



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS SYSTEM

VICE PRESIDENT FOR AGRICULTURE POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Vice President for Agriculture (VPAG) for the University of Arkansas System serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Division of Agriculture. The Division of Agriculture is a statewide administrative entity within the System made up of units of the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) and the Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service (CES). The Division has faculty and staff located on the campuses of UA-Fayetteville, UA-Monticello, and Arkansas State University; at five Research and Extension Centers; at seven Research Stations; and in all 75 counties of the state. Other major components include the Center of Excellence in Poultry Science, the Institute for Food Science and Engineering, the Arkansas Forest Resources Center, and the National Agricultural Law Center.

The VPAG serves as a member of the Cabinet of the President of the University of Arkansas System and serves at his/her pleasure.

The Senior Associate Vice President for Agriculture - Research and Director of AES, and the Senior Associate Vice President for Agriculture - Extension and Director of CES report directly to the VPAG and serve at his/her pleasure. The Senior Associate Vice President for Agriculture – Academic Programs reports to and serves at the pleasure of the UA-Fayetteville Provost and the VP for Agriculture.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provides administrative oversight for all programs under the auspices of the Division.
- Directs the administration of all funds, public and private, used to support the programs of the Division.
- Authorizes the selection, duties, salary compensation and personnel actions for all employees of the Division under the direction of the three Senior Associate Vice Presidents/Directors.
- Directs and coordinates all public and private fund development activities of the Division.
- Directs and coordinates all interactions with federal, state and local elected officials to ensure appropriate representation for all research and extension needs.
- Establishes policies and guidelines to ensure the efficient and effective administration of the Division.
- Directs and coordinates all interactions with state and federal agencies and with all appropriate stakeholder groups and organizations.
- Serves as the representative for the University of Arkansas System to the Administrative Head Section of the National Association of Public Land Grant Universities (APLU). Serves in leadership roles for that organization as appropriate.
- Represents the University of Arkansas System at the direction of the President.
- Performs all other duties as assigned by the President.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience

- Educational or administrative experience in agriculture, forestry, natural resources, family and Consumer Sciences, or related discipline. Preference will be given to those with a terminal degree in an agricultural-related field.
- Administrative experience at the Associate Dean/Director level or above, preferably in a land-grant university.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Knowledge of the history and philosophy of the land grant university system.
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills.
- Demonstrated ability to lead a complex program in agriculture and related fields.
- Ability to manage and enhance a large, complex budget.
- Demonstrated ability to perform effectively as a member of an administrative team.

PREFERRED CHARACTERISTICS

- Exceptional leadership skills, a strong vision, and the ability to inspire and motivate others to work collaboratively to achieve goals laid out in the Division of Agriculture's mission statement.
- Creative and innovative view of the local, regional, national, and global role of agriculture in the 21st century.
- Proven leadership with a record of accomplishments in increasingly complex positions of responsibility.
- Appreciation, understanding and commitment to the teaching, research and extension mission of land-grant organizations, and knowledge of how these functions work together to support the breadth of the agricultural system.
- Familiarity with the top agricultural commodities of Arkansas.
- Demonstrated ability to manage and work cooperatively with different academic institutions and different state and federal agencies.
- Ability to cultivate and sustain effective partnerships with diverse stakeholder groups, including state and federal elected officials, state and federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, private industries, local community leaders, and other groups associated with agriculture.
- Excellent financial and budgetary abilities, including the management of existing resources and the development of increased state, federal, and private support.
- Ability to communicate effectively to both internal and external stakeholders, including with all levels of the agriculture community.
- Clear vision for advancing the agricultural industry in Arkansas.
- Effective in advocacy and marketing of agriculture.