



WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY



Announcing an Executive Search for the **Vice President** for Academic Advancement

Vice President for Academic Advancement



Western Governors University (WGU), the leader in competency-based higher education, seeks an experienced leader in distance learning, who will enhance the success of the institution as well as advance competency-based education nationally. WGU is a nonprofit, accredited online university with 70,000 students in all 50 states. *Applications and nominations are being accepted.*



The Opportunity

Western Governors University is nationally recognized as a great place to advance your career in education. The university looks for leaders with a strong commitment to its mission of expanding access to higher education. The institution actively recruits and retains a diverse workforce and student body that includes members of historically underrepresented groups.

The Vice President for Academic Advancement serves as the national spokesperson for WGU and competency-based education to the higher education, policy, and quality assurance communities. The senior officer develops and manages partnerships with higher education institutions, policy organizations, think tanks, associations, and foundations.

Persuasive and articulate, the Vice President for Academic Advancement develops materials and conducts

training to teach other institutions how to provide competency-based

education. Other responsibilities include planning and managing conferences on competency-based education.

The Vice President oversees and serves as editor of the *Journal of Competency-Based Education (JCBE)*, a peer-reviewed, online journal published by WGU and John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

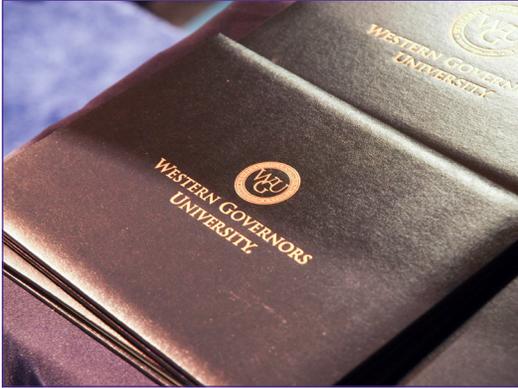
Additionally, the Vice President writes, wins, and manages grants from the government and foundations.

President Scott D. Pulsipher

Scott D. Pulsipher is WGU's new President, effective April 11. He succeeds Robert Mendenhall, Ph.D., who has been WGU's President since 1999. Mendenhall led the university from its beginnings into a major university with nearly 70,000 students, while establishing its reputation as the national leader in competency-based education. Mendenhall continues to serve the university as President Emeritus and as a member of the Board of Trustees, focusing on strategic initiatives and external relations.

Pulsipher joins WGU with more than 20 years of leadership experience in technology-based, customer-focused businesses. He was most recently President of Needle, Inc., a technology and services company focused on improving the online customer experience for retail brands. Previously, he was General Manager for Amazon Webstore, an e-commerce platform serving small- and medium-sized businesses. Pulsipher's career has included senior leadership roles at Sterling Commerce (a subsidiary of AT&T, acquired by IBM in 2010), Yantra Corporation, and The Monitor Group. He holds a bachelor's degree in Management from Brigham Young University and an MBA from Harvard University.

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Western Governors University

Mission Statement

The principal mission of Western Governors University is to improve quality and expand access to post-secondary educational opportunities by providing a means for individuals to learn independent of time and place and to earn competency-based degrees and other credentials that are credible to both academic institutions and employers.

Requirements

A Ph.D. degree and 5 to 7 years of experience in a relevant higher education position are required. Having this position based at the university's administrative offices in Salt Lake City is strongly preferred.

Candidate must be able and willing to travel 50 percent of the time.

Western Governors University

Western Governors University (WGU) is an online university driven by a mission to expand access to higher education through online, competency-based degree programs. WGU was founded in 1997 by a bi-partisan group of U.S. governors. At no other time in the history of higher education have the governors of several states joined together to create a university. WGU also is supported by major corporations and foundations who believe in WGU's commitment to producing highly competent graduates.

WGU is focused on student success. Committed to providing students the best educational experience possible, every program, service, process, and communication is designed to support students as they complete a bachelor's or master's degree.

Courses are offered through four colleges: Teachers College, College of Business, College of Information Technology, and College of Health

Professions. All of the colleges have both bachelor's and graduate degree programs.

WGU's competency-based learning model uses technology to deliver the curriculum, which each student will study and learn on his or her own schedule and pace. Students spend as much or as little time in each course as they need to master the subject matter, and when they demonstrate that they've mastered it, they move on. As a result, students can accelerate their time to a degree, saving both time and money.

Faculty at WGU serve as Mentors, and their sole focus is on supporting the student from enrollment to graduation. There are two kinds of Mentors. Student Mentors are assigned to each student upon enrollment and work with the student regularly to provide guidance,

support, and problem-solving. Student Mentors work with the same student until he or she graduates, serving as the primary point of contact for the student. Course Mentors are the subject matter experts for each course. They work with students while they are engaged in specific courses, leading discussions, answering questions, and providing one-on-one instruction as needed.

More than 70 percent of WGU students are classified as underserved in one of four categories: rural, low income, first-generation college student, or ethnic minority.

WGU is accredited by The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), an accreditation body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the regional authority on educational quality and institutional

In the Media...

Fast Company calls WGU one of the world's 50 most-innovative companies

CNN says WGU is "a school without boundaries."

NPR to Bloomberg BusinessWeek are touting WGU's "potential to transform the higher education industry."

The Atlantic states, "The competency-based education model is catching on."

Money Magazine advised, "'Study to be a teacher' at Western Governors University is among the top 10 ways to spend \$10,000 wisely."

Vice President for Academic Advancement

effectiveness of colleges and universities in a seven-state region that includes WGU's headquarters state of Utah. The university is also accredited by NCATE (for teacher education), CCNE (for nursing programs), and CAHIM (for Health Informatics Program).

Visit www.wgu.edu for more information.

Salt Lake City, Utah

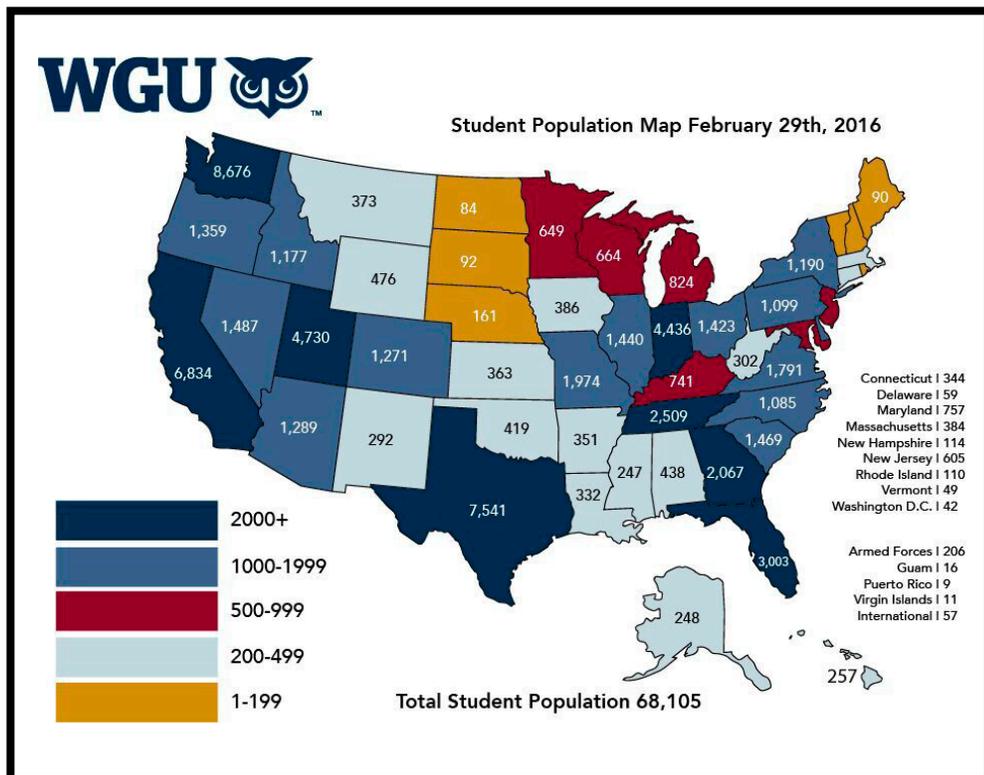
The capital and largest city in Utah, Salt Lake City consistently tops the lists of best places in many categories, from significant business growth to quality of life, to entertainment and recreation. Livability named Salt Lake City as one of its Top 10 Best Downtowns list and Top 100 Best Places to Live.

Salt Lake City has become known for its tech community. The city is home to tech companies, such as Adobe, Electronic Arts, and Twitter. *Forbes* attributes these moves of top Silicon Valley companies to the city's lower taxes; well-educated, multilingual workforce; more flexible regulatory environment; and affordable housing market.

The city's large assortment of amenities, excellent school systems and health care, and variety of homes attracts both businesses and families. The University of Utah spins off more businesses than any university in the nation.

The surrounding mountains not only provide beautiful views, they also produce some of the best snow for skiing and snowboarding. Hiking, water sports, camping, and golfing are favorite during the summer.

Utah Transit Authority (UTA) provides over 100 bus routes throughout an 1,800 square-mile area. UTA also provides light-rail service, airport transportation, service to ski resorts in winter, and door-to-door transportation for disabled passengers.



Application and Nomination Process

Confidential inquiries are welcomed and nominations are invited.

1. To Apply - Applications must include:

- A letter of interest
- A current resume or curriculum vitae
- At least five references with full contact information (References will not be contacted without consent from applicants.)
- Your answers to the questions at:
www.myersmcræ.com/skins/userfiles/file/MMQuestions.pdf

2. Submit applications to: WGU-VPAdv@myersmcræ.com

The search remains open until the position is filled. For best consideration, submit application materials by **June 10, 2016**.

Nominations should include contact information for the individual being nominated. Submit nominations to: WGU-VPAdv-nominate@myersmcræ.com.

Emily Parker Myers, CEO, and **Alan Medders**, President, of **Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting** are assisting the university with this search.



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Western Governors University is an Equal Opportunity Employer that encourages diversity and encourages women and members of underrepresented groups to apply.