



**MISSISSIPPI STATE**  
UNIVERSITY™

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY,  
AND VETERINARY MEDICINE

# Position Announcement



## Vice President Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine

### TITLE

Vice President, Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS

### OVERVIEW

Mississippi State University seeks to hire a Vice President for the Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine (DAFVM).

Mississippi State University (MSU) represents the highest level of research activity for doctorate-granting institutions and is designated by the Carnegie Foundation as an R1-Very High Research Activity University. Also, a National Science Foundation “Top 100” research University, MSU shelters a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious honor society, and values the talents of our distinguished faculty, staff, and student scholars. With over 22,000 students and 4,600 faculty and staff, MSU is located in Starkville, MS. Here, a culture of inclusion is fostered and we’re driven each day to make a difference at the local, state, regional, national and global levels. We invite you to join MSU as we continue our momentum in research, teaching, and service.

DAFVM consists of six major units: The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CAL S), The College of Forest Resources (CFR), the College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM), the Mississippi Agricultural and

Forestry Experiment Station (MAFES), the Forest and Wildlife Research Center (FWRC) and the MSU Extension Service (MSUES.) These unit heads report to the Vice President. The Deans of the three academic colleges report jointly to the University’s Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs. The Heads of some specialized research centers and institutes within the Division may also report to additional vice presidents. DAFVM conducts teaching, research, Extension programming, and service on the University’s main campus and through four Research and Extension centers, 16 branch stations, four CVM diagnostic labs, and Extension offices in all 82 counties of Mississippi. Annual expenditures by units in the Division are normally at or above \$200 million. The National Science Foundation has ranked MSU #11 in Research and Development expenditures in Agriculture Sciences, Natural Resources and Conservation.

### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Vice President serves along with the other vice presidents as a member of the University’s senior management team providing visionary leadership for planning, budgeting, and resource development. The Vice President is also responsible for the development of strategic goals for DAFVM and evaluating programs, faculty, and staff within DAFVM. The Vice President develops and maintains productive relationships

with agriculture and forestry producers; industry constituents; federal, state, and local government agencies; and organizations and associations that are concerned with agriculture and natural resources, families and youth, and community development. The Vice President promotes diversity within DAFVM with respect to faculty, staff, and students and fosters a sense of common purpose while serving as an advocate for DAFVM to its constituencies and as a spokesperson for agriculture and natural resources both regionally and nationally. The Vice President works closely with the Provost and Executive Vice President regarding the academic mission within DAFVM, and the Vice President for Research and Economic Development regarding the research missions within DAFVM. The Vice President is expected to take a leadership role in strategic initiatives that project the University within Mississippi, nationally, and globally.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates should have an earned doctorate in an appropriate area in agriculture, natural resources, or a related field with credentials and experience to qualify for the rank of professor with tenure in a discipline within the Division. He/She must demonstrate a strong recognition of and commitment to Mississippi's agricultural roots. The candidate must have a demonstrated ability to work effectively with the academic, agricultural natural resources and business communities,

industry constituents, and federal partners. A record of successful administrative leadership and achievement, including the acquisition of public and private resources to develop and expand strong agricultural programs, is also required. Candidates should have substantial experience with a minimum of four years of significant administrative experience. The successful candidate should have a thorough familiarity and understanding of the land-grant system and the interrelationship between the teaching, research and extension programs. The candidate must possess the vision and experience necessary to lead a complex organization in developing and enhancing its research mission in service to the state, region, and nation as a premier research leader. He/She must also demonstrate familiarity with the land-grant system and foster the desire to promote excellence throughout the division and the university.

## SALARY AND BENEFITS

Salary commensurate with education, experience; competitive benefits.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Qualified candidates are requested to submit a letter of application that should include a statement of administrative philosophy emphasizing their ability to foster effective

academic programs, expand research, and promote extension activities: an expression of his/her commitment to growth of the division's programs and student enrollment. Please include a complete curriculum vitae, including the names, addresses and phone/email for five references. Initial nominations and inquiries will be kept confidential; references will be contacted only upon approval by the candidate. Application review will begin December 1, 2020, and continue until a successful candidate is identified. Nominations of outstanding potential candidates are welcome.

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## NOMINATION APPLICATIONS AND/OR INQUIRES SHOULD BE SENT TO:

David R. Shaw, Provost and Executive Vice President

Mississippi State University

Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President

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