence in a Changing Federal Research Landscape

OU's research enterprise must continuously adapt to a rapidly evolving federal funding landscape. As federal agencies increase their focus on national security, artificial intelligence, and biomedical innovation, OU must be strategically positioned to expand its influence and compete for large-scale, multi-institutional funding opportunities. The VPRP will be pivotal in strengthening OU's presence in Washington, D.C., fostering deeper engagement with federal agencies, national labs, and policymakers. This includes building strong relationships with key federal funding agencies such as the NSF, NIH, DOE, DOD, and NOAA, as well as working with Oklahoma's elected representatives to advocate for research priorities that align with national funding trends. The VPRP must also ensure that OU researchers have the support needed to navigate shifting federal regulations and comply with evolving research security requirements. By proactively engaging with federal stakeholders and positioning OU as a trusted partner in advancing national research priorities, the VPRP can help drive research growth, increase external funding, and elevate OU's national and global reputation.

## QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

- **Academic Credentials:** A terminal degree in a represented academic discipline (PhD, MD, or equivalent) is required, as well as a recognized record of scholarly achievement to secure tenure at the level of full professor.
- **Leadership Experience:** At least five years of progressive leadership experience in a research-intensive academic institution or major research organization, including managing large research operations and multidisciplinary teams. Experience with both academic and health sciences research environments is highly desirable.
- **Research Administration:** Demonstrated expertise in research administration, including experience with managing sponsored research, securing funding, and navigating complex compliance and regulatory requirements.
- **Security Clearance:** The ability to obtain a U.S. security clearance at the Secret or Top Secret level, enabling engagement with classified or restricted research initiatives in defense, aerospace, and national security-related fields.
- **Technology Transfer and Commercialization:** Demonstrated ability to lead efforts that translate research into real-world applications, startup ventures, and industry collaborations. A proactive approach to fostering an entrepreneurial culture among faculty, expanding industry partnerships, and securing external investment.
- **Collaborative Mindset:** Proven ability to foster collaboration and build partnerships across disciplines, campuses, and external organizations. Ability to navigate complex stakeholder relationships.

- **Strategic Vision:** A visionary leader with the ability to develop and implement strategic research initiatives that align with the broader goals of the university and its various stakeholders.
- **Communication Skills:** Exceptional communication skills, with the ability to advocate for research both within the university and to external audiences, including government agencies, industry leaders, and philanthropic organizations.
- **Experience Outside of Academia:** Deep ties to industry research centers, national laboratories, defense, nonprofit research entities, or government research labs will be considered relevant and valuable.

## LOCATION

This position will be based in Norman, with a regular presence on the other two campuses. The State of Oklahoma offers a pleasant climate with short, mild winters and over 300 days of sunshine per year. There are over 77,000 acres of parks and recreational areas, and the State's numerous large lakes provide many miles of shoreline. Oklahoma invests heavily in cultural activities and ranks 17<sup>th</sup> nationally in per capita spending on the arts.

### Norman, OK

Not only is Norman, OK, home to the main campus of the University of Oklahoma, but it is also a close-knit community that welcomes and supports the university. As the third-largest city in the state, it provides the best of both worlds with a small-town feel and big-city resources. Nearly every weekend, Norman provides events free to the public, from the monthly 2nd Friday Norman Art Walk to the annual Chocolate Festival.

For more information, visit:

- <https://www.normanok.gov/>
- <https://www.normanchamber.com/>
- <https://www.visitnorman.com/>

### Oklahoma City, OK

Oklahoma City offers a modern metropolitan community that includes an abundance of the arts and excellent educational options. It is also a distinctly livable city with a rich quality of life and vibrant entertainment options. Oklahoma City is the 20<sup>th</sup> largest city in the U.S. and is often recognized as a popular city in which to live. For example, the Business Insider ranked Oklahoma City as one of the top ten most popular U.S. cities to live in. CNBC recently ranked it as the #1 city for high wages and low cost of living, and it has been ranked as one of the top 10 cities in which to raise a family. The city is pursuing an ambitious development plan, which has attracted considerable national attention while cultural, entertainment, and community events abound.

For more information, visit:

- [www.abetterlifeokc.com](http://www.abetterlifeokc.com)
- [www.okcchamber.com](http://www.okcchamber.com)
- [www.visitokc.com](http://www.visitokc.com)

## APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website. Electronic submission of materials is strongly encouraged:

<https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/university-oklahoma/vice-president-research-and-partnerships>

John Muckle, Partner  
Vijay Saraswat, Partner  
Raul Bernal, Senior Associate  
Elizabeth Arvanitis, Senior Search Coordinator  
Isaacson, Miller, Inc.

*The University of Oklahoma, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, age, religion, disability, political beliefs, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to: admissions, employment, financial aid, housing, services in educational programs or activities, or health care services that the University operates or provides.*

### ***Why You Belong at the University of Oklahoma:***

*The University of Oklahoma fosters an inclusive culture of respect and civility, belonging, and access, which are essential to our collective pursuit of excellence and our determination to change lives. The unique talents, perspectives, and experiences of our community enrich the learning, and working environment at OU, inspiring us to harness our innovation, creativity, and collaboration for the advancement of people everywhere.*

### ***Mission of the University of Oklahoma:***

*The Mission of the University of Oklahoma is to provide the best possible educational experience for our students through excellence in teaching, research and creative activity, and service to the state and society.*