Posted: May 24, 2021



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

TITLE:	VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT LIFE	DEPT: <u>Student life</u>

REG ☑ TEMP □ FULL TIME ☑ PART TIME □

STARTING RATE or SALARY RANGE Negotiable

All regular positions also entitle the employee to several benefits including health, dental, vision, life insurance, and retirement which is largely paid by New Mexico Tech for the employee and dependents.

INTERNAL POSTING THROUGH: CONCURRENT CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN FIRST TO TEMPORARY AND REGULAR TECH EMPLOYEES WHO APPLY WITHIN THE 7 DAY INTERNAL POSTING. APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE 7 DAY POSTING MARGIN WILL BE CONSIDERED WITH OTHER OUTSIDE APPLICANTS.

JOB DUTIES:

Reporting to the President, the Vice President for Student Life (VPSL) oversees those student experiences dedicated to providing New Mexico Tech students with the support and resources they need to thrive at our university and ultimately as global citizens. The VPSL is the senior administrator for student life and provides leadership for the development and operations of several key student and campus service departments: Auxiliary Services; Student Affairs; Student Government; Career Services; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Center; Physical Recreation; Counseling and Disabilities; Student Health Center; and Performing Arts Series. As a member of the President's Cabinet, the VPSL collaborates with the President, Vice Presidents, Deans and other senior leaders to advance the university's mission, strategic plan, and endeavors that help in providing a transformative student experience. The VPSL provides leadership for a staff of 39, developing and overseeing annual operating budget of \$9M. Working with academic affairs is central to supporting NMT's enrollment management focus. The VPSL must have a strong working relationship with the Vice President for Academic Affairs and other key leadership in Academic Affairs in order to ensure a successful student pathway from recruitment through retention and persistence to graduation. The VPSL will demonstrate a leadership style that is credible and collegial while being highly effective. It is expected that the new Vice President will help to shape this division so that it is recognized both State-wide and nationally for supporting student life and focusing on the academic success and personal development of New Mexico Tech students. The incoming Vice President will need to ensure that current services and programs within the Office of Student Life are benchmarked against peer institutions and nationally recognized best practices, and articulate a strategic vision and plan for the ongoing development of the division. The VPSL will need to work closely with campus stakeholders to: help identify the factors that impact student mental health on campus and proactively plan for future support of mental health programs for the university; and to lead and strengthen NMT's efforts in creating and sustaining a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Center. NMT has a strong, locally, nationally and internationally recognized reputation as a Hispanic-serving institution. In addition, NMT has a high level of engagement with our local community and a strong sense of pride on campus. Our university is highly respected within the State of New Mexico and is playing a key role in knowledge-based economic development within New Mexico and in Socorro community. The VPSL will be expected to maintain a high level of engagement with the local community and key stakeholders in New Mexico.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

An advanced degree in a relevant discipline and extensive experience in higher education academic and student life are required. A doctorate is preferred. The ideal candidate will possess demonstrated experience and leadership skills in a complex, demanding environment, ideally at a research-intensive university; experience, maturity and high engagement skills to effectively collaborate with university leadership, faculty, staff and students; experience in planning, implementing or leading new student life initiatives or programs; proven ability to lead and manage a high-functioning student life program, including the capacity to generate and implement clear goals, procedures, systems and priorities across different teams; and a demonstrated commitment to diversity and excellence through inclusion. Experience in planning, implementing or leading new student life initiatives or programs; proven record of effectively collaborating with institutional leadership to advance the work of the office; exceptional communication skills in conveying the strategic goals and objectives of programs related to student life and the student experience; personal qualities and traits that lend to the individual's success in the areas of responsibility and competency listed above. Additional characteristics and attributes when considering the position of Vice President for Student Life: personal and

professional integrity in the highest degree; a strong student advocate and compassionate mentor who demonstrates a proactive approach in dealing with student issues and has experience in the handling and resolution of conflict and the willingness to spend time in support of student activities and interests; a creative, progressive, passionate leader with a strong student-oriented focus; a good listener who can synthesize information, get others on-board, and articulately explain divisional goals and initiatives to individuals outside of student affairs; strong budget management skills and financial acumen, with the ability to think entrepreneurially with regard to revenue generation; a demonstrated commitment to supporting underrepresented students and championing social justice; demonstrated success in being a persuasive, effective, and sophisticated advocate for student life and the student body within the larger university community, and be comfortable articulating the value of student engagement and the value of student life contributions to the overall educational experience; skill in working with administrators, faculty, staff and students in a climate of openness and transparency, integrity, trust, mutual respect and collaborative problem solving; exhibit strategic thinking and an ability to contribute to discussions of university issues beyond student life; serve as an astute relationship-builder forging collaborative partnerships with the Office of Academic Affairs, Office of Administration and Finance, the overall campus community, and the local community; a strong understanding of contemporary student issues and values, and the ability to develop a natural rapport with students and student leaders; be a hands-on leader when necessary, but also delegate appropriate responsibilities to staff members and ensure accountability for outcomes; possess excellent crisis management skills and the ability to appropriately de-escalate conflict situations. be approachable, visible, and engaged in all facets of student life; strong mentoring, coaching and team-building skills with proven success in developing professional staff and creating an effective team; knowledge of national best practices in student life, including the ability to use research, data and assessment to guide decision-making; offer a record of leadership in higher education professional associations; bring systems-oriented thinking to the role, combining excellent organizational and management skills to improve policies, practices, and protocols; be approachable, optimistic, intellectually curious with personal warmth, generosity of spirit, a can-do attitude, strong resilience in the face of criticism and a good sense of humor; empower staff to reach personal and professional goals through a supportive work environment, positive staff development, and calculated risk-taking.