California State University, Chico

Search for the Vice President for Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer
Chico, California

California State University, Chico (CSU, Chico or Chico State) seeks a visionary, innovative, and collaborative leader for the position of Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA) and Chief Diversity Officer (CDO). The Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer is the executive officer for the Division of Student Affairs and a member of the President’s Cabinet, reporting to President Gayle Hutchinson.

The VPSA and CDO is a leader and collaborator in the University’s strategic planning and decision-making activities. The VPSA and CDO supports the University’s commitment to student success by actively developing, implementing, and maintaining programs that enrich student learning, build and maintain a strong sense of community, and promote growth through engagement in the life of the University. Working with students, administration, faculty, and staff, the VPSA and CDO serves as an advocate for student learning in all dimensions of student life and has a strong commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout the campus community.

Operating as part of the 23-campus California State University System, CSU, Chico is a comprehensive public university and a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) enrolling over 17,000 students, with more than 50% identifying as first-generation college students. Founded in 1887, CSU, Chico is the second-oldest university, and the oldest campus, in the California State University System and is the anchor institution for Northern California, serving a sprawling 12-county service area. The sun-soaked, 119-acre campus – designated as an arboretum – is located in the Sacramento Valley, near the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains, approximately 90 miles north of Sacramento and 174 miles northeast of San Francisco. Chico State provides students a Northern California small-college-town, residential campus experience that rivals many private universities. The University comprises seven colleges and five schools, and emphasizes and fosters sustainability, service to the community, and civic engagement that transforms student learning and enhances the local and extended environment. The campus motto, “Today Decides Tomorrow,” is brought to life by experiential learning, student-focused faculty, and innovative thinking.

This is an exciting moment for Chico State, as the University has recently unveiled a new Strategic Plan, which underscores three priorities: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; Civic and Global Engagement; and Resilient and Sustainable Systems (https://www.csuchico.edu/strategicplan/index.shtml). The VPSA and CDO will have an exceptional opportunity to lead in and contribute to a thriving regional university and leverage its many strengths, including its strong sense of pride and community, to become “a preeminent university solving the unprecedented challenges of the 21st century” as its new vision proclaims. In this role, the new VPSA and CDO will address diverse opportunities and challenges, including:

- Be a strong advocate and collaborator within the university leadership group for student success and campus-wide diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Lead the Division of Student Affairs to advance and fulfill its strategic mission
- Enhance, build, and develop a highly-skilled Student Affairs team
- Strengthen community involvement and key relationships and resources that enhance the vitality and broad impact of the division and the VPSA and CDO role

Isaacson, Miller
Required Qualifications for the position are:

- An earned doctorate preferred; master’s degree required.
- Demonstrated effective leadership, a minimum of 5 years, in planning, implementing, evaluating, and advocating for a wide range of programs in student affairs.
- Demonstrated effective leadership, a minimum of 5 years, in planning, implementing, evaluating, and advocating for programs that support equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- Demonstrated experience with budget management, supervision of a large staff and staff development and empowerment.

CSU, Chico has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist in this search. Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. For more details, including the full position profile and to submit inquiries, nominations, referrals, and applications, please see the Isaacson, Miller website for the search: www.imsearch.com/7328. Electronic submission of materials is strongly encouraged.

The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate against persons on the basis of race, religion, color, ancestry, age, disability, genetic information, gender, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, medical condition, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, covered veteran status, or any other protected status.