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VIRGINIA TECH™

Position Specification

Virginia Tech

Vice President and Executive Director, Innovation Campus at National Landing

2019

POSITION SPECIFICATION

Position	Vice President and Executive Director, Innovation Campus at National Landing
Organization	Virginia Tech
Location	Alexandria, Virginia
Reporting Relationship	The Vice President and Executive Director will report to University President, Dr. Timothy Sands, Ph.D.
Website	https://vt.edu/innovationcampus

INNOVATION CAMPUS AT NATIONAL LANDING

Built from the ground up as an entirely new campus in Alexandria, the Innovation Campus at National Landing will extend from the university's foundation as one of the largest and most highly regarded producers of STEM degrees in the nation and the leading research institution in the Commonwealth. The campus is the centerpiece of the historic higher education proposal in Virginia's successful bid for Amazon's HQ2. Virginia Tech Innovation Campus at National Landing is an unprecedented move in higher education, with lasting benefits that will transform and sustain the regional and state ecosystem and increase the nation's global competitiveness in the high-tech sector.

The innovation campus will leverage Virginia Tech's longstanding strengths as a public land-grant university serving the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world community. Through its focus on teaching and learning, research and discovery, and outreach and engagement, the university creates, conveys, and applies knowledge to expand personal growth and opportunity, advance social and community development, foster economic competitiveness, and improve the quality of life.

The Innovation Campus at National Landing offers distinctive value drivers that will be transformational for the region, the university, and the high-tech sector, including a unique location and history, proximal to Amazon's HQ2 and the nation's capital, and in the heart of northern Virginia. The institution's transdisciplinary, human-centered approach is designed to move beyond the boundaries of traditional disciplines and deliver market-relevant programs, research, and innovation that coalesce around big ideas and broad themes. This will enable Virginia Tech to bring disparate competencies and ideas to the complex and interrelated opportunities and challenges of the digital age.

Innovation Campus at National Landing will grow to be among the top producers of computer science and software engineering talent, while advancing research in domains such as artificial intelligence and machine learning, technology and policy, and data and decisions. The societal and economic impacts will be recognized in areas such as security, education, transportation, energy, healthcare, and others as Virginia Tech fulfills its land grant mission to improve how people live, work, and play.

Innovation Campus at National Landing will host world-leading research groups in key technical areas. While specific technical areas will be refined, anticipated fields include:

- Artificial intelligence, machine learning, autonomy, data science.
- Computing systems and networks, distributed systems, blockchain.
- Software Engineering.
- Security and Privacy.
- High-performance computing architectures and systems.
- Human-computer interaction focusing on social informatics and immersive environments, human-centered simulations and training, and immersive data analytics.
- Cyber-human systems focusing on human factors, internet of things (IoT), technology policy, ethics, and regulation.
- Quantum Computing.

These will be developed in collaboration with Virginia Tech leaders, advisors, industry partners, and early faculty hires to inform future directions and support faculty build- out and scaling.

The focus on use-inspired research and application will prepare future students to enter the workforce and support transferrable science and technology that benefit society. Work with private and public institutions will enable Innovation Campus at National Landing to support topics important to national security, including cybersecurity. As new forms of pedagogy and curricula are designed in computer science and software engineering, innovation campus will engage K-12 partners to create more robust pipelines, particularly in underserved populations. Example impact areas include:

- Transportation and autonomous systems.
- Security for the internet of things (IoT).
- Creativity and innovation in 21st-century product and system design.
- Intelligent infrastructure and smart cities.
- Energy and digital grid technologies.
- Healthcare.
- Prosperity and equality.
- K-12 education.

Academic programs will be offered in flexible formats and pathways to meet the needs of students and employers. New master's programs will develop students' skills and talents quickly, combining rigorous core courses with opportunities for specialization to ensure essential competencies are complemented by market-oriented concentrations in high-growth, high-need areas.

Innovative approaches to learning and teaching will be based on new forms of pedagogy, including industry-inspired curriculum, contributions to living laboratories in the surrounding community, and immersive learning environments.

Doctoral programs will be organized around research priorities and, for some students, extend from master's programs. Robust undergraduate experiences will be structured around year-around internship programs.

Leveraging programs and people in Blacksburg and Roanoke will bring scale to addressing the growing high-tech talent gap. For example, high-enrollment undergraduate programs in Blacksburg will offer integrated innovation campus- master's curricula to allow students to complete a bachelor's and master's degree in five years.

VIRGINIA TECH

Dedicated to its motto, *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve), Virginia Tech's hands-on, engaging approach to education prepares scholars to be leaders in their fields and communities. Founded as a land-grant institution in 1872, Virginia Tech is Virginia's most comprehensive university and its leading research institution, as well as one of only six senior military colleges in the nation. With 1,520 full time instructional faculty, Virginia Tech offers 280 undergraduate and graduate degree programs to 34,950 students and manages an annual research portfolio of more than $531 million. Its consolidated operating budget for 2019-20 is $1.66 billion. Its endowment was $1.14 billion as of July 2018.

The University offers more than 80 bachelor's degree programs through its seven undergraduate academic colleges: Agriculture and Life Sciences, Architecture and Urban Studies, Engineering, Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Natural Resources and Environment, Pamplin College of Business, and Science. It offers approximately 160 master's and doctoral degree programs through the graduate school and a professional degree from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. In addition, the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine became the university's ninth college in July 2018.

Virginia Tech ranks 30th in U.S. News and World Report's ranking of national public universities, and is in the top third of universities in the world according to the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) University Rankings. Its College of Engineering is the 5th largest producer of engineering graduates, with undergrad programs ranking 13th in the nation.

Location and Campus

Innovation Campus at National Landing's 15-acre graduate campus in Alexandria will be strategically located near the nation's capital and future partners including leading technology companies and Amazon's HQ2. It will include academic classrooms, incubator space for new startups and research and development, and offices for industry collaboration, along with public open space and ground-floor retail that will connect the campus to the surrounding community. It will be a key part of the university's presence throughout Virginia, which includes in a 2,600-acre main campus in Blacksburg, a Health Science and Technology campus in Roanoke that includes the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC, Virginia Cooperative Extension offices and research facilities across the state, the Marion DuPont Scott Equine Medical Center in Leesburg; facilities in Northern Virginia including the Virginia Tech Research Center in Arlington; regional centers in Richmond, Tidewater, and Abingdon; and the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research in Danville. Virginia Tech's international facilities include the Steger Center for International Scholarship in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland, the Virginia Tech India Research and Education Forum, and the Caribbean Center for Education and Research in the Dominican Republic.

Virginia Tech at National Landing will play a key role in connecting the innovative energy of the university's widespread research activities with potential government, corporate, and philanthropic partners in the greater Washington D.C. region.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Virginia Tech seeks an innovative, entrepreneurial, and transformational leader for its inaugural Vice President and Executive Director of the Virginia Tech Innovation Campus at National Landing. The successful candidate shall work closely with President Sands to conceive, establish, and lead Virginia Tech's strategy to build an internationally recognized economically self-sufficient campus in the Washington, D.C. region that serves as the preeminent magnet for high-tech talent, research, and innovation.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Create, promote, and lead a bold vision for the design and scale of a prominent new campus in Alexandria, Virginia to develop and mobilize talent, research, and innovation for the digital age.
- Provide thought-leadership/domain expertise to anticipate, advance, and address opportunities and challenges at the human-computing frontier through globally recognized initiatives.
- Work collaboratively with the President and the President's Executive Team, Deans, Vice Presidents and other stakeholders to set program, research, and partnership priorities, built for resiliency and multi-disciplinary approaches that keep pace and adapt with rapid change.
- Oversee the design and build of the complete campus in North Potomac Yard (in National Landing) working closely with university leadership, Virginia Tech's development partners and other parties involved in igniting a regional Innovation District.
- Recruit and build the Innovation Campus at National Landing team (faculty, administrators, and staff) to create a forward-leaning culture and expand the personal, professional, and intellectual growth of the faculty, staff, and students.
- Oversee administration, program delivery, and student services.
- Work collaboratively with colleges, institutes, and faculty in northern Virginia and Blacksburg to attract, recruit, and retain top-tier faculty.
- Establish a vision and platform for partnership that will attract investment and philanthropy; enhance graduate and undergraduate experiential learning opportunities; support development of market-relevant programs; and grow the research portfolio.
- Establish the Campus as a hub for convening thought-leaders, decision-makers, and the business community on topics of national and international importance (e.g., techno-policy) and capitalize on the unique assets found in the Washington region.
- Establish the necessary culture, infrastructure, and partnerships that support innovation and start-ups to drive economic development, diversity, and prosperity.
- Working with the President and Executive Director of Government Relations, collaborate with the community and civic entities, local and state governments, policy think-tanks, and others to advance campus, regional, and state priorities, including K-12 programs.

REQUIRED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Experience providing thought leadership in the digital tech domain(s) and/or at the human-computing frontier as shown through leadership and development of an innovation ecosystem.
- Demonstrated ability to lead and scale new efforts as evidenced by documented record of recognized achievements in directly relevant or closely adjacent roles.

- Record of successful executive administrative experience within large, complex organizations and a demonstrated ability to build collaboration across organizational boundaries, persuade others, and develop networks necessary to achieve common goals.
- Experience building cohesive, high-performing teams within and external to one's own organizational unit.
- Effective budgeting and fiscal management skills.
- Demonstrated ability to persuasively articulate big ideas in a compelling manner to multiple stakeholders.
- Experience building an inclusive workplace that values diversity and individual differences and leverages inclusivity to fulfill the mission.

PREFERRED PROFESSIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Strong skills in external engagement, aimed at connecting academic faculty and departments with companies, non-profits, government agencies and fostering such a culture organization-wide.
- Superb ability to forge strategic partnerships with leaders in the public and/or private sector industry to advance education, research, and / or innovation initiatives.
- Demonstrated record of jumpstarting new campus initiatives, gathering stakeholder buy-in, coalescing resources, and shepherding these initiatives to success.
- Highly energetic, hardworking, forward thinking.
- Demonstrated analytical, strategic, and critical thinking skills.
- High level of social intelligence, self-awareness, and commitment to facilitating the success of the institution.
- Dedicated to seeking win-win scenarios and partnership constructs that recognize and advance mutual goals.

COMPENSATION

Compensation shall be competitive and commensurate with both experience and achievement.

NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

The Search Committee will begin reviewing candidates immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Priority consideration will be given to materials received by September 15, 2019. Applications should include 1) a detailed resume and 2) a letter of interest that addresses the responsibilities and requirements described above, as well as the applicant's motivation to apply.

To ensure full consideration, inquiries, nominations, and applications (PDF preferred) should be submitted electronically, in confidence, to:

vt-vpedic@kornferry.com

KORN FERRY CONTACTS

Paul Chou	Melissa Hurst, PhD
Senior Client Partner Co-Managing Director, Global Education Practice Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	Senior Associate Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Virginia Tech is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. Women, minorities, individuals with disabilities, and protected veterans are strongly encouraged to apply. Anyone having questions concerning discrimination or accessibility should contact the Office for Equity and Accessibility at 540-231-2010.