

Associate Vice President for Digital Education and Director of University of Nebraska Online

The University of Nebraska system is seeking a visionary, entrepreneurial leader to serve as the next associate vice president for digital education and director of University of Nebraska Online.

The state's only public university system, the University of Nebraska enrolls more than 52,000 students from all 50 states and employs a talented workforce of more than 13,000 across its four campuses. The system includes a flagship Big Ten university, a world-renowned academic health sciences center, a metropolitan university, and a residential campus, plus research and extension centers across the state that together touch all 93 counties. A Lincoln-based central administration office coordinates systemwide activities that leverage the combined talents and resources of all four campuses.

As part of its mission to serve the people of Nebraska and to realize its potential across the state, nation and globe, the university in 2010 created University of Nebraska Online (NU Online), pulling together the collective strengths of the campuses within a collaborative, centrally coordinated initiative to promote and support a diverse range of digital education offerings. Today NU Online provides a platform for more than 150 degree, certificate and endorsement programs – more than double the number of programs offered at the time of NU Online's creation. NU Online serves students from around the world and all 50 states; importantly, the number of online-only students from Nebraska has grown 83 percent over the past decade, signaling the university's progress in expanding access to high-quality education for Nebraskans, its highest strategic priority. NU Online also serves the University of Nebraska High School, an accredited online high school serving students from Nebraska and throughout the U.S. and around the world.

The next associate vice president and director of NU Online will be a bold and creative thinker who will play a central role in the University of Nebraska's efforts to serve the next generation of learners. The successful candidate will have a deep understanding of the role and mission of a public university, including its values of access, opportunity, and inclusion for all, and will bring an entrepreneur's approach to positioning the University of Nebraska as a leader through a period of change in higher education. The AVP will be a gifted collaborator who can work across a diverse system of campuses, each with a distinct and complementary mission. The AVP also will be expected to develop strategies for providing access for the approximately 300,000 Nebraskans with some college and no degree, as well as leveraging digital education to narrow equity gaps for minority, first-generation, rural, and other historically underrepresented students.

Reporting to the Executive Vice President and Provost and serving as a member of the academic affairs leadership team, the AVP/Director is responsible for overall leadership in achieving the goals of University of Nebraska Online: to serve the people of the state and beyond through expanded online education opportunities; to grow enrollment nationally and internationally by developing a leadership position in online education; to enhance revenue to the university through its online programs; and to leverage collaboration among the university's four campuses in the development, administration, and marketing of distance education degree and certificate programs and courses.

The AVP/Director will work with an established NU Online team of professionals and in collaboration with the campuses, the NU Online Steering Committee and system administration colleagues to support the policies, personnel, systems, and resources needed to increase access and enrollment. The AVP/ Director is responsible for the development and collaborative implementation of strategic digital initiatives, digital education market research, the collection of data and assessment of outcomes, regulatory and compliance requirements, report development, promotion of the University of Nebraska brand nationally and internationally and identifying opportunities that advance the mission and goals of the University of Nebraska,

Minimum qualifications for the position:

- Master's degree;
- Eight-ten years of experience in digital education.

Preferred qualifications:

- An earned terminal degree;
- Experience working across the continuum of learners high school learners, undergraduate, graduate and professional students, alumni, and lifelong learners;
- The ability to leverage online education to enhance access for historically underrepresented students and a commitment to enhancing educational attainment for all students;
- Strong relationship-building qualities;
- An understanding and experience in a shared governance environment;
- Demonstrated management and leadership capabilities, including supervision of a complex and diverse team;
- A robust understanding of digital education at the high school, graduate, professional, and undergraduate levels;
- A familiarity with marketing and market research strategies, including an understanding of the global nature of the distance education market place and strategies for being competitive in this market;
- The ability to develop, execute, and assess business, strategic, and operating plans;
- An entrepreneurial spirit, willing to assess and to accept reasonable risks; and,
- An established network of national and international colleagues.

Apply for the position at https://careers.nebraska.edu and complete an applicant profile, attach a resume and letter of application addressing the professional attributes of the position. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, but applications received by March 31, 2021 will receive priority consideration. First round review of applications begins on April 1, 2021. If you need assistance with your application, please call (402) 472-3701. Applicants with questions may email the search chair at nuonlinesearch@nebraska.edu.

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