



## **Vice President and Dean Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Oklahoma State University**

Oklahoma State University invites nominations, applications and expressions of interest for the position of Vice President and Dean (VP/D) of Agricultural Programs in the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (OSU Agriculture).

### **ABOUT US:**

OSU Agriculture is a dynamic academic organization that integrates the three missions of teaching, research and Cooperative Extension. These are represented by the Ferguson College of Agriculture and two state agencies: the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station (OSU Ag Research) and the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service (OSU Cooperative Extension). The VP/D advances the vision for OSU Agriculture in support of the University's strategic plans; provides strong leadership for growth and development of research, instruction, Cooperative Extension and international programs; develops and maintains productive relationships with internal and external constituencies; and fosters a climate for organizational structure, function and leadership that encourages all members of OSU Agriculture and the University to successfully contribute.

OSU Agriculture includes nine academic departments, 16 field research stations, two institutes and three centers and a presence in all 77 Oklahoma counties. The College offers undergraduate majors in 16 fields of study, 14 master's and 11 doctoral degrees. Current enrollment includes 2,887 undergraduate and 397 graduate students. In 2021-2022, the College granted 660 undergraduate and 146 graduate degrees. OSU Agriculture has a total budget of approximately \$108.9 million and more than 850 FTEs, including 177 tenure-track faculty, 68 non-tenure track faculty and 186 Cooperative Extension professionals. Find more information about the programs, structure and unique qualities of OSU Agriculture at <https://agdivision.okstate.edu/>.

We thrive in an environment that supports and encourages student achievement and leadership, groundbreaking, fundamental and translatable research, and transformational Cooperative Extension programming.

Ag Research and Cooperative Extension teams with global impact include:

- The OSU Wheat Improvement Team, with more than 25 protected varieties planted in over 60% of Oklahoma's wheat crop.
- The Beef Nutrition, Health and Economics team, in support of the third largest beef cattle herd in the United States.
- The Turfgrass Development and Management Team, with protected varieties on professional athletic venues and at the U.S. Capitol.
- The Grassland Ecosystem Management Team, addressing soil health, wildlife conservation and sustainability.

Oklahoma State University is ranked first among U.S. universities in addressing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 2 - End Hunger. We are also fourth in addressing SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation; eighth in addressing SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities; and second in addressing SDG 17 - Overall. In addition, OSU Agriculture has adapted modern digital platforms and integrated communications to stay competitive in translating research findings into practice. Ferguson College of Agriculture students are routinely among the most accomplished academic achievers and leaders on campus. The culture of faculty-student engagement and enhanced development through the Student Success Center continues to support enrollment growth, strong retention and graduation outcomes. Likewise, our alumni are visionary leaders in local, state, national and sovereign nation government, as well as industry, community economic development and non-governmental organizations.

**NEW FRONTIERS:**

The next leader of OSU Agriculture will drive the organization forward during a monumental era for the university and the state of Oklahoma with the continued construction and completion of the [New Frontiers Agricultural Hall](#). This extraordinary facility will change and modernize OSU Agriculture's teaching, research and Extension missions and foster learning and collaboration now and for generations to come. With the world-class \$115 million building, OSU aims to recruit the country's most esteemed agricultural faculty, researchers and students. Projected to open in fall 2024, the New Frontiers Agricultural Hall will utilize flexible lab spaces to serve multiple disciplines and interactive classrooms to harness students' energy and the excitement of innovation. It will enhance our efforts to become even more collaborative, bringing all of OSU Agriculture's expertise to bear on the challenges and opportunities facing the state of Oklahoma.

OSU Agriculture has experienced a period of expanded investments in infrastructure for research, teaching and Extension with generous support from private funds. The organization is poised to provide innovative leadership in addressing local challenges to agricultural production and natural resource management, as well as global challenges in food security, food safety, environmental stewardship and sustainability.

**UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY:**

Oklahoma State University has a rich history of institutional success and growth. A land-grant institution with more than 35,000 students across a five-campus system, OSU has graduated more than 264,000 students to serve the state of Oklahoma, the nation and the world. President Kayse Shrum and Provost and Senior Vice President Jeanette Mendez – OSU's transformational leadership team – are advancing the institution further with the launch of a [comprehensive and modern strategy](#) for the next era of OSU. The VP/D will lead the execution of this vision for OSU Agriculture and will have the opportunity to shape the future success of OSU as well as ensure imperatives are achieved. As part of the strategy, the VP/D will also assist in identifying key areas where OSU can make a difference in solving societal problems, be student-centric, with a focus on providing each student with a thoughtful set of competencies to prepare them for life after graduation.

The OSU campus and the city of Stillwater are known for being welcoming, respectful and genuine. A mid-size city, Stillwater is a one-hour drive to the metropolitan areas of Oklahoma City and Tulsa, both of which are home to international airports, vibrant art and performance venues and professional sports teams. Stillwater is education-focused and boasts one of the top public-school districts in the state. Additionally, the dependents of OSU employees receive four years of free tuition. [The McKnight Center for the Performing Arts](#) is on the perimeter of campus and frequently features the best musical, theatrical and artistic acts in the country.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

The VP/D is the chief administrative officer with responsibilities for overall leadership, financial development and fiscal management of OSU Agriculture. An earned doctorate is required and candidates for the position must qualify for the rank of tenured professor in an academic department within the Ferguson College of Agriculture. They also will have a distinguished record in teaching, research and/or Extension with demonstrated administrative ability and possess knowledge of the philosophy and mission of a land-grant university. Administrative experience must include budgeting, public relations, development and personnel management. Outstanding interpersonal skills are required, with a demonstrated capacity to lead, communicate, and work effectively with diverse faculty, students and leaders in business and industry. An understanding and vision of the role, function and future of OSU Agriculture is essential, as well as evidence of ability to lead a fundraising campaign and attract and manage external funding. Experience with private sector agriculture production or agriculture business is also important. In addition to proven administrative skills, candidates should possess a demonstrated record of promoting ethical behavior and social responsibility, as well as a demonstrated commitment to shared governance, transparency and academic freedom.

**APPLICATION:**

The Division of Academic Affairs has a strong commitment to diverse people's well-being and development. As such, applications are encouraged from candidates who understand and model the

importance of inclusive excellence in higher education. While applications and nominations will be accepted until a successful candidate has been appointed, interested parties are encouraged to submit their materials by Monday, March 27, 2023, to receive optimal consideration. Applications (letter of interest, curriculum vitae and the names, email addresses and telephone numbers of five references) must be submitted online at [jobs.okstate.edu](https://jobs.okstate.edu), Req 13182, **and** to:

*Martin M. Baker, Managing Partner*  
*Buffkin/Baker*  
[martin@buffkinbaker.com](mailto:martin@buffkinbaker.com) | 336-721-9100

**LEARN MORE:**

Visit these websites and/or request additional information from [martin@buffkinbaker.com](mailto:martin@buffkinbaker.com).

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