UA LITTLE ROCK

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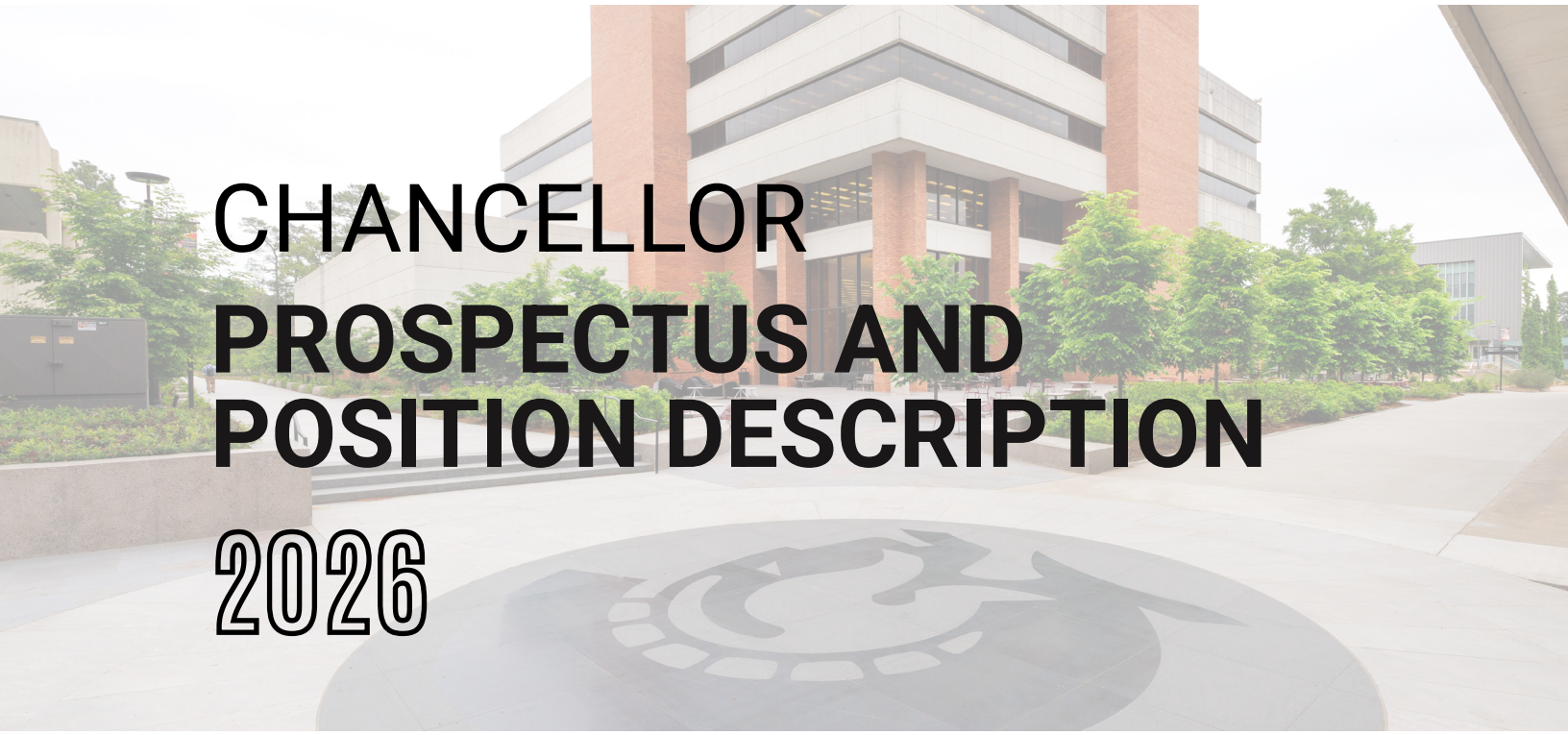

CHANCELLOR PROSPECTUS AND POSITION DESCRIPTION 2026

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By:

UA Little Rock Staff

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS LITTLE ROCK

Founded in 1927, UA Little Rock is Arkansas' premier metropolitan public research university. Located in the state's capital city, the university was established on the belief that higher education should create opportunity and drive economic and community progress. Today, UA Little Rock continues to transform lives through student success, research, and partnerships that strengthen the region and the state.

CHANCELLOR

The University of Arkansas System invites nominations and applications for the position of chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UA Little Rock). The university seeks a visionary and collaborative leader to build on a century of progress and advance Arkansas' premier metropolitan public research university as it enters its second century of service.

UA Little Rock is committed to transforming lives through education, research, and community engagement. Located in the state's capital city, the university serves a diverse student population while fostering innovation, expanding opportunity, and strengthening the economic, civic, and cultural vitality of central Arkansas and the state.

UA Little Rock offers more than 100 undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree and certificate programs across a broad range of disciplines. The university is recognized for excellence in fields including business, cybersecurity, engineering, law, education, health, public affairs, and the arts. Through nationally recognized research, experiential learning, and strategic partnerships, UA Little Rock prepares graduates to lead and succeed in an increasingly complex world.

Campus life at UA Little Rock reflects the university's commitment to student success, providing comprehensive academic support, leadership development opportunities, Division I athletics, and a vibrant campus community. The university's location in Little Rock creates unparalleled opportunities for internships, research, public service, and collaboration with business, government, healthcare, and nonprofit partners.

The next chancellor will build on the momentum of the university's centennial celebration and the successful completion of its historic Centennial Campaign, positioning UA Little Rock for continued growth and impact. Working with students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors, and community partners, the chancellor will lead the university in advancing academic excellence, expanding research and innovation, and preparing graduates to meet the evolving needs of Arkansas and beyond.

ABOUT THE UA SYSTEM

Since its inception, the UA System has developed a tradition of excellence that includes the state's 1871 flagship, land-grant research university; Arkansas's premier institution for medical education, treatment and research; a major metropolitan university; an 1890 land-grant university; two regional universities serving southern and western Arkansas; eight community colleges; two schools of law; a presidential school; a residential math, science and arts high school; a 100% online university; and divisions of agriculture, archeology and criminal justice.

The individual entities of the UA System maintain cooperative strength as well as diverse offerings that exhibit unmatched economic and social impact to the state.

The UA System provides communities in Arkansas with access to academic and professional opportunities, develops intellectual growth and cultural awareness in its students and provides knowledge and research skills to an ever-changing society. The system enrolls more than 70,000 students, employs over 30,000 faculty and staff, and has a total budget of more than $4 billion. An intrinsic part of the texture and fabric of Arkansas, the UA System is a driving force in the state's economic, educational and cultural advancement.

The UA System includes eight universities, eight two-year colleges and six other units. More information is available at www.uasys.edu.

UA LITTLE ROCK'S LOCATION

Located in Arkansas' capital city of Little Rock, UA Little Rock is at the center of the state's government, business, healthcare, nonprofit, and cultural communities. Celebrating its centennial in 2027, the university is successfully concluding its historic $250 million Centennial Campaign, a transformational investment that has strengthened scholarships, faculty excellence, academic innovation, and research while preparing UA Little Rock for its next century of service.

UA LITTLE ROCK HISTORY

Founded in 1927 as Little Rock Junior College, the institution began by offering evening classes to 75 students in downtown Little Rock. As enrollment and academic offerings expanded, it became Little Rock University in 1957 before joining the University of Arkansas System in 1969 as the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Over the past century, UA Little Rock has grown from a community college into a comprehensive public university offering undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs. As the university celebrates its centennial, it continues to build on its legacy of expanding educational opportunity and serving the evolving needs of Arkansas.

Today, UA Little Rock is recognized for its culture of innovation, commitment to student success, and deep engagement with the communities it serves. Building on a century of progress, the university is well positioned to shape the future of higher education while preparing the next generation of leaders for Arkansas and beyond.

A MISSION AND VISION OF EXCELLENCE

Mission Statement - The mission of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock is to empower students to thrive in a complex and dynamic world through accessible, high-quality education. Our curriculum fosters critical reasoning skills and innovation, and emphasizes experiential learning where students connect to their future roles and networks. As a metropolitan university, we seek to enhance social mobility through education, advance knowledge and creativity, provide a real-world research environment, and build strong partnerships in our community and across the state.

Vision Statement - UA Little Rock is dedicated to improving students' lives and enhancing our communities. We will be a leading urban and metropolitan university that engages the city, the region and beyond through excellent teaching, research and partnerships.

STRATEGIC PLAN INSTITUTIONAL GOALS

- **ACCESS** - Increase student access to transformative educational experiences that are affordable, versatile, and relevant.
- **EXPERIENCE** - Improve the student, faculty, and staff experience by cultivating an engaging campus community that promotes belonging and connection.
- **ATTAINMENT** - Strengthen educational attainment through academic programs leading to social and economic mobility and the achievement of students' aspirational goals.
- **RESEARCH** - Expand the institution's applied research footprint to provide advanced educational opportunities and to broaden external impact.
- **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** - Enhance community engagement through partnerships and collaborations involving faculty, staff, and students that address local, state, and regional needs.

THE POSITION

The chancellor reports to the president of the University of Arkansas System and to the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas and serves as the chief executive officer of UA Little Rock. The chancellor is responsible for the overall leadership and management of the university, including its academic and research enterprises, student experience, Division I athletics program, advancement efforts, financial operations, and relationships with internal and external constituencies.

The next chancellor will lead UA Little Rock as it enters its second century with significant momentum and opportunity. Working collaboratively with faculty, staff, students, alumni, donors, community partners, business and industry leaders, and local, state and federal officials, the chancellor will articulate and execute a compelling vision for the university's future while advancing student success, academic excellence, research and innovation, and economic and community impact.

As the leader of a comprehensive public university located in Arkansas's capital city, the chancellor will strengthen UA Little Rock's distinctive role in serving the educational and workforce needs of the region and state. Under the chancellor's leadership, university affairs will be conducted in accordance with state law and the policies and procedures established by the president and the Board of Trustees.

OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPECTATIONS OF LEADERSHIP

The president, Board of Trustees and constituencies of UA Little Rock expect the next chancellor to have:

- Significant senior leadership experience in higher education or another complex organization, with a demonstrated record of strategic leadership, innovation, goal setting, organizational effectiveness, and measurable results.
- A demonstrated ability to articulate and execute a bold, forward-looking vision for UA Little Rock's second century that builds on the university's momentum, effectively promotes the value of a vibrant, metropolitan university for its students and community, strengthens its presence and engagement in the City of Little Rock, and positions it for continued growth, relevance, and impact.
- A record of being a collaborative, visible, accessible, transparent, and engaged leader who fosters open communication, trust, and a willingness to engage meaningfully with the university's internal and external constituencies.
- Experience placing student success at the center of institutional decision-making and strengthening recruitment, enrollment, retention, graduation, career preparation, and the overall student experience.
- Experience promoting academic excellence and innovation while supporting faculty achievement and identifying opportunities for strategic growth in academic programs, research, and emerging fields.
- Experience responsibly managing and growing financial, physical, technological, and human resources while developing sustainable strategies that support long-term institutional stability.
- An ability to strengthen UA Little Rock's position as an economic and workforce development partner by deepening relationships with employers, government, educational institutions, and community organizations throughout Central Arkansas and the state.
- A demonstrated ability to recruit, retain, develop, and support outstanding faculty and staff while fostering a culture of collaboration, accountability, innovation, and shared commitment to the university's mission.
- The political acumen to effectively advocate for UA Little Rock with local, state, and federal policymakers and strengthen the university's visibility and reputation throughout Arkansas and beyond.
- Fundraising experience that can build on the success of the Centennial Campaign by sustaining a strong culture of philanthropy and cultivating meaningful relationships with alumni, donors, foundations, corporations, and other supporters.
- An understanding of and support for intercollegiate athletics and its role in student development, institutional identity, alumni engagement, and the broader university community.
- An earned terminal degree is preferred. Candidates without a terminal degree should possess professional credentials and experience sufficient to command the respect and confidence of the university's academic and external constituencies.

SEARCH PROCESS

Greenwood Asher & Associates is assisting the University of Arkansas System with the search for the next chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Applications and inquiries are invited. Interested individuals are encouraged to inquire by October 23rd, for optimal consideration.

To inquire or for additional information, please contact the Greenwood Asher team:

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Applicants will submit the following:

- A letter of interest addressing the qualifications, characteristics, and leadership expectations outlined in this profile
- A current curriculum vitae or résumé

All applications are subject to public disclosure under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act.

Materials should be submitted in PDF format through the portal using this link.

The University of Arkansas System is an equal opportunity institution. The University does not discriminate in its education programs or activities (including in admission and employment) on the basis of any category or status protected by law, including age, race, color, national origin, disability, religion, protected veteran status, military service, genetic information, sex, sexual preference, or pregnancy. Questions or concerns about the application of Title IX, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, may be sent to the University's Title IX Coordinator and to the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.