

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

POSITION DESCRIPTION



SEPTEMBER 2014

LONGWOOD
UNIVERSITY





Longwood University is excited to invite highly qualified candidates to apply for the position of provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Located in the heart of Virginia, Longwood is committed to developing citizen leaders who are prepared to make positive contributions to the common good of society. Building upon its strong foundation in the liberal arts and sciences, the university provides an environment in which exceptional teaching fosters student learning, scholarship and achievement. As the only four-year public institution in south-central Virginia, Longwood serves as a catalyst for regional prosperity and advancement.



At A Glance

- **Founded:** 1839
- **Enrollment (fall 2014):** 5,095
 - 4,568 undergraduates
 - 527 graduate students
- **Countries outside the U.S. represented in student body:** 17
 - Top two: China and Canada
- **Percentage of full-time undergraduate students:** 93 percent
- **Overall first-year retention rate:** 82 percent (for full-time bachelor's degree-seeking students)
- **Student-to-faculty ratio:** 18:1
- **Full-time faculty:** 249 (32 part-time or adjunct faculty)
- **Employees:** 787, making Longwood the largest employer in Prince Edward County
- **Endowment:** \$53.8 million
- **Alumni:** 32,411 (25,432 in Virginia)





About Longwood

Longwood University is Virginia's third-oldest public university, preceded only by the founding of the College of William & Mary and the University of Virginia, and is one of the 100 oldest colleges and universities in the country.

Founded in 1839, Longwood today offers **more than 100 majors, minors and concentrations** to more than 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students, with a proud emphasis on small classes, human-scale learning and the highest proportion of classes taught by full-time faculty of any Virginia public university. Its mission, infused throughout the curriculum and extracurricular life, is the preparation of citizen leaders.

Academically, Longwood takes pride in its historical roots—exceptional and widely honored programs in teacher preparation—and today its excellence has expanded across a comprehensive curriculum. **President W. Taylor Reveley IV**, who took office in June 2013, has emphasized a strong grounding in the liberal arts and sciences as the heart of the academic enterprise and an essential element of the curriculum for all students, but many students major in professional programs such as business and nursing.

Longwood is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate and master's degrees, among many other accreditations for individual programs, and is the home of a museum, the **Longwood Center for the Visual Arts**, accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.



More About Longwood

One of the remarkable facts of Longwood's history is its close connection to two transcendent historical events. The Civil War ended practically at one end of campus, with some of the last fighting taking place at High Bridge, a few miles outside town. Nearly a century later, the modern civil rights movement arguably began, also just a few steps from campus, with the strike by students at Moton High School against conditions at their segregated school. Those students eventually became one of five groups of plaintiffs in the *Brown vs. Board of Education* lawsuit. Today, Moton

is a National Historic Landmark and **award-winning museum**, and the university and museum are in the process of negotiating a formal affiliation.

President Reveley is Longwood's 26th president. Immediately prior to assuming Longwood's presidency, he was managing director of the University of Virginia's Miller Center, a nonpartisan institute focused on the U.S. presidency, policy and political history. President Reveley's father, W. Taylor Reveley III, is president of the College of William & Mary, and his grandfather, W. Taylor Reveley II, was president of Hampden-Sydney from 1963-77.





Academic Programs

Cook-Cole College of Arts and Sciences

College of Business and Economics

College of Education and Human Services

College of Graduate and Professional Studies

Cormier Honors College

Through its **five colleges**, Longwood offers more than 100 majors, minors and concentrations. Among its more popular undergraduate programs are cyber security, athletic training, communication studies and integrated environmental sciences. Graduate programs include business, education, English, sociology, and communication sciences and disorders. Longwood is one of the few institutions in the country to require all students to complete an

internship, research project or other hands-on learning experience before graduating. Close faculty-student relationships have long been a hallmark of Longwood, where the average class size is 21 and the student-to-faculty ratio is 18:1.

Longwood is consistently included in the *U.S. News & World Report* "U.S. News Best Colleges" rankings and The Princeton Review's "Best Southeastern Colleges." In addition, Longwood's MBA program was named one of the best online programs in the nation by *U.S. News*.

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Student Life

Longwood's size allows for a close-knit student body and a campus culture of leadership and involvement. More than 125 campus organizations, including active programs in sports and the arts, as well as a vibrant, service-oriented Greek system, give students the opportunity to discover their passions. Longwood is the only college in the country where four national sororities were founded.

Popular annual events include The G.A.M.E. (Greatest Athletics March Ever), Rock the Block, Oktoberfest and Spring Weekend. One of the highlights of the weeklong Oktoberfest is Color Wars, in which student teams based on their graduation years douse each other with red and

green paint. Spring Weekend is eagerly anticipated for its oozeball tournament—volleyball played in the mud—and an extensive lineup of live music.

Among cherished **traditions** are midnight walks by members of Chi, a secret society founded in 1900 that promotes the Longwood spirit, and the Convocation custom of "capping," in which a close friend presents each senior with a personalized, outrageously decorated mortarboard.

Most students live on or near the university's bucolic central campus of green spaces, a pedestrian mall and Jeffersonian architecture. Active capital projects currently under way at various stages of planning and development total \$150 million, including a new **University Center** that will become the hub of student life, a new Student Success Center, two new residence halls and a new academic building.



Athletics

Longwood competes at the NCAA Division I level of intercollegiate athletics and is a member of the Big South Conference. Men's sports are baseball, basketball, cross-country, golf, soccer and tennis. Women's sports are basketball, cross-country, field hockey, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball and tennis.

The university also hosts several student-run club teams that compete intercollegiately, including football, wrestling, equestrian, rugby, volleyball and soccer. Campus Recreation offers intramural sports throughout the year.

The university's state-of-the-art **fitness center** features a 30-foot rock climbing wall, indoor track, basketball and racquetball courts, dance studio and the latest weight-training equipment. Also on campus are a **nine-hole golf course**, indoor pool and nine tennis courts.





About Farmville

The best-kept secret of south-central Virginia, Farmville is a growing town offering recreational activities, a wide range of dining options and easy access to several major cities. Farmville (population: 8,200) is located in Prince Edward County and is equidistant from Richmond and Lynchburg. It is one of America's oldest two-college towns, with Hampden-Sydney College located a short drive from the Longwood campus.

Farmville's active downtown, with its shops, restaurants and a nationally known complex of furniture galleries, is just 30 minutes away from five beautiful state and national parks. The 31-mile **High**

Bridge Trail, a walking and biking trail, can be accessed from Main Street, and the historic High Bridge itself, site of the last major battle of the Civil War, is within a comfortable walk or bike ride.

The Appomattox River, adjacent to Farmville, provides opportunities for canoers and kayakers, while the bigger James River is about a half-hour away. Skiers can reach **Wintergreen ski resort** in an hour; golfers have their choice of three courses right in Farmville.

When the desire for city life hits, Richmond, Charlottesville and Lynchburg are about an hour away; Virginia Beach and Washington, D.C., can be reached in three hours.

About the Position

Longwood University is pleased to announce its search for the next provost and vice president for academic affairs (PVPAA), and invites nominations and applications.

The PVPAA will serve as chief academic officer, reporting to the university's president. As the academic leader of the university, the PVPAA oversees Longwood's five colleges: the Cook-Cole College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Business and Economics, the College of Education and Human Services, the Cormier Honors College and the College of Graduate and Professional Studies. In this capacity, the PVPAA will actively promote and enhance the intellectual growth of Longwood's students and faculty, and foster a continued culture of fairness and transparency in all academic matters. Additionally, the PVPAA leads the academic budget process, ensuring that resources are allocated to most effectively promote the university's academic mission.

The university seeks candidates with a powerful commitment to residential liberal arts education, including a track record of innovative, executive-level leadership in academia. Demonstrated excellence in teaching, scholarship and service as well as an understanding of the practicalities of Virginia higher education will be important. The successful candidate will be expected to begin in summer 2015.

How to Apply

Nominations, applications and expressions of interest can be submitted electronically, and in confidence, to: provost-search@longwood.edu.

Applications will consist of a substantive cover letter, a curriculum vitae and a list of five professional references with full contact information. (None of the references will be contacted without the explicit permission of the candidate.) Applications received by December 1, 2014, will be assured full consideration.

Confidential discussions about this opportunity may be arranged by contacting the chair of the search committee:

Dr. David L. Lehr

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