

Ottawa University, Kansas

Campus President



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THE OPPORTUNITY

Ottawa University invites applications and nominations from inspired and dynamic leaders for the campus presidency of its residential college located in Ottawa, Kansas. The new OUKS Campus President will report directly to the University Chancellor and serve as the chief leader for the University's 158 year old campus in Ottawa, Kansas. The Campus President will lead the Ottawa campus and be supported collaboratively by a robust University-wide system and infrastructure while participating in the overall governance and direction of the greater institution through membership on the Chancellor's executive team.

[Ottawa University](#) is an institution with a proud 159 year heritage of educating adults and students of traditional ages for lifetimes of faith, service, leadership and significance. From its founding in 1865 in Ottawa, Kansas, the University has grown to an institution today that serves approximately 4,000 students through its campuses in Kansas (Ottawa, Kansas - Residential Campus and Overland Park, Kansas - Adult and Online Programs); Arizona (Surprise, Arizona - Residential Campus and Adult Programs); and Wisconsin (Brookfield, Wisconsin - Adult Programs).

Ottawa University is a regionally accredited, private university that strives to integrate faith, learning, and life in the academic experiences of students.

OTTAWA UNIVERSITY EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

- Ottawa University is a comprehensive, private, non-profit University, headquartered in Ottawa, Kansas. The University was founded in 1865 through a collaboration with the Ottawa Indian Tribe and the American Baptist Churches, USA.
- The Ottawa, Kansas residential campus is in its 159th year of service.
- The University is a pioneer in adult higher education, with over 48 years of serving the unique needs of adult learners in the Kansas City, Phoenix, and Milwaukee metropolitan areas, as well as through a robust online education division.
- Ottawa opened its highly successful Surprise, Arizona residential campus in 2017, setting new records for enrollment growth and immediate sustainability.
- The University has been continuously accredited since 1914 by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and is one of the oldest continuously accredited higher educational systems in America.
- The University operates with 697 full and part-time faculty, including adjunct faculty. Approximately 79% of the full-time teaching faculty at Ottawa University hold a doctorate and the remaining 21% have a minimum of a master's degree as the highest degree earned.
- The University benefits from its Flex-Term academic schedule, designed to meet the demands of the particular course and related student learning patterns.
- Ottawa is a highly successful member of the NAIA, the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference, the Sooner Conference, the Golden State Athletic Conference, and the National Christian College Athletics Association. OU offers 33 varsity sports at its Kansas campus and 26 varsity sports at its Arizona campus and enrolls more NAIA varsity athletes at its two residential campuses than any college in America.
- The University has produced a track record of organic growth from within a solid and respected 159-year-old higher educational institution by growing its gross revenues and net tuition revenues significantly over the past decade.
- Ottawa has been successful in its fundraising activities since 2008 and has enjoyed outstanding results in its capital campaigns with strong support from the board and friends of the institution.

- Ottawa benefits from an unusually well-diversified strategic business model with three lines of business operating nationally and internationally and is strongly positioned to sustain its growth and success well into the future.
- The newer Arizona residential campus located in Surprise achieved critical mass in just four years. OUAZ benefits from its location in the 5th largest and fastest growing state in the United States and in the fastest growing county (Maricopa) in the United States--a market with very little private higher education.
- The school has been built on the foundation of its resurgent historical campus in Kansas which is enjoying its highest enrollment in thirty-five years.
- Augmenting the two residential campuses is a powerful and profitable online and adult site distribution model with adult campuses in the Kansas City and Milwaukee metropolitan areas and operations serving the Phoenix metropolitan area from the Surprise campus.
- A commitment to the development of the whole person is deeply embedded in the University's cultural and operational DNA.
- [Strategic Plan](#)



OTTAWA UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP



**William M. (Bill) Tsutsui, PhD
Chancelor**

Bill Tsutsui joined the Ottawa University family on July 1, 2021 and has hit the ground running. He convened a broadly based comprehensive strategic planning process at Ottawa last fall, charting the course for a bright future. Bill is an award-winning historian, a passionate classroom teacher, and a seasoned academic leader with a record of innovation. Born in New York City and raised in Texas, he holds degrees from Harvard, Oxford, and

Princeton.

Bill began his academic career at the University of Kansas, where over 17 years he held a range of administrative positions, including chair of the Department of History and associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. From 2010 to 2014, he was dean of Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. From June 2014 through December 2019, Bill served as president of Hendrix College, a top-tier national liberal arts college founded in 1876, where he stressed accessibility and affordability, diversity and inclusion, a commitment to the core values of a liberal arts education and connecting with the college's Arkansas heritage. Most recently, Bill served as the Edwin O. Reischauer Distinguished Visiting Professor at Harvard University. A former member of the NCAA D-III Presidents Council, he is currently on the boards of the Association for Asian Studies and the US-Japan Council and was appointed in 2020 to the Japan-US Friendship Commission.





WHY WE SERVE

Since its inception in 1865, Ottawa University has sought to live out its mission in some unique and powerful ways. It began with the collaboration between two American Baptist missionaries, Jotham and Eleanor Meeker, and the Ottawa Indian Tribe of Kansas to promote education and peace in a rapidly changing world. Out of this relationship, Ottawa University was born. Ever mindful of the University's original commitments, treaties and agreements were refreshed and strengthened in 2008 by then President & CEO Kevin Eichner and the Board of Trustees, allowing all Ottawa Indians to attend the University at any of its locations free of charge. Since 2008, more than 350 tribal members have enrolled and over 150 have graduated, far more than in the 143 prior years put together. In recognition of this esteemed relationship, the Ottawa Tribe made a major donation in the form of a beautiful fire-and-water feature that is the signature element of the University's Gangwish Library and Gibson Student Center. The Tribe and the University continue to enjoy harmonious collaboration in pursuit of mutual aims.

Ottawa University has grown from its origins on the banks of the Marais des Cygnes River in Kansas to a comprehensive, not-for-profit, educational institution, which serves students of traditional age and adult learners worldwide. Thoroughly grounded in its mission, Ottawa University carries out its educational purposes through its liberal arts and professional studies programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Ottawa University guides learners to integrate faith, learning, and life, to gain the abilities they need to succeed and prosper, and to do so with an increased sense of the knowledge, compassion, respect, and service our world requires. Interested candidates are encouraged to review the University's Mission Documents, which include the Mission and Vision Statements reproduced below as well as the University's Diversity Policy, Hallmarks of Distinction,

Guiding Principles, Statement of Strategic Intent, Statement of Educational Purposes, and Code of Conduct, all of which are available on the University's website, www.ottawa.edu/About-Us.

MISSION

Building on its foundation as a Christ-inspired community of grace and open inquiry, Ottawa University prepares professional and liberal arts graduates for lifetimes of personal significance, vocational fulfillment, and service to God and humanity.

VISION

Ottawa University will be positioned as a rapidly expanding institution known for its innovative educational models, exceptional value, and special ability to prepare diverse student populations for lives of enlightened faith, exemplary service, inspired leadership and personal significance.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Ottawa University offers degree programs in more than 50 academic disciplines (38 undergraduate, 11 graduate and 1 doctoral), including healthcare management, nursing, humanities and the social sciences, education, business, and STEM. The University offers well over 100 areas of study (majors, minors, and concentrations). These academic programs are offered in various locations throughout the country including satellite campuses, the traditional residential campuses and online.



The most popular majors among traditional undergraduate students include Exercise Science (19.35%), Business Administration (16.78%), Sports Leadership (8.96%), Biology (7.48%), and Applied Psychology (5.94%).

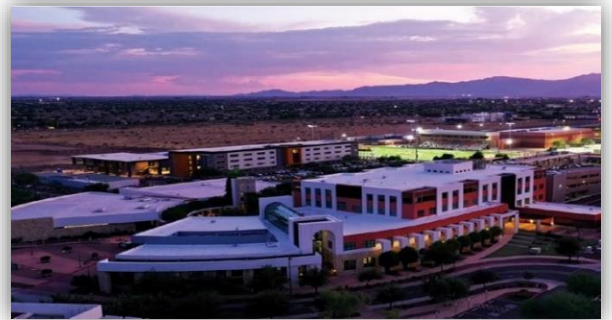
Excellent graduate programs are offered in Applied Psychology, Business, Counseling, Education and Nursing, as well as a large Executive MBA program for international students already in country. The University launched its first doctoral degree program, a Doctor of Business Administration, on the Ottawa campus in fall 2022. The University continues to research and develop new academic offerings that the market needs and programs from which graduates can serve our communities and their public health demands: physical, mental, and emotional health; such as the Master of Arts in Counseling program in Kansas City, launched in Spring 2023, and the new Bachelor of Science in Nursing: Prelicensure program, which prepares students to enter the nursing profession as Registered Nurses, which was approved by the Kansas Board of Nursing in 2023 and will begin its first cohort in Spring 2024. Additionally, in support of Health Professions programs, the University is working to launch the Master of Science: Physician Assistant program.

CAMPUS LOCATIONS

The University's Ottawa, Kansas residential campus is located on sixty-four acres. This campus has sixteen major buildings, including three residence halls, seven academic and administrative buildings, four athletic facilities, a student-dining center, and a library/conference center.



The University's Surprise, Arizona campus currently sits on 13 acres. This campus has planned access to an additional 20 acres immediately south of its current campus, which will be developed over time to include additional academic, administrative, housing, and athletic facilities as enrollments increase.



In December of 2020, the University completed a highly successful \$38 million public bond offering, allowing it to own all of its Arizona properties and to do so at materially lower costs over time. Because of its track record of growth and its unique business strategy and model, the investment banking firm of Ziegler and Company noted that Ottawa achieved the most favorable pricing for its bonds of any non-rated higher education credit in the entire preceding year.

In addition to the two residential campuses, Ottawa operates adult sites in Surprise, Overland Park (Kansas City), Milwaukee (Brookfield), & Online. As a pioneer in adult education, Ottawa University has been offering busy adults the opportunity to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in the Kansas City-metropolitan area for more almost 50 years.



THE CAMPUS PRESIDENT

Reporting to the Chancellor, the Campus President serves as the chief leader for the University's residential campus in Ottawa, Kansas (OUKS). The Campus President works collaboratively within a robust University-wide system and infrastructure, leading in the overall governance and direction of the greater institution as a member of the Executive Cabinet.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Serves as a true general manager. Accordingly, key success factors are budget management, enrollment growth, student experience and satisfaction, student retention, oversight, educational and student outcomes, facilities management on the OUKS campus, and oversight of OUKS athletic programs.
- Responsible for a holistic approach to the development of students. Assures the campus provides a welcoming and inclusive environment to all through a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and the development of high-impact graduates who make a difference wherever they live and serve.
- Adept at building rich and transformational relationships with students, parents, faculty, staff, administration, trustees, alumni, and external constituencies, including the City of Ottawa and Franklin County.
- Has a deep commitment to the academic mission of the University and resolute in advocating for academic integrity, intellectual freedom, and excellence in and out of the classroom.
- Is responsible for profit and loss management for the campus, and for continued leadership and oversight to a diverse and multi-faceted enterprise, including the financial demands and limitations necessary to ensure that OUKS as a standalone unit maintains financial stability and the ability to invest in itself through effective revenue and expense management. Responsible for campus staff, their development, the quality of work life, the effectiveness of the organization, and for leading the unit as a team as a part of all applicable campus operations.
- Responsible for community relations and for assuring a demonstrated mission centricity in all operations of the campus. Participates actively in fundraising activities and planning, including the fostering of new friend and donor relationships that can financially impact the University in meaningful ways. Cultivates partnerships beyond campus that will benefit students, faculty and staff, and the institution as a whole.
- Regularly reports to the Board regarding the status of the Ottawa Residential Campus. Participates in the Cabinet and in other ways to provide effective coordination and collaborative decision-making among senior administrative officers.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS

- Terminal degree required.
- Significant executive experience in higher education or related fields.
- Knowledge of and commitment to communicating the University's mission and to promoting the values and goals of higher education in teaching, learning, and scholarship.
- Distinguished record of leadership and interpersonal skills necessary to inspire and build the campus.
- Experience with executive-level leadership responsibilities in multiple operational areas.
- Relevant experience in strategic planning, new business markets, enrollment management, and financial and data analysis.
- Ability to work closely with Chancellor and Board of Trustees.
- Ability to work collaboratively and collegially with top-line executives in a complex, multi-site system.
- Collaborative and sensitive, yet firm, leadership and management skills. Someone who is able to elicit participation and support from individuals and groups.
- A high level of oral and written communications skills.
- A strategic and creative thinker with strong analytical and data skills.
- Ability to work collaboratively and collegially with diverse groups of individuals inside and outside the University.





Downtown Ottawa, Kansas

THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Ottawa University benefits from a particularly supportive and friendly community in Ottawa, Kansas. Interactions at all levels between OUKS students, faculty and staff and members of the community—many of whom graduated from the University—are exceptional. Nearly every business in the town displays “We Support Ottawa University” signs, and each fall the surrounding front yards of our neighbors post such signs as well, signaling the depth and legacy of a university and a community that literally grew up together. The new president of the Ottawa campus will find that s/he and his or her family (if one) will be warmly welcomed.

Ottawa itself is a vibrant and growing community in Franklin County, Kansas, that boasts of wonderful historic architecture, great shopping, some delicious and family friendly food venues, as well as many annual fun-filled community events. Ottawa benefits from a nationally recognized hospital and health care system that is the envy of cities many times Ottawa’s size. Strongly committed to education and support of its youth, the community recently passed a \$64 million bond offering on first vote to further enhance the existing public school system including major new investments in STEM education, a brand new elementary school, and improvements to the local high school and middle school.

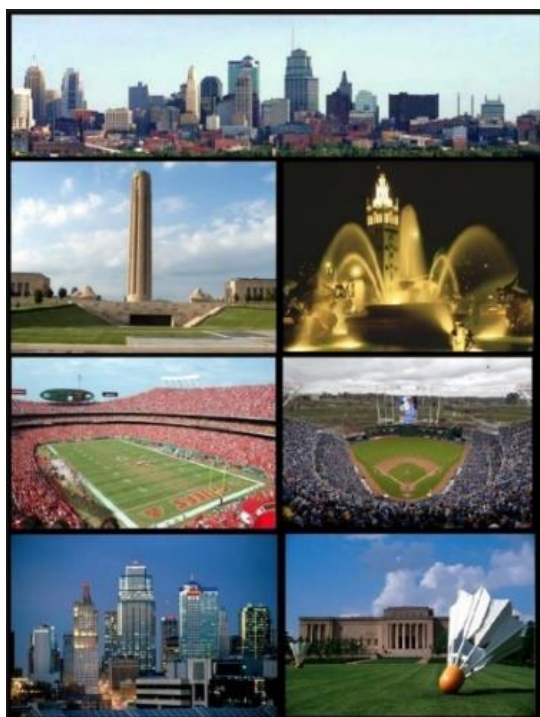
Already home to some significant manufacturing and distribution centers that help to diversify employment and to augment the agribusiness industry prevalent in the area, Ottawa has strong retail and commercial businesses in and around the city itself and has just opened a new commercial and industrial business park. Located strategically between Kansas City and Wichita on Interstate 35, the city benefits from five major interchanges and a variety of housing options at extremely affordable cost points. In addition to the school bond issue, Ottawa has been making major investments to support its youth in the form of new playgrounds, parks, and a Teen Park. The City is designated a Play City, a Tree City, and is committed to being an Inclusive Community. It is a great place to live, work, play and to raise a family. Candidates and their families (if one) might enjoy reviewing the Chamber of Commerce website, www.ottawakansas.org, [Community Guide](#), and [Community Videos](#).

History buffs can learn about the tragedies in the battle over slavery and see how Kansas was at the epicenter of the Civil War. Franklin County is included in the Freedoms Frontier National Heritage Area which explores the pre-Civil War border wars between Missouri and Kansas, shaping of the

frontier by early settlers and our enduring struggles for freedom even to the present day. You can also see what an 1888 train depot was like at the Old Depot Museum or stroll down historic Main Street and learn about the buildings built in the late 1800s from an interactive kiosk system beginning at the Old Depot Museum and ending near the Carnegie Cultural Center. And don't forget to stop by the beautiful Franklin County Courthouse, built in 1893 by famed Kansas architect George P. Washburn along with several homes in the city including a particularly grand one owned by the University.

If outdoor activities are your preference, hop on your bike for a ride or hike on the 51 mile-long Prairie Spirit Trail from Ottawa to Iola. Or visit the University lodge grounds at nearby Lake Pomona. If you like to ride horses, the Flint Hills Trail crosses the Prairie Spirit Trail in Ottawa. This trail when fully completed will span more than 117 miles from Osawatomie to Herington, Kansas.

Less than an hour away, the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan area is alive with art, dance, theater,



eclectic local attractions, international events and music of all kinds, including jazz, for which Kansas City is famous. Kansas City has three major athletic teams, including the Chiefs, the 2016 World Series Champion Royals and the Sporting KC soccer team, all of which play in remodeled or new stadium facilities. Kansas City was also recently named the "Coolest City in America" by the *Huffington Post* (<http://www.huffingtonpost.com>). Ottawa University has a major presence in nearby Overland Park, where the University's Adult, Professional and Graduate Studies programs (APGS) have been conducted on behalf of thousands of students since 1974. Just 20 minutes north of Ottawa is Lawrence, Kansas, the home of the University of Kansas, with more than its share of great entertainment and dining venues as befits a college town of a university that size.

Relevant websites that provide meaningful information

about the region are as follows:

- City of Kansas City, Missouri www.kcmo.gov
- City of Kansas City, Kansas www.wycokck.org
- Kansas City Convention & Visitors Assoc www.visitkc.com
- Kansas City Star Newspaper www.kansascity.com

NOMINATION & APPLICATION PROCESS



CBIZ EFL Associates (<https://eflassociates.cbiz.com>), an executive search firm, is assisting **Ottawa University** with its search for this important leadership position. All calls and inquiries should be made through the search firm.

Nominations and applications will be held in strict confidence and candidates will remain confidential until the final stage of the search, at which time the express permission of finalists will be obtained before making their candidacy public.

Application Process

STEP 1: Complete a brief online application (2-3 minutes):

- [Click here for the online application](#)

STEP 2: Send us your letter of interest and résumé or curriculum vitae:

- Send in **PDF format**
- Send to ApplyHigherEd@EFLAssociates.com
- Email subject line should read – ***“OUKS Campus President Application”***

Key Dates

- Application deadline is **August 27, 2024**.
- Semi-Finalist Interviews are scheduled **September 16th & 17th, 2024**.
- On campus Interviews tentatively scheduled for week of **October 7, 2024**.
- The position start date is January 2025.

Confidential Inquiries

Steve Waldron, JD

VP & Managing Director, Higher Education Practice

816-945-5423 (direct) Email: swaldron@eflassociates.com

Nominations & Application Questions

If you would like to provide a nomination, please email all pertinent information (including an email address and phone number of the nominee) to:

Edith Ketay

Program Manager, Higher Education Practice

816-841-4001 (direct) Email: Edith.Ketay@EFLAssociates.com