



Inviting Applications and Nominations for

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

THE University of Montana Western seeks a confident and experienced individual to serve as **PROVOST AND VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS** (Provost). With the abilities to balance and prioritize, the Provost will possess the discernment to assess, modify, and define a path on which Montana Western can pursue its mission and goals. This visionary Provost will work with faculty and staff to build on a solid platform of success. A member of the Chancellor's Cabinet, the Provost works closely with the Chancellor and the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance. The Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs reports directly to the Chancellor.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

The University of Montana Western (UMW) is a comprehensive, four-year, regional university offering certificates, associate's, and bachelor's degrees. UMW is an affiliate campus of the University of Montana.

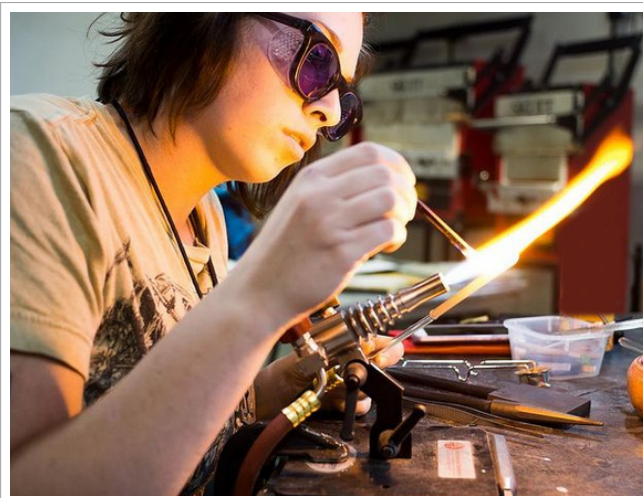
UMW is the first and only public four-year university in the nation to offer a unique block scheduling system known as *Experience One*, or X1 for short. The innovative system offers students the benefit of taking one course at a time for 18 days, taking a short break, and then moving on to their next course, all while earning the same amount of credits over a

semester as in traditional models. Sixteen years after its implementation, *Experience One* continues to provide students a remarkable educational experience.

Experience One provides students with hands-on learning opportunities and real-world experiences within the student's specific discipline, which often involves participation in undergraduate research, attending and presenting at conferences, internships, and engagement in other High Impact Practices (HIPs).

X1 encourages a serious commitment to learning while teaching organization, responsibility, and productivity resulting in increased attendance, ▶

VISIT UMWESTERN.EDU TO LEARN MORE.



bolstered academic confidence, and improved performance. Graduation rates have increased by 9 percentage points since 2006—increasing from a six-year graduation rate of 40% in 2006 to 49% for the most recent graduating cohort.

The University has just completed a new strategic plan for 2020–2026 titled **“Building on the Promise of Experience One.”** As a leader in innovative experiential education, UMW has designed this plan to build on its remarkable student success of offering experiential learning one course at a time. *The plan can be reviewed at umwestern.edu/wp-content/uploads/UMW-Strategic-Plan-20-26.pdf.*

Founded in 1893 as a teacher training college, the University of Montana Western has a long-standing legacy in state higher education. Highly innovative in the way students are taught, the University has a rich tradition of providing individualized attention for a variety of students across all of its disciplines.

Known for being a tight-knit, caring community, UMW faculty, administrators, and staff emphasize the success of every student and place great value on degree completion. The University strives to maintain the highest standards possible and places significant emphasis on attracting and retaining quality faculty and staff.

UMW has 68 full-time faculty members with 79% possessing a doctorate or other terminal degree, and 22 part-time faculty members, resulting in a student/professor ratio of 15:1. The average class size is fewer than 20 students.

The University offers 9 certificates, including five specifically designed to serve post-baccalaureate students seeking teaching credentials; eight associate

degrees; 29 bachelor degrees; and 44 minors from 10 different academic departments: business and technology; biology; education; English; environmental sciences; equine studies; fine arts; health and human performance; history, philosophy, and social sciences; and mathematics.

The University campus of shade trees, walks, and historic, picturesque buildings has an unsurpassed panoramic view of mountain ranges. Situated on the main campus are 15 major buildings. The first campus building was constructed in 1897, and the most recent building was completed in 2003.

The Main Hall complex, including the first building on the Montana Western campus, underwent a multi-million-dollar renovation to restore historic architectural features and improve the safety of the building.

Montana Western Bulldog athletics compete in the NAIA Frontier Conference. Sports programs include football, men’s and women’s teams in basketball, cross country, track, and rodeo, as well as women’s volleyball. UMW’s rodeo team is a member of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association.

From successful athletic programs to an impressive list of campus clubs and organizations, there is no shortage of engaging activities at Montana Western. ▶

UMW Mission Statement

As a leader and innovator in experiential education, the University of Montana Western educates undergraduate students through immersive practices in their field of study, strives for continuous improvement, and achieves evidence-supported student learning and achievement outcomes.

Brimming with activities, organizations, student groups, clubs, and solid support networks, students enjoy an enriching extracurricular life to help them along their educational journeys.

PROVOST AND VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

As the chief academic officer of the University, the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs is responsible for the integrity and vitality of the academic enterprise. Reporting to the Provost are 10 academic departments, the Dean of Outreach and Research, the Registrar/Director of Institutional Research, the Office of Student Success (Advising/Learning Center/TRIO), and the Director of the Library.

The Provost understands university culture and is a person of vision and unquestioned integrity as well as a strategic thinker. The Provost embraces the unique opportunity provided by *Experience One* and is passionate and optimistic about the future for Montana Western.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Oversee the hiring, development, tenure, promotion, and regular evaluation of all faculty and the hiring and regular evaluation of academic administrators.
- In conjunction with the Division Chairs, oversee the development of course schedules.
- Assist with development of the faculty Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and assure that all CBA provisions are adhered to by the administration and the faculty.
- Oversee curricular reviews and development and approval of new curricula.
- Participate in implementation of the strategic plan.
- Co-chair the Academic and Administrative Council to facilitate cross-area concerns and assure that projects align with and support the strategic plan.
- Represent Montana Western's Division of Academic Affairs within the Affiliated Campuses of the University of Montana (UM) and the Montana University System (MUS).
- Regularly attend Chief Academic Officer teleconferences and meetings at the UM and MUS levels.
- Cooperate with the Dean of Students to oversee student disciplinary processes related to academic misconduct.
- Oversee the appointment of cross-campus committees and task forces.
- Oversee accreditation, assessment, strategic planning, research, and general education.
- Participate in fundraising in support of *Experience One*.
- Encourage faculty to engage in the scholarship of teaching and learning, especially in experiential learning.



Chancellor Michael Reid

Michael Reid was appointed Chancellor of The University of Montana Western in May 2021. He started with the Montana University System in March 2013 and had served as Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance at the University of Montana Western since July 2018.

Over his 30 years of administrative experience, Chancellor Reid has served for 20 of them in higher education. Chancellor Reid has been a Vice President/Chancellor for Administration and Finance at public and private institutions, including Pueblo Community College, Mansfield University of Pennsylvania, Angelo State University, The University of Montana, Sierra Nevada College, and The University of Montana Western.

Although his background in higher education administration has often been centered on university operations and finances, Chancellor Reid also has significant experience in facility master planning, capital construction, strategic planning, institutional forecasting and modeling, auxiliary operations, and events management. His educational background includes both an MBA and a BA in Finance from Utah State University.



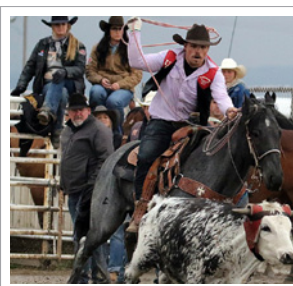
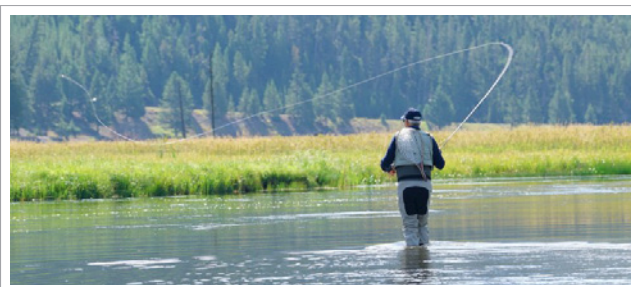
QUALIFICATIONS

A doctoral degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education is required. An academic leader who has achieved tenure and full professorship is *preferred*.

- Has experience as an academic administrator and has managed academic budgets and processes, including tenure and promotion processes.
- Is student-first, then faculty-oriented and understands the unique teaching-learning environment.
- Demonstrates strong communication skills in speaking, listening, and writing.
- Exemplifies trust, equanimity, humor, and respect.
- Attends to details and uses data for effective and efficient decision making.
- Has a collaborative style and a record of faculty advocacy.
- Is experienced in strategic planning, program review, and assessment.
- Has participated in regional and specialized accreditation processes.
- Is accomplished in interpersonal relationships and team building and operates comfortably in a collective bargaining and shared governance environment.
- Has partnered and collaborated with student affairs, finance, and administration offices in a university setting.

UMW POINTS OF PRIDE

- #3 in the West among public undergraduate colleges (*U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges*)
- Montana Western professors are consistently named Carnegie Foundation Professors of the Year
- Record enrollments since the inception of *Experience One*. Over the last 12 years, full-time student enrollment has increased at a greater rate than at any other four-year public higher education institution in Montana
- Most affordable four-year university in Montana
- The only public or private university in the nation offering a four-year degree in natural horsemanship
- 89% of freshmen complete their courses
- Nation's only four-year degree in glass and a specialization in scientific glassblowing





A spectacular setting, Dillon, Montana, sits in the beautiful Beaverhead Valley, surrounded on three sides by the Continental Divide and seven mountain ranges.

Dillon provides a safe, small-town environment for Montana Western's students, faculty, and staff. Concerts, theater, and other programs serve cultural needs of the community. Nearby recreational areas are ideal for nature study, picnics, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, and skiing.

Southwest Montana and the Dillon area offer beautiful, unspoiled country with an abundance of mountains, lakes, forest, valleys, rivers, fish, and wildlife.

Yellowstone National Park is just 2.5 hours away. Less than 2 hours away is Bozeman, Montana, with an

international airport, excellent shopping and restaurants, and more outdoor recreation opportunities.

Winters in Dillon are historically mild and summers are pleasant with cool nights. The valley is noted for its typically crystal clear air and blue skies with abundant snow in the surrounding mountains but relatively little snow or rain in the valley.

Dillon has been recognized as one of "America's Prettiest Towns" by *Forbes* magazine. Its natural amenities and small town charm have also earned the attention of *National Geographic Adventure's* "31 great small towns."

Dillon's residents have access to premier healthcare and education. The town boasts a new, state-of-the-art hospital and Dillon's elementary and high schools are among the top schools in the state.

APPLICATION & NOMINATION PROCESS

Confidential inquiries are welcomed, and nominations are invited.

Applications

- 1) Application packet must include:
 - a) A letter of application that addresses the responsibilities and qualifications of the position
 - b) Current curriculum vitae
 - c) At least four 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:
UMWestern-21@myersmcrae.com

Additional information will be requested upon receipt of application.

Review of applications begins immediately. For best consideration, submit applications by **October 14, 2021**. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Nominations

Submit nominations to:

UMWestern-21-nominate@myersmcrae.com
with complete contact and e-mail information for the individual being nominated.

Kenny Daugherty, President of **Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting**, is assisting The University of Montana Western with this search.



MYERS McRAE
EXECUTIVE SEARCH AND CONSULTING
(478) 330-6222 **MyersMcRae.com**