Vice President for Engagement and Director of Extension
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO

The Office of Engagement (OE) was organized in 2006 to advance CSU’s engagement and outreach missions. It includes CSU Extension (CSUE), CSU Online (CSUO), the Colorado Water Center, the Office of Community and Economic Development and has developed strong and vibrant ‘engagement’ programs in China and Ethiopia. The Vice President for Engagement (VPE) oversees these divisions, reports to the CSU President, and works closely with the Provost/Executive Vice President. These divisions work across all Colleges on campus, and closely with the Vice President for Research and have strong engagement programs throughout Colorado, the Western US and globally. At any given time, OE’s divisions include over 400 employees. The total of budgets for all divisions is approximately $70 million. OE is one of the most institutionally comprehensive commitments to engagement and outreach among all Land Grant (LGU) and other public universities. The Vice President for Engagement is the principal administrative and fiscal officer for the Office of Engagement, its divisions and programs.

Colorado State University, a prestigious Carnegie Doctoral Research Very High University, was established in 1870 and remains inspired by its land-grant heritage and world-class faculty, staff and students. Nationally, CSU is a Carnegie Engaged University (2008, 2014), is a member of the Engagement Scholarship Consortium, and is an APLU Innovation and Economic Prosperity University (2016). CSU enrolls approximately 33,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, and is the largest employer in northern Colorado with more than 7,400 faculty and staff. Colorado State University is located 60 miles north of Denver in the beautiful city of Fort Collins situated on the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains with the foothills and 14,000-foot peaks visible to residents. Fort Collins is an active and progressive community. Easy access to hiking, skiing, rafting and other outdoor sports is a great advantage to CSU students, faculty and staff. With an average of 300 days of sunshine per year and low humidity, Fort Collins residents enjoy pleasant weather year-round. Indoor and outdoor activities are enjoyable in every season. Colorado has earned a worldwide reputation as an area that offers an unparalleled lifestyle, and Fort Collins represents the very best of Colorado with top award rankings from Forbes for Best Place for Business/Careers, Gallup Well Being Index for Healthiest Mid-Size City in America, CBS Moneywatch List of Top 10 Best Places to Retire, Outside Magazine Best Towns in America, among other select recognitions: http://www.fcgov.com/fcfacts.php?ID=6.

Colorado State University invites applications and nominations for the position of Vice President for Engagement and Director of CSU Extension. This position is an exciting opportunity for an outstanding individual to provide visionary leadership in the scholarship of engagement and collaborative program development with CSU’s external stakeholders and public universities. We seek a passionate advocate and deep collaborator who can implement Colorado State’s land-grant mission throughout the state. Among Land-grant Universities, the Vice President Office of Engagement is organizationally unusual in blending core university engagement divisions within a single office – particularly the blending of CSU Extension and CSU Online. CSUE has the largest number of OE employees. CSU Online is an entrepreneurial division (over $40M in revenue) that provides campus leadership for resident instruction, student success and instructional design.

The development of the Office of Engagement over the past decade has been characterized by significant organizational innovation, featuring emphases on entrepreneurship, demand-driven programing, and integration of campus-wide talent with external stakeholders. OE’s culture is founded upon collaboration and sustainable team building. The Vice President for Engagement is co-chair with the Provost/Senior VP of the Provost’s Engagement Council, which actively enhances CSU’s campus-wide engagement and outreach missions among faculty, staff and students. The VPE works directly with all Deans, the Provost and Associate Provosts, and their staffs. The VPE is responsible for an inclusive culture that empowers OE’s employees. The VPE must be committed to creating a university community that values and supports diversity.

The Office of Engagement enhances inter-division programs and advances university-wide collaboration among CSU’s external initiatives. An applicant’s experience with both Extension and online education among higher education institutions may be limited among higher education institutions. Administrative experience with an Extension Service or an online agency is not required but is preferred. Also preferred is a working knowledge of the national Land-grant University system.

This position provides university-level leadership as a member of the Council of Deans and the President’s Cabinet. Externally, the VPE is responsible for advancing CSU’s historic constituencies and creating new partnerships within Colorado and beyond.
Required Job Qualifications:
• A terminal or appropriate advanced degree. The successful candidate may be considered for a tenured faculty appointment if they possess an outstanding record of achievement that merits appointment as a tenured professor in one of the CSU academic units.
• A record of prior achievement within a university engagement and outreach office (e.g. Extension, Continuing Education, Water, and Community, Workforce and Economic Development) or an academic record inclusive of the scholarship of engagement and understanding of the Land Grant University system.
• A record of success at the level of director, professor, assistant or deputy director, department chair, associate dean, or equivalent.
• Personnel experience.
• Fiscal management/budget experience.
• Excellent organizational, planning, supervisory, and problem-solving skills.
• Personal or professional commitment to diversity and inclusion demonstrated by persistent and sustained effort, active planning, allocation of resources and/or accountability for diversity outcomes.
• Must be willing and able to travel frequently and extensively, particularly throughout the State of Colorado.

Preferred Job Qualifications:
• Significant and successful administrative experience – with a record of progressive or extensive leadership and organizational development responsibilities, providing strategic leadership in a large, complex higher education institution or comparable organization.
• Leadership experience in national or international public higher education engagement and outreach organizations.
• Administrative experience with Extension.
• Cultural competence in rural and urban communities.
• Administrative experience working with county and statewide extension programs.
• Experience in continuing education and the opportunities for degree and non-degree online and hybrid programs.
• Experience in community, workforce economic development across metropolitan and rural areas.
• Experience in natural resource issues particularly those associated with water and climate.
• Experience working with and across a diverse set of academic disciplines in a scholarly and administrative capacity.
• Personal qualities that will facilitate open, participatory and collaborative relationships with the University community and external constituencies.
• International experience.
• Demonstrated ability to lead.

Diversity Statement: Ability to advance the department’s commitment to diversity and inclusion through research, teaching and outreach with relevant programs, goals and activities.

Administrative Leadership: The VPE is the principal administrative officer of the Office of Engagement and reports to the President. The VPE is responsible for implementing policies, managing personnel and financial resources, promoting a culture of inclusivity, and securing internal and external support for OE.

To apply, upload a cover letter which addresses the minimum and preferred qualifications, a resume or CV, and the names and contact information for three references. https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/65397

For full consideration, all application materials must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 2019.

References will not be contacted without prior notification of candidates.

Search Contact: Alan Rudolph, Vice President for Research, Alan.Rudolph@colostate.edu

Colorado State University is committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination and harassment based on race, age, creed, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or pregnancy and will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against employees or applicants because they have inquired about, discussed, or disclosed their own pay or the pay of another employee or applicant. Colorado State University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce and complies with all Federal and Colorado State laws, regulations, and executive orders regarding non-discrimination and affirmative action. The Office of Equal Opportunity is located in 101 Student Services.

The Title IX Coordinator is the Executive Director of the Office of Support and Safety Assessment, 123 Student Services Building, Fort Collins, CO 80523 -2026, (970) 491-7407.

The Section 504 and ADA Coordinator is the Associate Vice President for Human Capital, Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 Student Services Building, Fort Collins, CO 80523-0160, (970) 491-5836.

BACKGROUND CHECK: Colorado State University (CSU) strives to provide a safe study, work, and living environment for its faculty, staff, volunteers and students. To support this environment and comply with applicable laws and regulations, CSU conducts background checks. The type of background check conducted varies by position and can include, but is not limited to, criminal (felony and misdemeanor) history, sex offender registry, motor vehicle history, financial history, and/or education verification. Background checks will be conducted when required by law or contract and when, in the discretion of the university, it is reasonable and prudent to do so.

Application process and additional information may be obtained at https://jobs.colostate.edu/postings/65397