EXECUTIVE SEARCH

Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs and Provost

THE BEGINNING OF A BIGGER STORY.

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Institution:	University of Evansville
Role:	Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs and Provost
Location:	Evansville, IN
Reports To:	President Christopher M. Pietruszkiewicz
Website:	evansville.edu

OVERVIEW:

The University of Evansville invites nominations and applications for a visionary, student-centered, and highly collaborative leader to serve as the next Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs and Provost. As the University's chief academic officer, the Provost will provide strategic leadership for all academic programs, faculty affairs, student learning, and academic planning while serving as a key partner to the President, Cabinet, Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community stakeholders.

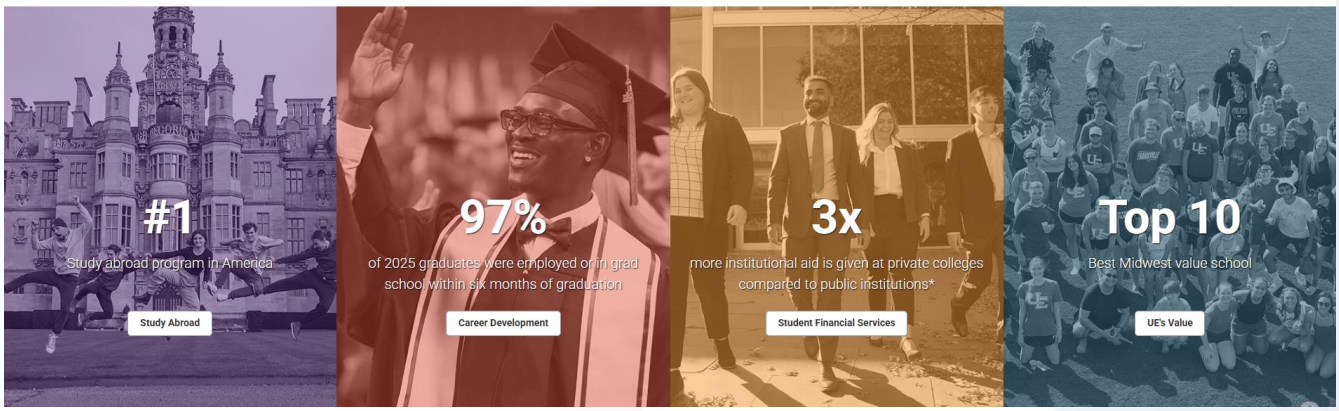
The next Provost will join the University at a pivotal moment. Building upon its longstanding reputation for personalized education, exceptional student outcomes, and global engagement through the Harlaxton College experience, the University continues to evolve as a comprehensive institution that balances a strong liberal arts foundation with growing graduate and professional programs. The Provost will play a central role in shaping a clear and compelling academic vision, strengthening enrollment and financial sustainability, supporting innovation, and fostering a culture in which students, faculty, and academic excellence remain at the center.



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE:

The University of Evansville (UE) is a private, comprehensive university with a mission to empower each student to think critically, act bravely, serve responsibly, and live meaningfully in a changing world.

UE is ranked as a top Midwest university by U.S. News & World Report with approximately 2,300 students from 43 states and 52 countries. Areas of study are offered in the William L. Ridgway College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business and Engineering, and the College of Education and Health Sciences. The University also offers five master's degree programs including Master of Physician Assistant Science, Master of Public Health, Master of Science in Athletic Training, Master of Science in Education and Master of Science in Leadership, and four doctorate programs including: Doctor of Physical Therapy, Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice, Koch Family Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology, offered through the William L. Ridgeway College of Arts and Sciences and a PhD in Health Professions Education.



One of the University of Evansville's most distinctive opportunities is the chance to study abroad at Harlaxton Manor, UE's own campus in Grantham, England. Located in the beautiful English countryside, Harlaxton allows students to live and learn in a historic manor while earning credits that count toward their degree. Because tuition and financial aid remain the same as on the Evansville campus, students can enjoy an immersive international experience without delaying graduation

As an AshokaU Changemaker Campus, a distinction held by a select global network of colleges and universities, UE integrates innovation, creativity, collaboration, and social impact throughout the student experience. UE's Center for Innovation & Change reflects the institution's commitment to preparing students to be changemakers in their communities and professions. Through its flagship program ChangeLab, students engage in interdisciplinary projects, community partnerships, and entrepreneurship initiatives to make a meaningful difference right away. Through these experiences, students combine classroom learning and personal passion to develop solutions to real-world challenges. The Center serves as a hub for innovative problem solving and experiential learning, empowering students to think critically, lead boldly, and create positive change locally and globally.

UE competes at the highest level of collegiate athletics: NCAA Division I. UE is a member of the Missouri Valley Conference or otherwise known as the MVC, or "The Valley". UE Provides approximately 300 student-athletes with an opportunity to compete at the Division I level while receiving a quality education consistent with the mission of the University. The athletics experience is an extension of the education process

whereby student-athletes acquire the skill, characteristics, and self-confidence that will enable them to reach their full potential, both in athletics and in life.

UE is committed to fostering a welcoming campus for individuals of all backgrounds through the Center for Inclusive Excellence, providing resources for students, faculty, and leadership. Through its commitment to accessibility, inclusivity, and well-being, UE aims to create a learning environment where understanding and respecting each other's shared humanity is fundamental.

MISSION AND CORE VALUES

Mission Statement

To empower each student to think critically, act bravely, serve responsibly, and live meaningfully in a changing world.

Core Values

- Integrity
- Innovation
- Intellectual Curiosity
- Inclusive Community
- Education for the Whole Person

CHANGING LIVES. CHANGING THE WORLD.

Active Academics

Learning is not a spectator sport. UE believes students thrive when academics are brought to life through real-world challenges and solutions.

Caring Culture

At UE, students are seen as their individual self. The community is welcoming and friendly, and cares about students' goals and dreams.

Extraordinary Experiences

Once-in-a-lifetime opportunities find students throughout their college journey and beyond. Students don't just sit and watch – they do it!

The University's recently competed campaign, FORWARD>>The Campaign for the University of Evansville was the institution's most ambitious fundraising campaign to date. Exceeding expectations by raising more than $130 million, this comprehensive campaign aimed to strategically build upon three pillars of UE's rich legacy:

- A transformational, accessible education;
- Bringing academics to life;
- Faculty that discover, teach, and mentor.

THE POSITION:

The incoming Provost will serve as the University's chief academic officer, providing strategic leadership and direction for the institution's academic enterprise, including the College of Business and Engineering, the William L. Ridgway College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education and Health Sciences, and Harlaxton College, the University of Evansville's residential campus in England. As a member of the University's senior leadership team, the Provost will be expected to contribute actively to the leadership of the entire University, working collaboratively across traditional organizational boundaries and bringing an institution-wide perspective to opportunities, challenges, and decisions. Working collaboratively with deans, faculty, staff, students, and fellow members of the University leadership team, the Provost will articulate and advance a compelling academic vision that aligns with the University's mission, strategic priorities, and distinctive value proposition. The Provost will champion academic excellence, innovation, and student success at UE while advocating for the transformative power and relevance of a liberal arts education amid the changing demands and expectations of today's higher education environment, along with the continued growth of UE's professional programs.

The Provost directly oversees a talented academic leadership team, including:

- Executive Director and Dean of Harlaxton College
- Dean, College of Business and Engineering / Associate Provost of Academic Partnerships
- Dean, William L. Ridgway College of Arts and Sciences
- Dean, College of Education and Health Sciences
- Associate Provost for Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies
- Associate Provost for Student Success and Academic Excellence
- Executive Director of Academic Operations and Registrar
- Executive Assistant to the EVPAA
- Assistant Vice President for Institutional Research and Effectiveness
- Co-Directors, Library

Together with these leaders, the Provost will advance the University's commitment to exceptional teaching, experiential learning, global engagement, and student success, fostering an academic culture that embraces innovation while honoring the institution's values, traditions, and heritage.

As a visible, accessible, and trusted advocate University leader who understand the central role of faculty in the life of the institution, the Provost will cultivate an environment in which faculty members feel valued, supported, and empowered to excel as educators, scholars, mentors, and institutional leaders. The Provost will strengthen faculty development initiatives, support shared governance, and build trust through open communication, transparency, and collaborative decision-making. The Provost will serve as a thoughtful partner and problem-solver, helping faculty and the University navigate challenges, identify opportunities, and find pathways to success. Through collaboration, creativity, and shared purpose, the Provost will work to remove barriers, encourage innovation, and help the institution move from possibility to action.

Guided by a deep commitment to student success, the Provost will ensure that the student experience remains central to institutional planning and decision-making, supporting innovative approaches that enhance retention, engagement, and post-graduate outcomes. This leader will forge meaningful connections between academic programs and workforce opportunities while preserving the broad educational benefits of a comprehensive university experience and promoting a strong sense of belonging for all students, including graduate and international populations.

The Provost will also help advance UE's role as a catalyst for the growth and vitality of the region it serves. Working with University colleagues and partners across education, healthcare, business, government, nonprofit organizations, and the broader community, the Provost will identify opportunities to connect academic expertise, faculty and student engagement, and institutional partnerships in ways that strengthen both the University and the community.

As a strategic steward of institutional resources, the Provost will partner closely with enrollment and student affairs leaders to advance enrollment growth and student success while guiding the development of innovative academic programs and educational pathways that respond to evolving student interests and workforce needs. This leader will expand opportunities in graduate, online, and international education, and leverage institutional strengths to enhance recruitment and engagement. They will also lead assessment and continuous improvement efforts and utilize data-informed decision-making.

QUALIFICATIONS:

The next Provost will be:

- A visionary and forward-focused leader whose style will actively engage and inspire the University of Evansville academic community in shaping a shared vision for the future and positioning it for long-term success.
- A dynamic communicator, who champions and represents University of Evansville's faculty and academic staff, as well as students, to internal and external audiences.
- A collaborative institutional leader and trusted partner to the President and senior leadership team, who contributes ideas, challenges assumptions constructively, builds trust across the University, and shares responsibility for advancing UE's overall mission and future.
- An accomplished academic leader who possesses an earned terminal degree and a record of teaching, scholarship, and leadership sufficient to command the respect of faculty and the broader academic community.

The following experiences and characteristics are required to fulfill the role's key responsibilities:

- Deep commitment to student learning and outcomes, grounded in an appreciation for the liberal arts tradition and informed by an understanding of the complementary and essential roles of undergraduate, graduate, and professional education.
- Demonstrated success bravely leading through institutional change and complex organizational environments.

- Knowledge of accreditation processes, assessment, and institutional effectiveness across a diverse array of academic programs.
- Demonstrated success partnering to advance enrollment growth through academic innovation, strategic program development, and the creation of offerings that respond to student demand and market needs.
- Proven ability to cultivate philanthropic support, build meaningful donor relationships, and develop external partnerships that advance institutional priorities.
- Experience navigating financial challenges and aligning academic priorities, strategic investments, and resource allocation decisions to support long-term institutional sustainability.
- Deep understanding of the evolving higher education landscape and the opportunities and challenges facing private universities.

Qualities Envisioned by the UE Community:

- A deep and unwavering belief in the transformative mission and enduring value of higher education.
- Dedication to the University's strong sense of community and culture.
- Understanding of the importance of regional engagement and community partnership.
- An enterprise leader who sees both the big picture and the interconnected parts, bringing strategic thinking, adaptability, and a systems-thinking approach to move institutional priorities forward.
- A visible, approachable, and highly engaged leadership style.
- Trustworthiness, integrity, and authenticity.
- Ability to engage thoughtfully across disciplines.
- Ability to articulate a clear academic vision and inspire others to embrace it.
- Willingness to challenge assumptions and explore new models.
- Comfort taking calculated risks and learning from setbacks.
- Ability to move initiatives from concept to implementation.

A NOTE FROM PRESIDENT PIETRUSZKIEWICZ:

At UE, we think intentionally about what higher education should be in a changing world and what it means to prepare students not simply for their first job, but for lives of consequence. If you are interested not only in what our students become, but in who they become, I would like you to consider becoming our next Provost.

Our mission is expressed in eighteen words: to empower each student to think critically, act bravely, serve responsibly, and live meaningfully in a changing world. Those words are not simply a statement of values; they are intended to shape the education we provide and help instill in our students the values they will carry into the world.

Our newly reimagined general education program is one example of that mission in action. At its center is a Mission Experience designed to distinguish a UE education and give every student an opportunity to put

those commitments into practice. We want our graduates to succeed professionally—and to understand their responsibility to make a difference in the world around them.

Our tagline is Changing Lives. Changing the World. I have never thought of it simply as a tagline. It is an expression of who we are and what we aspire to be.

We are interested in someone who understands the academic enterprise and values faculty leadership—and sees possibilities across traditional boundaries in partnership with our city, our business community, and the people and organizations that shape our region. We want a Provost who can turn vision into momentum, make thoughtful choices about where we invest, and see student success, enrollment, innovation, and stewardship as interconnected choices that shape our future.

Most of all, I am looking for a partner who wants to do more than lead the academic affairs division of a university. I am looking for someone who sees the Provost's role as helping shape the direction of the entire University—someone who will work with our leadership team, our campus community, and me to imagine new possibilities, challenge assumptions, build trust, and help UE be a positive catalyst for change on our campus and in the communities we serve.

If you want to help lead a university that intends not only to respond to a changing world, but to help change it, I hope you will consider UE.

- Christopher M. Pietruszkiewicz, President, University of Evansville



Christopher M. Pietruszkiewicz
President, University of Evansville

Christopher M. Pietruszkiewicz has served as President of the University of Evansville since 2018, leading the institution through a period of strategic growth, innovation, and community engagement. Under his leadership, the university secured a landmark $30 million U.S. Department of Education Promise Neighborhood grant, one of only three awarded nationally in 2023, and achieved some of the strongest fundraising years in its history. He has championed initiatives that expand experiential learning, strengthen academic programs, and reinforce the university's mission of preparing students to think critically, act bravely, serve responsibly, and live meaningfully in a changing world.

A tax attorney by training, Pietruszkiewicz previously served as a trial attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice and as an advisor to the U.S. Department of Education before entering academia. His higher education career has included faculty and leadership roles at Louisiana State University and Dean of Stetson University College of Law. Beyond campus, he is actively involved in higher education, economic development, and intercollegiate athletics through service on numerous regional and national boards, including the NCAA Division I Board of Directors. His leadership is marked by a commitment to student success, institutional sustainability, and strengthening partnerships between universities and the communities they serve.

LOCATION:

Evansville is the third-largest city in the state of Indiana and the largest city in southern Indiana. As the regional hub for the Tri-State area, Evansville is known for its small-town feel with the perks and amenities of a big city. Evansville is located on the scenic bend of the Ohio riverfront and is home to several significant cultural, historic and artistic sites.



Whether you're exploring vibrant downtown, catching a concert at the Ford Center, or taking a trip through history at the WWII museum, you will find yourself greeted with Hoosier hospitality.

UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE IN THE NEWS:

October 8, 2026
University of Evansville to Host Indiana Football Hall of Fame Celebration Honoring Randy Mattingly

October 7, 2026
New Preschool Classrooms Expand Early Learning Access Across the Evansville Promise Neighborhood

October 6, 2026
University of Evansville to Host 11th Annual High School Changemaker Challenge

September 30, 2026
UE Students Use AI to Improve Accessibility for Evansville Sidewalks

September 28, 2026
New York Times Reporter and Historian Clay Risen to Deliver 24th Annual Thomas C. Fiddick Memorial Lecture

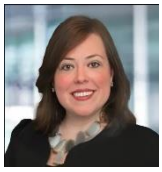
APPLICATION PROCESS:

The University of Evansville has engaged ZRG Partners to assist them with this search. For full consideration, please submit a cover letter and CV, as 2 separate PDF files to ZRG Partners by January 8, 2027 to:
UEPROVOST@ZRGPARTNERS.COM

The University of Evansville expects all members of its community to treat each other with respect and civility. Harassing behaviors directed towards any member of our community will not be tolerated. As part of its commitment to non-discrimination, the University specifically prohibits harassment based on any other characteristics set forth in its nondiscrimination statement as follows: including race, color, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, creed or religion, national origin, age, disability, veteran status and all federally protected groups/classes.

ABOUT ZRG PARTNERS:

ZRG is a global talent advisory firm that is changing the way companies hire and manage talent. ZRG's data-driven approach to executive and professional search has been changing the way clients think about how to find top talent. The company's digital Zi platform combines talent intelligence, candidate insights, and process improvement to dramatically deliver executive searches quicker and with proven better results.

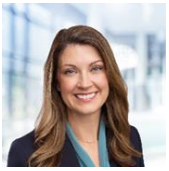


Rosa-Lyn Morris
Global Market Leader
Education Sector
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Rosa-Lyn (Rosa) Morris is the Global Market Leader for the Education practice at ZRG. In this role, she manages and supports a suite of talent and leadership offerings including interim, search, advisory, and consulting across the education sector.

Rosa specializes in education-related organizations including institutions of higher education, private/public/charter K12 organizations, and other organizations with an educational mission. In recent years, she has served and partnered with a diversified portfolio of clients at major AAU research institutions, liberal arts colleges, nonprofit organizations, K12 schools and organizations, and a variety of leading professional colleges and associations.

Link to complete bio for Rosa-Lyn Morris.



Lori Hemmer
Principal
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Lori Hemmer has 15 years of experience in higher education administration and academic medicine, with a strong focus on executive search and leadership transitions. She has led searches for Presidents, Chancellors, and senior leaders across academia and healthcare.

Before joining ZRG, she was a senior associate in executive search and previously served as Chief of Staff to the Chancellor at Vanderbilt University, where she managed senior leadership searches and daily operations. She also held a strategic leadership role at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, supporting key C-suite initiatives.

Link to complete bio for Lori Hemmer.