The mission of Kansas State University is to foster excellent teaching, research, and service that develop a highly skilled and educated citizenry necessary to advancing the well-being of Kansas, the nation and the international community.
The university embraces diversity, encourages engagement and is committed to the discovery of knowledge, the education of undergraduate and graduate students, and improvement in the quality of life and standard of living of those we serve.

Kansas State University (k-state.edu) seeks a strategic and perceptive individual to serve as university president. The university has three physical campuses in Manhattan, Salina and Olathe, Kansas, as well as a Global Campus for distance education.

This individual will cultivate collaborative relationships with a broad range of diverse individuals and groups to enhance the university’s substantial strengths in research, academics and outreach. The successful candidate will serve as a champion for the university’s strategic plan. University administrators, faculty, staff and students are committed to the vision of the K-State 2025 strategic plan and becoming a Top 50 public research university (k-state.edu/2025). This plan is centered around seven thematic goals, each goal supporting the inherent values of the institution:

- Research, scholarly and creative activities, and discovery
- Undergraduate educational experience
- Graduate scholarly experience
- Engagement, extension, outreach and service
- Faculty and staff
- Facilities and infrastructure
- Athletics

Building on its proud heritage as the nation’s first operational land-grant institution, the university is internationally recognized for excellence in research, scholarly and creative activities, and discovery; undergraduate and graduate education; extension; and outreach. The university consistently ranks among the nation’s best for student achievement, faculty excellence, and an enviable town-gown relationship in Manhattan, which has been named the nation’s No. 1 college town by Livability.com. A classic college town with big-city amenities, Manhattan boasts a population of 56,000-plus and offers an unparalleled quality of life.

The nine-member Kansas Board of Regents is the governing board of the state’s six universities, including Kansas State University, and is the statewide coordinating board for the state’s 32 public higher education institutions. Appointed by the governor, members of the Board focus primarily on issues of educational and state policy. University leadership is delegated to the presidents and chancellor, who function as CEOs of their respective institutions and report directly to the Board. This practice has led to a pattern of historically long-serving university presidents and stability for higher education in the state of Kansas.

Kansas State University leadership has seen many recent successes, including the fourth consecutive year of $100 million-plus fundraising, as well as record-setting extramural funding. The FY 2016 educational and general budget is $630.9 million; the total operating budget is $818.4 million, of which state appropriations comprise 20.4 percent ($166.9 million). According to 2015 rankings released by Glassdoor.com and reported by Forbes Magazine, Kansas State University ranks second in the nation among top universities for which to work.

The university is comprised of the main campus in Manhattan; the Polytechnic Campus in Salina, which provides a small campus atmosphere with a professional learning environment (polytechnic.k-state.edu); the Olathe Campus, which is the academic research presence within the Kansas Bioscience Park (olathe.k-state.edu); and Global Campus, which is the university’s distance education presence that provides educational opportunities to lifetime learners through online degree programs, professional development conferences, workshops and enrichment programs (global.k-state.edu). Additionally, Kansas State University has an extensive network of international partners in Europe, Africa and Australia.
Kansas State University: A Cutting-Edge Institution with a Robust Research Climate

Founded in 1863, Kansas State University is one of the nation’s premier land-grant universities and has earned recognition for its innovative curriculum that includes high-demand academic programs, a robust research climate, and service and outreach initiatives that meet the needs of the state, nation and world. As the institution embraces the future, it is defining what it means to be a global land-grant university in the 21st Century, providing leadership in research and education to match important humanitarian and market needs around the world.

The university is home to more than 90 research centers with a proven ability to create transformational science of world interest, and it ranks among the Top 30 public research universities for licensing its discoveries into the global marketplace. Classified as a Carnegie Research University at the highest activity level, Kansas State University’s total research and sponsored program expenditures in FY 2014 were $185 million, with the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture as the largest federal sponsors (k-state.edu/research/our-research/facts-figures.html).

Cutting-edge research requires a supporting infrastructure. The university invested $73.3 million in academic facilities in FY 2015, and $207.1 million in FY 2016. These investments include state-of-the-art additions to the College of Engineering facilities; renovations to Seaton Hall, the home of the College of Architecture, Planning & Design; a new home for the College of Business Administration; and the newest residence hall, Wefald Hall.
Through K-State Research and Extension (ksre.k-state.edu), the university conducts practical research and delivers those results to all 105 counties to improve the lives of Kansans. Research and extension initiatives include: natural resources and environmental management; healthy communities; safe food and human nutrition; competitive agricultural systems; and economic development through value-added products. Extension personnel are located in every Kansas county as well as nine experiment fields, four area offices, three research centers, and three research-extension centers. Kansas State University brings research and extension faculty and their research results into the classroom.

A global leader in animal health, plant science, food safety and food security, Kansas State University is a model of entrepreneurship and successful collaboration with public and private partners in cutting-edge research and bioscience technology to advance the university and accelerate regional economic growth. The university’s efforts have garnered international attention as a model for university/private-sector engagement.

Many unique institutes and programs flourish at the state, national and international levels as part of the university’s growing research enterprise. These include the Biosecurity Research Institute (bri.k-state.edu); four USAID Feed the Future Innovation Labs that focus on sorghum and millet, wheat, reducing postharvest losses, and sustainable intensification; the Johnson Cancer Research Center (cancer.k-state.edu); the Konza Prairie Biological Station (kpbs.konza.k-state.edu); the Sensory Analysis Center; the International Grains Program; and the James R. Macdonald Laboratory for Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is building the $1.25 billion National Bio and Agro-defense Facility (NBAF) adjacent to the Manhattan campus that is expected to be fully operational by 2022-23 (k-state.edu/nbaf). NBAF will replace Plum Island Animal Disease Center in New York and will provide integrated research, response and diagnostic capabilities to protect animal and public health.

A key factor in the decision to locate this biosafety level-4 (BSL-4) federal laboratory in Manhattan was proximity to the university’s biosafety level-3 Biosecurity Research Institute (BRI) and the College of Veterinary Medicine. The BRI is a unique bio-containment research, training and education facility that addresses threats to plant, animal and human health, including foodborne pathogens, with world-class researchers. Once completed, NBAF will help attract private biotechnology companies and scientists to the Manhattan community, as it is expected to draw an additional 40 businesses and laboratories and generate an economic return of $3.5 billion in its first 20 years.

With local and regional partners, Kansas State University is pursuing an aggressive initiative to create a Bio-Agro Science and Innovation Corridor. Emerging enterprises and established, global companies will benefit from proximity to NBAF, as well as the food, agriculture, and animal health research capabilities and talent of the university. Roughly $50 million in infrastructure improvements will establish a home for collaboration among the academy and the public and private sectors. This initiative will advance K-State 2025 while leveraging university capabilities to enhance economic prosperity in Manhattan and throughout Kansas, with the anticipated result of creating 5,000 new public- and private-sector jobs by 2035.
Kansas State University: A Diverse and Student-Centered Community of Scholars

More than 24,000 students from all 50 states and more than 100 countries (including more than 4,500 graduate students) pursue degrees in 250-plus undergraduate majors and options or pursue graduate education in 71 master’s degrees, 43 doctoral degrees, and 39 graduate certificates in multiple disciplines across campus. The university’s nine academic colleges are:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Planning & Design
- Arts & Sciences
- Business Administration
- Education
- Engineering
- Human Ecology
- Technology and Aviation
- Veterinary Medicine

The university is the No. 1 choice among Kansas high school graduating seniors. Small class sizes, the excellent caliber of teaching faculty, and an intensely student-centered learning environment are valuable keys to the university’s success in recruiting and retaining students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The majority of classes — 87 percent — have fewer than 50 students, which leads to an average student-to-faculty ratio of 19:1.

Students participate in more than 475 student organizations and nearly 30 club sports.
The Student Governing Association (SGA), representing students in every college, engages with the administration, faculty, staff and community on a regular basis. The SGA is also entrusted with allocating more than $16.1 million in student fees each year. Students play an integral role in setting tuition rates, universitywide initiatives and budgetary priorities.

More than $230 million in scholarships, grants, loans and work-study is distributed each year, and freshmen-to-sophomore retention is at a record high of 81 percent. The average ACT score for incoming freshmen is 24.9, also a university record.

Kansas State University received 2014 and 2015 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) awards from Insight Into Diversity magazine. Domestic multicultural students account for 15 percent of the student population, a record high and continuing trend.

The university is committed to advancing creative scholarship across all disciplines, ranking No. 1 among public universities and colleges in the overall number of Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Goldwater and Udall scholarships earned during the past 25 years. The university also ranks first in the nation among 500 state universities and sixth overall in producing Truman Scholars since the program began in 1977. With three national and eight state Carnegie/CASE Professor of the Year winners, Kansas State University ranks in the Top 10 of all public and private universities.

With close proximity to Fort Riley, home of the legendary 1st Infantry Division, the institution is perennially named one of the top military-inclusive universities in the nation.

More than 200,000 alumni proudly call Kansas State University their alma mater, and they have done extraordinary things — from leading major government, corporate and nonprofit institutions to making path-breaking scientific discoveries to winning acclaim for achievements in art and sport. With more than 44,000 active members, the K-State Alumni Association ranks among the top five associations in the national Power Five conferences for the percentage of graduates who are members.
One of the region’s most popular cultural venues is McCain Auditorium, the campus cultural center for live performing arts. McCain has a rich history of bringing world-class experiences to northeastern Kansas through the annual McCain Performance Series (k-state.edu/mccain).

The Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art (beach.k-state.edu) is another cultural centerpiece of the university. Accredited by the American Association of Museums, the Beach Museum comprises a permanent collection of 7,000-plus works of art, with emphasis on the art of Kansas and the region. The museum hosts a year-round calendar of critically acclaimed temporary exhibitions and educational programs.

The prestigious Landon Lecture Series (k-state.edu/landon), also a perennial favorite on the calendar, has drawn seven U.S. presidents, world leaders, CEOs and many other prominent figures.

Additionally, the Kansas State University Wildcats are members of the NCAA Division I Big 12 Conference, offering 16 varsity sports and state-of-the-art athletic facilities. In the 2015 academic year, the university counted an outstanding 22 All-American, 35 All-Big 12 and 125 Academic All-Big 12 selections. Additionally, the Wildcats recorded Big 12-leading APR scores in five sports: football, men’s golf, volleyball, and both men’s and women’s cross country.

As one of just 65 members of the five NCAA autonomous conferences, K-State Athletics operates with a vision of being a “Model Intercollegiate Athletics Program” and has gained national recognition for transparency and fiscal responsibility. Thanks to Ahearn Fund members in 50 states, $210 million in facility upgrades have been completed since 2011, including the Vanier Family Football Complex and West Stadium Center, Ice Family Basketball Center, Intercollegiate Rowing Center, Mike Goss Tennis Stadium, and a new soccer competition/football facility, all privately funded with no state, university or tuition dollars.

With season ticket holders hailing from 46 states, K-State Athletics provides an important link to K-State’s nationally distributed alumni base and is a critical partner in the economic development of Manhattan and the state of Kansas.
In the heart of northeast Kansas’ scenic Flint Hills — comprised of layers of flint and limestone and the largest remaining American Tallgrass Prairie — one of the nation’s most unique and beautiful landscapes surrounds Manhattan, Kansas. Only minutes away are the two largest lakes in Kansas (12,000-acre Tuttle Creek Lake and 15,700-acre Milford Reservoir), which are surrounded by parks with trails, campgrounds, hunting land, and water access for fishing and skiing. Just south of Manhattan is the 8,600-acre Konza Prairie Biological Station, owned by the Nature Conservancy and operated by the university, where some of the best hiking trails in the heartland can be found.

Manhattan anchors a tri-county area with a population of 135,000 and is a leader in education, trade, health care and cultural arts. This dynamic community pulses with shopping, dining, entertainment and nightlife (manhattan.org), and is affectionately known as the “Little Apple” for the big-city amenities that residents enjoy. Manhattan is an environment that is welcoming and intellectually stimulating, a hub of diverse cultural and recreational delights.

Manhattan offers excellent options for both public and private K-12 education. The local high school has achieved national recognition from ACT for its rigorous core curriculum and ranks among the Top 5 percent of high schools in the United States.

Manhattan consistently appears at the top of national rankings for its economic health and quality of life, including Money Magazine’s “Top Ten” destinations for those who want to retire young. Manhattan earned that spot based on affordability, recreation, arts, positive population growth, economic health, an enviable and active lifestyle, and access to a world-class university. Forbes Magazine rates it the “Third Best Small Community in the U.S.” for business and careers, and CNNMoney.com placed Manhattan among the best places in America to live. In 2015, Manhattan was named one of America’s best cities for black entrepreneurs.

Designated “Tree City USA” for 21 consecutive years, Manhattan boasts 21 parks, top-tier health care facilities, shopping, dining and an accredited zoo. Colbert Hills Golf Course is ranked as the top daily fee golf course in Kansas by Golf Digest Magazine. Boating, fishing, water skiing and cycling are lures for students and residents alike. The Manhattan Regional Airport is the second busiest commercial airport in the state of Kansas and offers daily flights to and from Dallas and Chicago. The community is only a two-hour drive from Kansas City.
Goals and Initiatives for Kansas State University

- The K-State 2025 university-created strategic plan
- Sufficient resources to fund the future advancement of Kansas State University
- Diversity among faculty, staff and students
- Academic excellence in research and student learning
- Enrollment management and student success models
- Environmental, economic and social sustainability issues

Desired Presidential Attributes

The Presidential Search Committee seeks a proven leader who:

**Leadership**

- Demonstrates a record of successful leadership experience in a complex environment, such as a research university
- Presents clear evidence of creative problem solving, innovation and successful entrepreneurial activities and initiatives
- Is a forward-thinking visionary who plans, strategically implements and executes with aplomb and precision — with measurable outcomes
- Will collaborate with the Kansas Board of Regents and other Kansas colleges and universities
- Builds, delegates and holds accountable, strong, highly functioning and effective leadership teams
- Advocates the university's land grant culture, mission and role among internal and external constituencies
- Promotes the role of collegiate athletics and its contribution to the life of a major public university and its communities
- Demonstrates a thorough and effective understanding and execution of fiscal management in a university environment
- Works effectively to garner support from city, county, state and federal governmental entities
- Has a record of successful resource generation through private and foundation fundraising, enrollment growth and the creation of new programs — all within the mission of the institution
- Embraces global, online, high-impact and emerging modes of inquiry and instruction

**Personal**

- Possesses an earned doctorate, a comparable terminal degree or an equivalent combination of education and experience
- Thrives within and understands the unique importance, culture and role of a major public research university
- Engages with all stakeholders of the university in a personal and authentic way
- Understands and promotes the value of the full array of the university's academic, research, scholarly, and creative programs and initiatives
- Is a person known for honesty, transparency and impeccable integrity
- Is decisive within a collaborative and shared governance model
- Embraces the importance of undergraduate and graduate teaching along with research, service, extension and community engagement
- Is committed to student access, success, well-being and inclusive involvement with respect to all students, with special attention to first-generation, multicultural, international and veteran students
- Understands the dramatic changes that impact Kansas State University in the 21st century

**Goals and Initiatives for Kansas State University**

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Search Process and Timeline

Nominations, applications and inquiries may be sent in complete confidence. Full consideration will be given to all applications received by September 26, 2016. Application materials (to include a letter of interest, curriculum vitae and the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of five references — who will not be contacted without permission) must be electronically submitted to: K-StatePresident@academic-search.com

The search is assisted by John B. Hicks (John.Hicks@academic-search.com; 205-345-7221) and Ann Die Hasselmo (Ann.Hasselmo@academic-search.com; 202-276-8654), Senior Consultants for Academic Search, Inc., Washington, D.C.

Further information about Kansas State University is available at k-state.edu and from www.academic-search.com under Current Searches.

Kansas State University actively seeks diversity among its employees and is an Equal Opportunity employer of individuals with disabilities and protected veterans. Passage of a pre-employment criminal background check will be required of the final candidate.
Kansas State University is an affirmative action and equal opportunity employer of individuals with disabilities and protected veterans. Kansas State University actively seeks diversity among its employees.

Equal opportunity employer

Kansas State University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including sexual harassment and sexual violence), sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, ancestry, disability, genetic information, military status, or veteran status, in the University’s programs and activities as required by applicable laws and regulations. The person designated with responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning nondiscrimination policies is the University’s Title IX Coordinator: the Director of the Office of Institutional Equity, equity@k-state.edu, 103 Edwards Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas 66506-4801, 785-532-6220. The campus ADA Coordinator is the Director of Employee Relations, charlott@k-state.edu, who may be reached at 103 Edwards Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas 66506-4801, 785-532-6277.