California State University, Chico invites applications and nominations for the newly established position of Vice President for Information Technology. The Vice President will serve as the executive officer for the newly established division and Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the University.

The Vice President and CIO (VP/CIO) is a member of the President’s Cabinet and reports directly to the President, serving as a leader and collaborator in the University’s strategic planning and decision-making activities. The VP/CIO will provide strategic vision and leadership as the University moves toward a more centralized, risk focused, and equitable IT operation, as well as develop policy and prioritization of resources in the rapidly changing information technology environment.

The new Division of Information Technology encompasses programs that support more than 16,000 students and 2,000 faculty and staff in Chico State’s residential campus environment. The VP/CIO will be responsible for leading an expanded and integrated portfolio, including Creative Media and Technology (web services, classroom tech, video production, photography), Computing and Communication Services (enterprise systems and cloud based services; data networking and security; infrastructure and telecommunications), Enterprise Applications and Data Services, Administrative Service Center, Information Security, IT Support Services, Institutional Research and Data Services, and the Office of the CIO.

The Division of Information Technology provides technologies, resources, and services to support learning, research, and the business operations of the University. Our vision is to be a leading organization of high caliber professionals that align campus needs with relevant, accessible, sustainable, innovative, and cost effective technology solutions and resources. The VP/CIO also will be an active partner in contributing to CSU system-wide level technology initiatives and adhering to CSU system-wide information technology and security policies and procedures.

Responsibilities:

The VP/CIO will assess Chico State’s information technology needs, which will include a full review of the IT infrastructure, staffing requirements, and resources, and will provide vision and strategic leadership to advance the university’s information technology programs in a more centralized organization.

As leader of the division, the VP/CIO will work with all IT directors, campus stakeholders and working groups to develop long-range strategic initiatives into annual operational plans and facilitate the open discussion of campus IT plans and policies at all levels of the campus administration. The VP/CIO will envision, investigate, design, and champion the development of new IT-based systems and solutions that support the University’s mission and commitment to diversity and equity. Working collaboratively with senior campus leadership, including cabinet members, college deans, and academic senate, the VP/CIO will provide long-range strategic direction for the application and delivery of information technology to fully support the University’s core academic mission and its business functions.
The VP/CIO will employ innovative strategies to position IT to fully meet the information and analysis needs of the entire campus community, placing a strong focus on customer service, accountability, accessibility, and measured performance while utilizing resources effectively and efficiently. The VP/CIO will guide the use of technology as a mechanism to promote inclusion and take action to address digital inequities. The VP/CIO will be responsible for the technical aspects of university data protection and business continuity and will provide strategic direction in alignment with the campus and CSU strategic plans, coordination and management of university-wide contracts and purchases for technology, and will be responsible for the development of policies, procedures and guidelines for the deployment of computing and Internet technologies. The VP/CIO will develop and effectively articulate funding needs and strategies to support the implementation and ongoing maintenance of technology initiatives.

The VP/CIO will lead 120 staff and 80 students, focused on all aspects of IT within an overall university budget of $18 million. The budget will increase as the unit evolves into a division. The successful candidate will be an ambitious, innovative, and visionary leader, focused on the future and best practices in information and technology management.

The VPIT/CIO Agenda

The VP/CIO builds and sustains effective partnerships and collaborations with academic and administrative departments, creates a unified and service-oriented IT organization, and ensures a reliable and secure technology infrastructure. The VP/CIO will lead a collaborative process to develop and implement an enterprise-wide technology roadmap in support of the University priorities. In addition the VP/CIO will:

- Assess university-wide IT services and recommend a more centralized structure to support university-wide information and technology needs.
- Establish and sustain a new structure for IT governance that promotes collaboration, shared governance and executive engagement in setting strategic priorities.
- Further develop a streamlined and transparent financial model for the division.
- In partnership with Academic Affairs, expand the use of technology to support the academic experience by improving access to digital technologies.
- Improve University operations by:
  - Creating efficient digital processes and services;
  - Deploying technologies and strategies to enable effective digital marketing of University programs;
  - Leveraging the functionality of existing technology solutions and services (includes improving adoption and reducing duplication);
  - Engaging in data-driven decision making;
  - Delivering technology support and solutions to the University cost effectively; and
  - Establishing a culture of partnership and transparency between IT service providers and University end-users.
• Lead collaborative design processes to plan technology enabled classrooms, collaboration spaces and workplaces.

• Utilizing industry standards and frameworks to introduce, fund, and implement the required tools and processes to protect and secure the university's data assets.

**Required Qualifications:**

• Master's degree or equivalent work experience.

• A minimum of 5 years of progressively responsible IT leadership in a collaborative IT role in a large complex organization.

• Demonstrated experience leading and integrating diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.

• Experience in leading IT strategic planning, complex budgeting, and personnel management.

• Record of successfully managing complex projects, including technology innovation and maintenance projects with multiple stakeholders.

• Experience engaging diverse stakeholder groups to set IT priorities, plan services, and develop policies.

• Demonstrated knowledge with experience in a broad range of information technologies as well as a solid understanding of trends in higher education broadly, and technology and student-centered applications specifically, with the ability to articulate concepts and directions to the university leadership and campus community.

**Preferred critical attributes:**

• Terminal degree

• Demonstrates strategic vision, anticipates future trends and incorporates knowledge of successful applications of information technology to ensure information technology efforts align with campus wide goals.

• Broad technical expertise across IT disciplines, leading practices in service management, resource management, portfolio management, and project management.

• Effective collaborative leadership style that incorporates organizational, analytical and decision-making skills with strong change management, project management, and team building skills.

• Experience and commitment to enhancing an active and collaborative relationship between Information Technology and other divisions (Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Business and Finance, and Advancement).

• Demonstrated ability to work effectively with internal and external constituencies, such as regional partners.

• Excellent communication skills, oral and written, and the ability to convey technically complex information and concepts in accessible terms.
● Strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to use diplomacy, inclusion and consensus to inform the decision-making process.

● Ability to mentor staff and advance a culture of service and collaboration with all campus and system constituencies.

● Demonstrated personal and ongoing commitment to anti-racism education and initiatives to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion.

● Strong financial management skills including ability to manage complex budgets with multiple fund sources including experience developing revenue streams through grants and corporate partnerships.

● Demonstrated ability to create a positive team environment and lead, motivate and develop staff.

● Demonstrated competence/knowledge in a collective bargaining environment.

● Ability to establish effective working relationships in a diverse environment and work in the University’s model of shared governance and transparency.

● Demonstrated ability to understand the structure, operations, strategic objectives, regulatory issues and cultural environment of academia.

The University:

California State University, Chico, a Hispanic-Serving Institution, is one of the most highly ranked regional public universities in the West and one of the most popular within the California State University 23-campus system. With 7 colleges, and 70 undergraduate and 35 graduate degree programs, Chico State provides students a Northern California small-college-town, residential campus experience that rivals many private universities. The University prioritizes equity, diversity and inclusion; emphasizes and fosters sustainability and resilience; and is committed to service to the community and civic engagement in order to transform student lives and enhance the local and extended environment. Over 135,000 alumni have achieved distinction as graduates. A comprehensive capital campaign, Transform Tomorrow, concludes in June of 2021.

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. However, only complete applications received by August 15 can be assured full consideration. As a condition of employment, persons will have to submit to a confidential background check and submit official, sealed transcripts. All information obtained will be strictly confidential.

Applications/Nominations:

Applicants should submit a complete and current resume and a cover letter indicating why you are interested in the role and how your experience aligns with the qualifications of the position. This search is being assisted by Next Generation Leadership Partners and applications should be sent electronically to chico@nextgenpartnersllc.com. Nominations and requests for confidential conversations may be sent to consultants Mary Beth Baker at marybeth@nextgenpartnersllc.com or Phil Goldstein at phil@nextgenpartnersllc.com.
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.

An annual security report disclosing crime statistics for California State University, Chico can be obtained by contacting the California State University Police Department (530) 898-5555 or by accessing the following University Police Department web site.

Additional information about the University is available California State University, Chico web site.