Indiana University (IU), an Association of American Universities (AAU) member, seeks an innovative scholar-leader for the role of Vice President for Research (VPR), a cabinet-level position. Founded in 1820, Indiana University is one of the top public research universities in the world, with $732 million in sponsored research annually. As the University’s chief research officer, the VPR oversees IU’s research enterprise with the goal of increasing the university’s scholarly and societal impact on the state, the nation, and the world.

The University

Indiana’s core campuses are IU Bloomington, the oldest and largest campus; and IUPUI, an urban campus located in Indianapolis, the state capital. The University also includes five regional campuses located in Gary, Kokomo, New Albany, Richmond, and South Bend; two IUPUI regional centers, located in Columbus and Fort Wayne; and nine School of Medicine campuses across Indiana. These diverse campuses provide opportunities for partnerships with businesses, organizations, and the community to advance mutual biotechnical and scientific goals.

Innovation, creativity, and academic freedom are hallmarks of IU’s world-class contributions in research and the arts. The University is home to top-ranked business and music schools, the world’s first school of philanthropy, the nation’s first school of informatics, and the country’s largest medical school. Along with medicine, IU is the home of vibrant health sciences schools including Nursing, Social Work, Public Health, Health and Human Sciences, and Optometry, providing opportunities for interprofessional collaboration across both urban and rural settings.

Leadership

Pamela Whitten became the 19th president of Indiana University on July 1, 2021.
A visionary scholar and accomplished educator and researcher, Whitten has held a variety of leadership roles, beginning at Michigan State University where she served as a dean for five years, and most recently as president of Kennesaw State University.

As IU’s first female president, Whitten assumed the helm at a time of record-level research funding and philanthropic support. Under her leadership, IU has emphasized three core missions: providing broad access to an education for all students from Indiana and beyond; pursuing world-class research, scholarship, and creative activity; and making meaningful contributions toward improving Hoosier health and the economic, social, civic, and cultural development of the state and the world.

Whitten holds a Ph.D. in communication studies from the University of Kansas, a Master of Arts in communication from the University of Kentucky, and a Bachelor of Science in management from Tulane University. She is an internationally recognized expert in the field of telemedicine. As part of her work in higher education, she additionally held leadership roles at the University of Georgia and the University of Kansas Medical Center.

**Academics**

Indiana University’s academic programs are among the best in the world, with several ranking #1 and in the top 10 nationally. More than 90,000 students enroll across IU’s seven campuses and two regional centers, charting their paths to become difference-makers, life-savers, world-changers and visionaries. IU’s diverse academic programs include African studies, analytical chemistry, environmental policy, social psychology, music, nuclear physics, and foreign languages.

Indiana University’s academic offerings are constantly evolving to prepare students for the careers of tomorrow. In addition to a recent expansion of its online programs, IU currently boasts:

- 930+ academic programs university-wide;
- 20,000+ classes offered each semester;
- 200+ museums, institutes, and research centers;
- $1.1 billion+ in financial aid awarded in 2021; and,
- $397 million+ in institutional gift aid and loans in 2021.

Core campuses in Bloomington and Indianapolis give students the opportunity to choose a traditional setting or big-city environment. Regional campuses offer four-year IU degrees and graduate degrees in small-campus environments throughout the state: IU East in Richmond, IU Northwest in Gary, IU Southeast in New Albany, IU Kokomo, and IU South Bend.

Nine medical campuses across Indiana offer a wide variety of working and learning environments where students can pursue a career in a variety of fields including medicine; cell, molecular, and cancer biology; anatomy; biochemistry; cellular and integrative physiology; medical and molecular genetics; medical neuroscience; microbiology and immunology; musculoskeletal health; pathology; pharmacology; and toxicology.
Indiana University Health is the University-affiliated healthcare provider with dozens of hospitals, specialty care centers, and behavioral and rehabilitative health centers located across Indiana. Opportunities to utilize and extend University-initiated research are enhanced through the unique partnership with the healthcare system and the University.

Research

Indiana University is one of the top research universities in the world, with $732 million in sponsored research annually. Twenty-nine of IU’s faculty are national academy members. Additionally, eleven faculty members at Indiana University are among the world’s most influential researchers—those whose studies were among the top one percent most-cited publications in their fields based on their publications over the past decade—according to Clarivate Analytics’ 2022 Highly Cited Researchers report. Growing transformative research and creativity is a key pillar in IU 2030, President Whitten’s framework for the development of strategic plans for each IU campus. This framework includes ambitious goals and a determination for IU to occupy the highest tier in American higher education. It emphasizes three interconnected spheres—student success, research, and service to Indiana and beyond. With innovation that springs from a unique combination of research, discovery, entrepreneurship, and creative scholarship, IU engages in transformational research and creative activity to improve the lives of people in Indiana and beyond. Broad goals include increasing research output, improving research support for faculty, including support for large, multidisciplinary research teams, and improving research commercialization.

IU is well-positioned to continue to produce transformative research and creative activity. Its strategic assets include a strong growth trajectory in the biotech sector, healthy relationships across the state of Indiana, excellence in community engagement, traditional strength in the health sciences, including a context where translational work from bench to bedside is already established, and presence in both rural and urban settings.

Location

The VPR works extensively on both the Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses; the next VPR may choose to make their home in either location. Bloomington, home to 85,000 residents, is nestled in the rolling hills of southern Indiana and serves as a home away from home for tens of thousands of Indiana University students and alumni. The city offers dynamic energy, spectacular scenery, outdoor activities, world-class educational opportunities, Big Ten sporting events, thriving local businesses, a vibrant arts scene, and unique shopping and dining experiences. Bloomington has a thriving arts community, rich cultural opportunities, and endless chances to explore and enjoy nature. The town has been ranked by Forbes as the number one best city for work-life balance, a top college town to “live in forever” by College Ranker, and the number two best college town in America by USA Today.
About 45 minutes away by car, Indianapolis is the state capital and 15th most populous city in the United States. Key industries include trade, transportation, and utilities; professional and business services; education and health services; government; leisure and hospitality; manufacturing; and a growing tech sector, including a significant presence of Salesforce employees. The city is home to three Fortune 500 companies, two major league sports teams, and several museums, including the world’s largest children’s museum. Indianapolis is perhaps best known for annually hosting the world’s largest single-day sporting event, the Indianapolis 500. The city offers plenty of green space and opportunities for outdoor recreation. Encompassing 250 acres, White River is the city’s major urban park, home to the Indianapolis Zoo, White River Gardens, and museums. Housing is plentiful and affordable.

The Role of the Vice President for Research

The Vice President for Research reports to the President and provides strategic direction for the University’s research efforts in collaboration with the President’s senior leadership team. This position helps to support over $396 million in federal research grants and contracts as well as $335 million in state and private grants or contracts annually. In addition to overseeing research development, compliance, and administration, as well as oversight of research security, technology transfer, university art and cultural collections, foundation relations, and corporate development, this individual will bring strategic leadership to further grow and enhance the research output at IU. This effort will require close collaboration with the Provost at IU Bloomington as well as working with other IU leaders including the CIO, CFO, IU Foundation, and others.

The Vice President for Research’s area is a large and complex organization and includes approximately 500 employees and a $100 million annual operating budget. Direct reports currently include the:

- Associate Vice President for Research Development
- Associate Vice President for Bloomington and Vice Provost for Research
- Associate Vice President for Indianapolis and Vice Chancellor for Research
- Associate Vice President for Medicine and Executive Associate Dean for Research
- Associate Vice President for Research Administration
- Associate Vice President for Research Compliance
- Associate Vice President for Innovation and Commercialization
- Associate Vice President for Business Partnerships
- Chief of Staff and Assistant Vice President of Operations
- Senior Executive Director of Foundation Relations
- Executive Director of University Collections
- Chief Research Security Officer

The Vice President for Research also acts as the Deciding Official for research misconduct matters and is the Institutional Official for human subjects and animal welfare issues on all IU campuses.
Position Priorities

Working with university-wide offices, campus leaders, and deans, the office of the Vice President for Research works to increase and diversify research and creative activities at IU; attract external funding for these activities; and develop public-private partnerships, technology transfer, and intercampus research opportunities. The next VPR will have the opportunity to prioritize the following: Lead the efforts identified in IU 2030 to catalyze university-wide, transformational and innovative research and creative activity, including cultivating a more pervasive culture of research; advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in IU’s research community; expand research opportunities for students; and work to reduce or eliminate barriers to research. In addition:

- Through the Office of Research Administration (ORA), provide support for IU’s research community to expand research productivity and protect the institution and its research community from risk. ORA seeks to minimize impediments to research activity; promote research conduct that meets the highest standards of ethical integrity; and ensure that research activity is compliant with all local, state, and federal regulations;
- Through the Office of Research Compliance, ensure that research conducted by IU and affiliated researchers is not only in compliance with all applicable regulatory, statutory, and organizational requirements, but also meets the standards of best practices while minimizing impediments to research and burdens on the research community;
- Cultivate strategic partnerships with industry leaders and entrepreneurs locally, nationally and around the world, building meaningful, sustainable, and mutually beneficial partnerships in support of education and research across Indiana and beyond;
- Facilitate greater research impact and more responsible stewardship by crossing disciplinary, geographic, and institutional boundaries to facilitate and draw on sustained interdisciplinary collaborations;
- Expand efforts to translate IU’s research and creative activity to the public through a shared commitment to disclosure and licensing of inventions, discoveries, and innovations; entrepreneurship and commercialization; and partnerships with key constituencies;
- Work with university and campus leadership to improve research infrastructure and reduce burdens to research;
- Build biotech partnerships and presence; and,
- Expand engagement with federal agencies with particular attention to national defense and security and NIH-sponsored opportunities.

Qualifications

IU seeks candidates possessing an earned doctorate and stellar academic credentials, commensurate with eligibility for a tenured faculty appointment in an academic department of the University. The successful candidate should have a documented record of funded research and significant personal research accomplishments. In addition, the ideal candidate will have many of the following:
• Senior administrative experience in an academic institution, including personnel and budget management;
• An understanding of the development of research infrastructure and ability to enhance the educational and research missions of the University by creating further opportunities for collaboration among students and faculty members;
• Demonstrated experience in forging partnerships across disciplines and campuses;
• Knowledge of federal research policies, grant administration, and compliance regulations as well as familiarity with National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant funding;
• Familiarity with patenting and licensing, technology transfer, and economic development activities; understanding of foundation relations, corporate relations, and university (museum) collections;
• A deep appreciation for a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment and a demonstrated record of building such an institutional culture;
• An ability to envision synergies between departments and disciplines to leverage strengths and increase revenue as well as an ability to transform culture to increase financial support for capital projects and improvements;
• Expertise in aligning and harmonizing myriad strategic resources to achieve common goals and further strategic initiatives and the ability to manage large-scale, competing projects simultaneously;
• An engaging public speaking and communication style with the ability to connect with a broad range of constituent groups, including students, faculty and staff, federal and state government officials, and foundation and other funding representatives;
• An appreciation of the culture and values of higher education as represented by an outstanding public research university founded in the liberal arts and sciences and encompassing strong professional colleges and schools;
• A dedication to faculty support and service, track record of collegiality and teamwork, and belief in collaborative governance; and,
• An entrepreneurial spirit, a strong record of sound professional judgment, and a deep commitment to personal and professional ethics.

This is a full-time position that will be performed on site in Indiana. Salary commensurate with experience with a generous benefits package. For best consideration, please send all nominations and applications to the email address below. Applications should include a letter of interest and CV.

Shelly Weiss Storbeck, Global Education Practice Lead and Managing Director
Jim Sirianni, Managing Director
Danielle Mebert, Senior Associate
Lisa Solinsky, Senior Associate
IUVPR@storbecksearch.com
Equal Employment Opportunity

Indiana University is an equal employment and affirmative action employer and a provider of ADA services. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, ethnicity, color, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, disability status or protected veteran status. Indiana University does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs and activities, including employment and admission, as required by Title IX. Questions or complaints regarding Title IX may be referred to the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights or the university Title IX Coordinator. Indiana University’s Non-Discrimination Notice, including contact information, can be found here.

Campus Safety and Security

The Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, containing policy statements, crime and fire statistics for all Indiana University campuses, is available online. You may also request a physical copy by emailing IU Public Safety at iups@iu.edu or by visiting the IU Police Department.