Executive Director, School of Environment and Sustainability

The University of Saskatchewan (USask) is seeking an Executive Director, School of Environment and Sustainability. Candidates who currently hold an in scope or out of scope academic appointment at the University of Saskatchewan and have a PhD or equivalent professional degree are invited to apply.

The School of the Environment and Sustainability (SENS) is the home of a diverse and interdisciplinary group of faculty who engage in collaborative and community-engaged scholarship to solve pressing issues that concern our planet. SENS is tackling complex sustainability challenges related to global water security, regenerating and sustaining healthy ecosystems, conserving biocultural diversity, and advancing good environmental governance—all aligned with USask signature research areas and several of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals 2030. Our faculty and staff work beyond disciplinary and institutional silos and are committed to partnerships with diverse academic units, Indigenous and other communities, governments, and industries.

The Executive Director has multiple roles including, but not limited to: contributing to and acting in service of university priorities, including Indigenous engagement and EDI; shaping university-wide strategy and direction as part of the senior leadership team; providing academic and executive leadership to all areas of the school; connecting the school and the university to the external community; and, acting as the interface between senior leaders, faculty and staff. The Executive Director functions in a highly demanding environment that includes managing multiple priorities with limited resources, and that requires constant scanning for challenges and opportunities. Prioritization of time and resources, and leadership of teams to achieve important outcomes, including quality of academic programs, high research intensity, and revenue diversification are central to the role. The work is of high volume and is complex. Executive Directors are expected to engage in continuous improvement, delegate tasks and decisions, and prioritize the activities that are mission-critical for the university and the school.

The Executive Director’s major responsibilities include: leading the school planning processes (strategic, research, people, fundraising); developing principles and initiatives for Indigenization; managing and providing oversight for the school budget to align with plans; identifying and promoting high standards in education and scholarship which include research, teaching, community engagement; monitoring and improving performance to ensure outcomes; promoting respectful and positive relationships internally and externally; identifying and pursuing opportunities to garner financial and other forms of support to enhance the long-term success of education and scholarship at SENS through growth and diversification of revenue sources for the school and the university; and contributing to and supporting the university’s plans and strategies to ensure short- and long-term success.

We are particularly seeking a leader who has demonstrated administrative and leadership experience with superior relationship building skills. Demonstrated success in developing and implementing a vision
and leading people to achieve exemplary performance and outcomes is essential. As the ideal candidate you will also possess an exemplary academic record as an educator and researcher.

The University of Saskatchewan is strongly committed to a diverse and inclusive workplace that empowers all employees to reach their full potential. All members of the university community share a responsibility for developing and maintaining an environment in which differences are valued and inclusiveness is practiced. The university welcomes applications from those who will contribute to the diversity of our community.

Nominations and applications are to be received by January 14, 2021. Interested candidates shall provide an application package (letter of interest, curriculum vitae), in confidence, to Melissa Just, Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic, and Chair, Executive Director, School of Environment and Sustainability Search Committee, in c/o Lori Auchstaetter, Director of Administration, Office of the Provost and Vice-President Academic at lori.auchstaetter@usask.ca.