Vice President of Enrollment Management & Student Success

California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt (Cal Poly Humboldt) seeks an outstanding and talented professional to serve the institution as Vice President of Enrollment Management & Student Success.

Cal Poly Humboldt is experiencing a period of significant change and transformation with the recent designation as the third polytechnic institution within the California State University (CSU) system, the nation’s largest four-year public university with twenty-three campuses across California. This transformation enhances the need for student-centered collaboration and creative promotion of new and revised programs, with the expectation that these efforts will enhance the student experience, improve student engagement and increase student success, and as a result, the position will have a significant impact on enrollment, retention, and graduation rates.

The Cal Poly Humboldt campus population is very diverse, including a broad range of identities, which this position is committed to serving by continuing to weave the campus values of equity, diversity & inclusion across the division. Experience leading efforts to support and develop diversity initiatives, including recruitment and development of professional staff, is important to succeed in this position. The Vice President must demonstrate a commitment to diverse student populations, experiences, and values. An understanding and respect for the indigenous land on which the campus is located is important as is the ability to partner and collaborate with the thirteen Tribal Nations headquartered in the area.

The Vice President directly leads all aspects of Enrollment Management and Student Success, and is charged to organize and assess the Enrollment Management Division. This position also supervises strategic communications activities pertaining to Enrollment Management, and is critical to the University as the leader charged with recruiting talented students to the institution and facilitating efforts to ensure the highest quality student experience to sustain high levels of student satisfaction, retention, and graduation. The Vice President for Enrollment Management & Student Success reports to the President of the University and is expected to work closely with the Provost and the Academic Affairs Division to enrich the student learning experience both in and outside the classroom. Collaborative efforts with the Provost, Academic Deans, and faculty are essential to ensure
effective planning results in the University’s enrollment goals being met across all academic areas of study. The successful candidate for this position will collaborate with colleagues on campus to reframe the vision and future of the University, including partnering with University Advancement in community outreach and involvement efforts that facilitate support for the university and the students we serve.

Cal Poly Humboldt is experiencing increased interest and enrollment growth due to the recent conversion from a regional university to designation within the California State University system as the third polytechnic institution in the CSU. The State of California has invested over $450 million into this campus transformation. As a result, twelve new academic programs and certificates have been developed and approved; with additional new programs anticipated in the next few years. Investments will fund new programs, faculty, and facilities, confirming that the Cal Poly Humboldt campus will experience unprecedented growth in the scope of programs offered and the number of students served. While the institution now defines itself as a polytechnic institution, the full scope of academic programs in natural sciences, liberal arts, social sciences, humanities, arts, education, and business will be sustained and developed. The opportunity to serve the University in this time of expected growth and transformation provides a professionally attractive opportunity for a higher education enrollment management expert, especially given an early and immediate increase in both admissions applications and commitments to enroll following the announcement earlier this year of our transformation into a polytechnic university.

The successful candidate must demonstrate experience working with diverse student, faculty, and administrative populations with the ability to foster collegiality and collaboration. Evidence of strong organizational, analytical, and reporting/writing skills with a personal work ethic of accountability are imperative. The ability to engage, motivate, and innovatively lead others to develop and implement programs to attract and serve a diverse student community is essential.

All applications, nominations and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as separate documents, a CV or resume and a letter of interest addressing the themes in this profile.

WittKieffer is assisting Cal Poly Humboldt in this search. The review of applications has begun and will remain open until an appointment is made.

Application materials should be submitted using WittKieffer’s candidate portal.

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to:

Shelley Arakawa, J.D. and Patricia Coleman
CalPolyHumboldtVPEMSS@wittkieffer.com

Cal Poly Humboldt is a Title IX/Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer. We consider qualified applicants for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, medical condition, disability, marital status, protected veteran status, or any other legally protected status. Mandated Reporting: This position may be considered a “mandated reporter” under the California Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act and is required to comply with the requirements set forth in CSU Executive Order 1083 as a condition of employment.