



**FORT VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY**
EMPOWER *the* POSSIBLE.

Inviting Applications and Nominations

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Named as one of the Best Historically Black Colleges and Universities for 2021 by College Consensus, Fort Valley State University seeks a transformative, visionary, and strategic leader to serve as **PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**. This is an outstanding opportunity for an experienced and accomplished leader with significant potential to influence and shape the future of higher education in central Georgia. As part of the President's Cabinet, the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs is the chief academic officer of the University and reports directly to the University President. Applications will be reviewed immediately. *Take a virtual tour of the University at fvsu.vrtoursrvr.com.*

VISIT FVSU.EDU TO LEARN MORE.





ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

Located in Central Georgia, FVSU is a comprehensive institution offering 37 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. One of the University System of Georgia's three public historically black universities, FVSU is the state's only 1890 Land Grant Institution.

FVSU combines the personal attention and family feel of a small, private college with the resources and research found at large public universities. The University's 1,365-acre main campus in Fort Valley has the second largest acreage of any Georgia university.

FVSU advances its mission and educational goals through three academic colleges: Agriculture, Family Sciences, and Technology; Arts and Sciences; and Education and Professional Studies. In fall 2020, the University enrolled 2,542 undergraduate and 285 graduate students.

Of the 92 faculty members, 74 percent hold doctorates. The close-knit campus community encourages personal and academic growth and establishing lifelong ties that extend beyond graduation.

FVSU has been recognized four consecutive years as the top public historically black college in Georgia. This #1 ranking includes *US News and World Report*, 2019 and 2020 *Best Colleges* rankings, and the *Washington Monthly*, 2019. In 2018, *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* listed FVSU as a top 10

producer of African Americans with bachelor's degrees in mathematics, engineering technology, family and consumer sciences, computer and information systems, psychology, and history in the state of Georgia.

The National Science Foundation provides more funding for science, technology, engineering, and math research at FVSU than at any other public teaching college in Georgia, putting it in the top 10 for NSF-funded STEM research among all colleges in the state.

Fort Valley State University has produced graduates who have literally changed the world, serving as pioneers and trailblazers in civil rights, education, law and government, human rights, and public policy.

THE OPPORTUNITY

The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (Provost) plays a critical role in the implementation of the University's *2020-2025 Strategic Plan* and ensures accountability of the Academic Affairs units in a focused drive towards innovation, transformation, and excellence.

The Provost works collaboratively to set the academic vision, provides leadership and direction for all aspects of Fort Valley State's academic programs, and supervises related academic activities under the guidance of the President. The Office of the Provost also serves as the point of contact for external



OUR MISSION

Fort Valley State University, founded in 1895, is an HBCU and 1890 Land-Grant institution providing excellent academic programs that integrate quality instruction, research, extension, and student learning experiences responsive to the needs of a culturally and economically diverse student population equipped to excel in the 21st-century global community.

constituents on issues related to Academic Affairs, such as the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and other accrediting bodies.

The Provost is responsible for oversight of the academic programs and policies of the University. In that capacity, the Office provides a variety of support services to the colleges, faculty, and students, including operation of the University's Cooperative Developmental Energy Program (CDEP) and faculty development opportunities.

The Provost supervises academic personnel and oversees the fiscal affairs of the: College of Arts and Sciences; College of Agriculture, Family Sciences, and Technology; College of Education and Professional Studies; and University College. Under the supervision of the Provost are also the Center for Retention Services, Collaborative and Outreach Programs, Library, Honors Program, the Learning Resource Center, Office of Institutional Research, and Testing Center.

The Provost works collaboratively with direct reports to develop and recommend the annual academic budget, ensures fiscal responsibility for use of all funds allocated for educational programs, and collaborates with other senior administrators to create support systems for academic affairs. This senior administrator develops and ensures continuing assessment and improvement of all academic initiatives; actively advances the goals of excellence in all areas of teaching, research, scholarship, and service; and monitors operations and functions supporting academic programs.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of this position include a variety of tasks that contribute to achieving university-wide goals of increasing visibility, enrollment, and resources. The outcomes of these essential functions also contribute to the University's primary areas of emphasis:

- Ensuring viable academic programs.
- Developing new market-driven programs.
- Collaboratively developing enrollment levels sufficient to support the University's mission.
- Establishing a strong campus-wide culture of customer service.
- Promoting a student-centered learning environment.
- Encouraging excellence and innovation in teaching using technology and in research and creative activities.
- Promoting greater participation in the community.
- Supporting external funding initiatives.
- Reviewing promotion and tenure policies and procedures.
- Recommending promotion, tenure, post-tenure, and salary decisions to the President.
- Collaborating with Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs system-wide.

QUALIFICATIONS & REQUIREMENTS

- An earned doctorate from a regionally accredited university and a minimum of five years in higher education administration.

- Significant administrative experience at the level of dean or equivalent
- A proven record of teaching, research, and scholarship sufficient to qualify for the rank of full professor in one of the departments of the University
- Experience with online degree programs and distance education programs
- Extensive knowledge of and experience with accreditation processes
- Experience with international programs and curriculum development with a global focus

These qualifications are supplemented by the ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously, with attention to details, deadlines, and making decisions. Additionally, exceptional interpersonal skills, excellent verbal and written communication skills, and a demonstrated commitment to the principles of higher education are required.



Dr. Paul A. Jones President

Paul A. Jones is the 10th president of Fort Valley State University. Recognized for being a visionary leader and strategic thinker with nearly 35 years of higher education experience, President Paul Jones was appointed to take Fort Valley State's helm in 2015.

Dr. Jones, an astute and affable administrator, is committed to the transformative power of higher education. He has spent the last several years advancing FVSU's standing as one of the nation's most respected institutions of higher learning, including its consistent ranking as the top public historically black college and university

(HBCU) in Georgia by *U.S. News and World Report*.

Before joining FVSU, President Jones served as Interim President at Darton State College (2013-2015) in Albany, Georgia. Throughout his higher education career, he served in numerous senior leadership roles at Georgia College & State University (2002-2013), including Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration, Vice President and Chief of Staff, and Vice President for Institutional Research and Enrollment Management.

In 2019, President Jones established a university-wide steering committee to begin an inclusive and collaborative comprehensive strategic planning process to chart the University's next five years. This 2020-2025 plan, *Unleashing 21st Century Innovation, Transformation and Excellence*, is currently in the implementation phase and will focus on four priorities: Exceptional Student Experience, Operational Excellence, Organizational Identity, and Engagement and Collaboration.

President Jones earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees at Utah State University. The Los Angeles, California native also holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Education and Human Resource studies from Colorado State University.



Metropolitan Central Georgia

Fort Valley State University is in the Central Georgia metropolitan area, which encompasses the state's fourth largest city, Macon, as well as several growing cities and progressive small towns. Other features of the area include Robins Air Force Base, one of the state's largest employers; the #11 rated public school in Georgia, the Academy of Classical Education, and the nationally recognized Houston County School System; and outstanding healthcare along with the second largest hospital in Georgia.

Central Georgia offers endless activity opportunities for families and individuals alike. A wide range of fine and casual dining, live music venues, festivals, water parks, golf courses, museums, historical sites, farmer's markets, touring Broadway shows, kayaking, indoor rock climbing, and more provide an appealing quality of life.

The City of Fort Valley has been honored as one of 10 Georgia "Cities of Excellence," and it is considered one of the state's "best managed and most livable cities." It offers tree-lined streets and beautiful historic homes and boasts a cost of living below the state and national average.

Beyond the Metro Central Georgia area, Atlanta, one of the nation's largest cities, and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport are easily accessible by I-75. If looking for time at the beach or enjoying the cool mountain air, the Georgia coastline or Blue Ridge Mountains are only a three-hour drive away.



APPLICATION & NOMINATION PROCESS

Confidential applications/inquiries are welcomed, and nominations are invited.

Applications

- 1) Application packet must include:
 - a) A letter of interest that addresses the responsibilities and qualifications of the position
 - b) Current resume *or* curriculum vitae
 - c) At least five references with full contact information including e-mails (References will not be contacted without consent from applicant.)

- 2) Submit application packet (preferably as PDFs) to:

FVSU-Provost@myersmcrac.com

Additional information will be requested upon receipt of application.

For best consideration, submit application packet by **August 9, 2021**. Review of applications begins immediately, and applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Nominations

Submit nominations to:

FVSU-Provost-nominate@myersmcrac.com with complete contact and e-mail information for the individual being nominated.

Emily Parker Myers, CEO, and Jennifer Barfield, Senior Vice President, of Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting, are assisting Fort Valley State University with this search.



Fort Valley State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, or marital or veteran status.