

POSITION PROFILE

Vice-President Research and Innovation

The Vice-President Research and Innovation is responsible for the management, administration, and leadership of research at Trent University and is instrumental in promoting, formalizing and embedding successful innovation throughout the University. Reporting to the President, the Vice-President Research and Innovation holds primary responsibility for the planning, development and implementation of all research administration initiatives in support of Trent's vision, mission, and strategic directions. The Vice-President will play a key role promoting Trent research locally, provincially, nationally, and internationally, and will act as a Trent liaison with the provincial government on matters that relate to its interest in research, innovation and entrepreneurship.

The Vice-President of Research and Innovation is responsible for maintaining and enhancing our commitment to faculty and student success in all areas of research. In this capacity, their office is responsible for:

- strategically overseeing the University's research programs in Peterborough and in Durham;
- creating an environment and culture inside the University that facilitates, encourages, inspires, nurtures, enhances and supports research;
- enabling and assisting faculty to identify and secure external funds through regional, national and international grants (institutional and individual), partnerships and contracts to support research at Trent, providing as much support as possible to faculty members when submitting applications;
- promoting and supporting basic (i.e. and not only applied) research in the different disciplines and areas of interest that characterize Trent;
- showcasing Trent faculty and student research programs and proposed research projects both within and outside the University;
- supporting joint research programs with partner institutions;
- fostering research that represents and promotes indigenous ways of knowing;
- overseeing the development of academic research policy;
- supporting the commercialization of appropriate Trent research projects;
- ensuring that intellectual property is managed in a way that supports the university and researchers;
- leading Research through the direction of an efficient and user-friendly Research Office that delivers services, support and training necessary to enable the effective functioning of research activities and operations and ensures compliance with requirements of granting agencies; and
- helping to secure and maintain positive local, regional, provincial and federal partnerships with government and industry.

The Vice-President Research and Innovation will be actively engaged in the academic life of Trent University. They will promote excellence in the academic community and be responsive to that community through a vision of innovation, high-quality scholarship and research.

The Vice-President Research and Innovation provides leadership within the university community by helping to define research priorities and implementing actions to support research and

scholarship in consultation with Senate and faculty. The Vice-President Research and Innovation is responsible for fostering the highest standards of research and supporting academic freedom, and is an advocate of scholarly integrity and research excellence in collaboration with partners, such as government agencies, other post-secondary institutions, and a wide range of external individuals and groups. The Vice-President Research and Innovation is involved with research communications and leadership in the public domain and with Trent's governance structures and committees. The Vice-President Research and Innovation is responsible for the promotion of positive relations internally (with faculty, staff, and students) and externally (including research partners, alumni and with various aspects of government and communities).

The Vice-President Research and Innovation supports faculty, graduate students, undergraduate students and staff by actively seeking ways to foster excellence in research and scholarship and supporting the dynamic interplay among teaching, learning and research activities in all areas of scholarly activity including undergraduate and graduate programs. The Vice-President Research and Innovation conducts annual performance reviews of all direct reports and leads an effective management team for research, budgetary and administrative decision-making responsibilities.

In view of the university's importance locally and regionally, and in view of its strong and growing partnerships with the City of Peterborough, the Vice-President Research and Innovation will work to establish the university as an economic, cultural and innovation engine for the region. This will include a significant leadership role in planning and promoting the development of the Trent Research and Innovation Park (TRIP) and a possible Sustainable Village on the East side of the Otonabee River on Trent's Symons campus. The university views these two projects as transformational projects that have the capacity to transform the university in a positive way for all members of the university community. The direction the projects take will be rooted in the university's research interests.

In doing so, they will cultivate an ecosystem for scientific, business, social and cultural entrepreneurship and innovation. In both cases, the aim is to have these major projects reflect the research (in particular, in environmental sciences and on aging) that is being done by Trent researchers, and to make them places for research, student placements and for study. In their work on this development, the Vice-President of Research and Innovation will work closely with other Vice-Presidents and the President, and with the managers and planners who will oversee the day to operation of these developments.

Specific responsibilities of the Vice-President Research and Innovation are to:

- (a) Provide administration, management and leadership to facilitate outcomes in support of Trent's vision, mission and strategic directions.
- (b) Provide leadership and coordination to foster academic excellence and scholarship by working with the managers of Trent's research programs, research activities, research park, and entrepreneurship and commercialization activities (including CFI, CRC, Indirect Costs).
- (c) Lead or direct the strategic and operational planning and budget processes related to these activities in academic units and all related administrative functions within the broad research portfolio.
- (d) As Trent University develops a new research park on the East Bank of the Otonabee (the Trent Research and Innovation Park, TRIP), the Vice-President Research and Innovation will play a leadership role in its development in partnership with the City of Peterborough. In particular, the Vice-President will play a role approving linkages with prospective tenants; overseeing the fostering of partnerships between university researchers and these tenants; ensuring (with the VP(Finance) and others) that TRIP becomes a revenue generator for the university; and

establishing and promoting student placements as a significant component of activities in the research park.

- (e) Lead the creation of a sustainable village with residential, commercial and cultural space. The goals for this development are many, and include the desire to create a model community which will showcase Trent's commitment to diversity, social justice and environmental and social sustainability; which will provide valuable community space and offer experiential education for our students; and provide a significant, reliable revenue stream for the university.
- (f) Facilitate the ongoing development of comprehensive, interdisciplinary research and innovation programs to further elevate Trent University at the provincial, national and international level.
- (g) Liaises with funding agencies and governments; promotes industry partnerships and champions Trent's research and innovation community externally advocating for small/medium research universities.
- (h) Serve as an *ex officio* member of Senate and such committees of Senate as Senate may determine.
- (i) Provide direction to all faculty, staff, students and organizational units in the development of their strategic research plans, and by supporting best practices, and monitoring progress through appropriate performance indicators.
- (j) Provide leadership and oversee development of international research programs/efforts, including a focus on commercialization.
- (k) Develop, protect and value intellectual property.
- (l) Develop and maintain the University's research programs and relationships with granting agencies, government ministries, regulatory bodies, community organizations, municipalities, other post-secondary institutions, and industry.
- (m) Identify and pursue opportunities on behalf of researchers and the institution to increase Trent's performance and reputation for outstanding research.
- (n) Ensure compliance with all research administration requirements including legislative, ethics, regulatory, funding agency and others.
- (o) Provide accurate, timely and comprehensive information and guidance on all pertinent matters within the portfolio of the Vice-President Research and Innovation to the President, Senate, the Board of Governors and their associated committees (e.g., Research Policy Committee of Senate).
- (p) Work with the University's Vice-Presidents to ensure achievement of mutual goals (including for example, the Vice-President Finance & Administration in planning, implementation and monitoring short- and long-term budget strategies, the Vice-President External Relations and Advancement in developing and implementation of research communications and advancement activities in support of research, and the Provost and Vice-President Academic in providing coordination and overall leadership to support academic excellence and integrated planning activities).

The Vice-President Research and Innovation may delegate duties and functions as appropriate.