



THEATRICAL AUDITORIUM AND CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

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Inviting Applications and Nominations for

Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs / Chief Financial Officer



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EXECUTIVE SEARCH AND CONSULTING

Winthrop University, a top ranked public, comprehensive, masters-level university, seeks a dynamic, innovative, and collaborative leader to serve as **Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs/Chief Financial Officer**. The Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs/CFO reports directly to the President and serves on the President's Senior Leadership Team.



TOP 10 REGIONAL PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES IN THE SOUTH

U.S. News & World Reports

REVIEW WINTHROP'S STRATEGIC PLAN

[www.winthrop.edu/president/
summary-of-plan.aspx](http://www.winthrop.edu/president/summary-of-plan.aspx)

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1886, Winthrop University is in the thriving city of Rock Hill, South Carolina, a vibrant suburb of Charlotte, North Carolina. Ranked 6th by *U.S. News & World Report* among Southern public universities and in the top 20 of public and private institutions in the region, the University provides an educational experience that blends liberal arts, professional programs, global awareness, and civic engagement, enabling students to develop the knowledge, skills, and values that enrich their lives and prepare them for all the future holds. The University is under the leadership of President Edward A. Serna, Ed.D.

Serving nearly 3,800 undergraduate and more than 900 graduate students, Winthrop prides itself on being a close-knit, diverse campus family. The University is at the forefront of educational opportunities and offers degrees that meet today's growing and emerging job markets. Students can pursue 48 undergraduate majors and 34 graduate programs and certificates across five colleges: College of Arts & Sciences, College of Business

Administration, College of Visual & Performing Arts, and University College.

While South Carolina residents comprise 84 percent of the enrollment, Winthrop has a diverse student body with 41 states and 35 countries represented. Approximately 85 percent of the undergraduate students and 33 percent of graduate students attend full-time.

Through national accreditation, the University has set a high bar of excellence with its accredited programs. Winthrop is one of only 37 U.S. universities and the only South Carolina institution with its undergraduate and graduate arts programs—theatre, dance, music, fine arts, and design—nationally accredited. Additionally, the Business College is AACSB-accredited—a designation held by less than five percent of business programs worldwide.

Winthrop has been listed in *U.S. News & World Report's* Top 10 Regional Public Universities in the South in the magazine's "America's Best Colleges" for more than two decades. The University is highly

respected for its outstanding undergraduate research program, public art partnerships, and designation as a Certified Green Workplace. Through the South Carolina IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (SC INBRE) initiative, Winthrop has provided hundreds of student-centered research experiences since 2005, increasing the matriculation of participating students into graduate and professional programs.

Winthrop has more than 150 student organizations, from interest-based clubs and leadership development organizations to recreational programs and Greek Life. The Council of Student Leaders, the student government body; the DiGiorgio Student Union, the programming board; orientation leaders; peer mentors; and the Resident Students Association encourage students to become involved and active on campus.

For students who want to explore the world through global academic experiences, the University has study abroad options. Undergraduate students can earn WU credit through academic coursework at other universities in the U.S. and abroad. These options include a course followed by travel led by experienced WU faculty, internships, virtual language or other study abroad courses, and even service-learning projects.

Winthrop University provides personalized and challenging undergraduate, graduate, and continuing professional education programs of national caliber within a context dedicated to public service to the nation and to the State of South Carolina. Winthrop's longtime commitment to be among the very best institutions of its kind in the nation continually guides the mission of the University.





THE OPPORTUNITY

As a leader for the Division of Finance and Business Affairs, the **Vice President for Finance and Business and Chief Financial Officer** is responsible for the finance and business affairs of the institution. The upholder of the institution's financial integrity, the Vice President for Finance is responsible for strategic leadership and guidance to the President, Board of Trustees, and university leadership in all matters regarding financial management, financial policy development and management, and financial oversight of the university. The Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs provides executive leadership and accountability for the areas of Finance and Business Affairs, Computing and Information Technology, Facilities Management, and the Campus Post Office.

REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for this opportunity consist of the following:

- Master's degree in business administration, finance, or related area
- At least five years of responsible, high-level, administrative experience in higher education.
- Extensive experience supervising managerial employees in the areas of finance, budget, accounting, payroll, facilities management, procurement, and risk management is highly desired.

- Experience with South Carolina rules, laws, and regulations regarding state agency fiscal management, property management, materials management, audit, and related areas, is also highly desired.
- Experience with electronic record keeping, including accounting and budgeting, and proficiency with Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

- Extensive knowledge of standard accounting and budgeting, payroll, procurement, and risk management principles, practices, and techniques.
- Extensive knowledge of federal and state laws and regulations regarding accounting, budgeting, payroll, building and property management, capital investments, procurement, and risk management.
- Ability to communicate clearly and concisely with a variety of constituencies, including faculty and staff, high-level administration, Board of Trustees, Foundation Board, Real Estate Foundation Board, and the community.
- Ability to effectively supervise managerial employees; develop, maintain, and communicate the content of detailed financial reports; provide guidance regarding financial matters as necessary; and make decisions that are in Winthrop's best interest.



UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

EDWARD A. SERNA, Ed.D.

Edward A. Serna became the 12th president of Winthrop University on July 1, 2022. He brought nearly two decades of leadership experience in higher education and business to this executive post.

Prior to his appointment, Dr. Serna was president of the University of Maine at Farmington. He arrived at UMF in 2019 after serving as interim chancellor at the University of Arkansas–Fort Smith. His work at UAFS, a public, four-year university with an enrollment of 6,600 students and an annual budget of \$80 million, included leading initiatives focused on student success, student retention, and data-driven innovation.

Prior to serving as interim chancellor at UAFS, he served several leadership roles, including chief of staff

& associate vice chancellor for external funding and chief of staff & vice chancellor for strategic initiatives. Dr. Serna entered higher education as an assistant professor of management in Athens State University's College of Business. Previously, he was a senior business analyst and strategic management consultant in the private sector.

Dr. Serna received a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Administration degree from the University of Alabama, a Master of Management Information Systems degree from Auburn University, a Master of Science in Industrial Management degree from Clemson University, and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree from Winthrop.



Winthrop University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and does not discriminate against any individual or group of individuals on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status. Women, minorities, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.



Rock Hill, South Carolina

Rock Hill is a business-savvy blend of historic charm, responsibly implemented expansion, and warm hospitality. Currently a community of 74,000 residents, the city has experienced rapid growth over the past few years and is expected to continue that trend as South Carolina is the sixth fastest growing state in the U.S., and York County is one of the fastest growing counties in the nation with a population of more than 300,000 citizens.

Named an “All-America City” by the National Civic League in 2019, Rock Hill is a great place to live, work, and enjoy unforgettable adventures. The area offers a wide variety of shopping, dining, and recreation, with all the amenities of a major city. Charlotte, North Carolina, with a metro population of 2.7 million people, is a 20-mile drive away.

Some of the exciting growth in Rock Hill is the development of Knowledge Park, a master planned area, home to technology leaders, innovative startups, and creative industries. Within Knowledge Park and adjacent to Winthrop is University Center, a mixed-use development of 14 buildings that include: market rate apartments, student housing, Class A office space, an indoor sports complex, a hotel, numerous retail and food vendors, restaurants, an outdoor entertainment venue, and more.

Rock Hill has an impressive array of venues including a Velodrome, BMX Supercross Track, soccer and tennis complexes, and Miracle Park with fields specifically designed for individuals with physical and cognitive challenges.

Application & Nomination Process

Confidential inquiries are welcomed, and nominations are invited.



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(478) 330-6222 MyersMcRae.com

Applications

Application materials must include:

- A letter of application articulating the candidate’s interest in the position, qualifications, and relevant experience
- A current curriculum vitae or résumé
- Names and e-mail addresses for five professional references who can speak to the work of the candidate
(References will not be contacted without consent from applicant.)

Submit application materials online using the link below.

(<https://jobs.crelate.com/portal/myersmcraeexecutivesearch/job/hafdnotgumdzs4bs6zqu4jdppy>)

Additional information will be requested upon receipt of application. Review of applications begins August 26, 2024, at which time the application period will close if an acceptable applicant pool is received.

Nominations

Submit nominations to VPofFin-nominate@myersmcrae.com with complete contact and e-mail information for the individual being nominated.

Consultants

Kenny Daugherty, President, and **Brianna Douglas**, Vice President of **Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting**, are assisting Winthrop University with this search. Request a conversation regarding this search at BriannaDouglas@myersmcrae.com.