



# PROVOST SEARCH



University of Wisconsin  
**Stevens Point**

STEVENS POINT • MARSHFIELD • WAUSAU



UNIVERSITIES OF  
**WISCONSIN**

# OPPORTUNITY SUMMARY

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The [University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point](#) (UWSP) invites applications and nominations for the position of Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Established in 1894, UW-Stevens Point is one of 13 universities in the Universities of Wisconsin, a public higher education system that also includes two doctoral institutions. UWSP enrolls approximately 8,538 undergraduate and graduate students across three campuses, with locations in Stevens Point, [Marshfield](#) and [Wausau](#).

UWSP campuses offer a welcoming, supportive atmosphere focused on student success. While there are many reasons to choose UWSP, most often repeated by students and employees alike are statements such as “It feels like home” and “I knew my voice would be heard.” Faculty and staff are committed and energetic, doing whatever is needed to help students reach their goals and discover their purpose. The result is a UWSP community that loves their university, shows excitement and enthusiasm about their programs and builds strong relationships with each other.

The Universities of Wisconsin (UW) serve more than 164,600 students. Awarding more than 37,000 degrees annually, the 13 public universities that make up the UW are Wisconsin’s talent pipeline, putting graduates in position to increase their earning power, contribute to their communities, and make Wisconsin a better place to live. Nearly 90% of in-state Universities of Wisconsin graduates stay in the state five years after earning a degree. The Universities of Wisconsin also contribute to the richness of Wisconsin’s culture and economy with cutting-edge and life-changing research, new companies and patents, and boundless creative and intellectual energy.



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# OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR LEADERSHIP

The next Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs will provide leadership in a number of critical areas including:

## **Provide strategic vision for the future of education at UW-Stevens Point**

Beyond the management of a varied academic array, the next Provost of UW-Stevens Point will be encouraged to place a particular emphasis on several strategic directions that will continue to strengthen the university and add value to its students, faculty, staff and community.

In doing so, the Provost will work closely with the deans and other academic leaders to deliver high-quality academic programs across a wide range of disciplines and professional needs driven by the students and the region. The Provost will work across Academic Affairs to ensure a curriculum that is fresh and relevant to regional and national needs. They will support the development of new academic programs and delivery modalities.

The Provost will leverage the strengths of UWSP to provide the vision, direction and priorities that guide and assist the campus in best supporting, recruiting and retaining faculty in their research, scholarship, and teaching.

## **Embody the values of the Wisconsin Idea**

The Universities of Wisconsin pride themselves on educating students and serving communities. The comprehensive, regional public universities that make up the Universities of Wisconsin are committed to solving problems in their local communities and across the state of Wisconsin – exemplifying the Wisconsin Idea, the longstanding principle that education should influence people's lives beyond the boundaries of the classroom. As such, the new Provost will operate from a community-needs orientation, focused on a mission and goal-driven perspective that will subsequently encourage professional development for faculty and staff while supporting student success.

The Provost will work to enhance UWSP's position as a leader in sustainability education and sustainable practices as well as its commitment to community engagement. To that end, they will cultivate curiosity and civic engagement among students and the surrounding communities. They will foster connections between faculty and outreach units and the community, providing service-based learning opportunities for students and creating a broader impact on the community.

## **Focus on Student Success**

The Provost will work closely with the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, the deans, and with University College to ensure student success. They will provide a vision for the academic program array and general education as well as increasing opportunities for students to take part in internships and other high impact experiences that enrich student learning. The Provost will ensure student support

services in the areas of advising, tutoring and learning, disability services, library services and international education.

## **Ensure a welcoming and inclusive climate**

UW-Stevens Point expects its Provost to be an authentic and passionate advocate for inclusion across student, faculty and staff communities. UWSP's goal is to provide high quality and equitable educational opportunities. As such, the Provost will encourage inclusive pedagogy and the integration of differing perspectives across disciplines.

## **Champion faculty success**

The Provost must maintain a commitment to recruiting and retaining highly qualified faculty who bring novel experiences and perspectives. The Provost will work to find the means and strategies to support the deans to attract new faculty members, assist them in developing a scholarly agenda and obtaining tenure, while also helping current faculty maintain excellence in their instructional and scholarly roles.

Building on the scholarly excellence of current faculty, the new Provost will find creative means to deepen such contributions, in the context of a university that sees research as complementary to teaching and community work. Through the Center for Inclusive Teaching and Learning (CITL), the Provost will ensure that faculty and instructional academic staff are supported in their continued development as teachers and scholars. The incoming Provost must understand the unique and complex needs of all faculty and be steadfast in the commitment to supporting them.

## **Collaborate with shared governance**

It is essential that the Provost engage effectively with the Common Council, the representative body of academic staff, faculty and university staff. The Provost is expected to work collaboratively with the Common Council to ensure participation in inclusive decision making and transparency across the entire community, engaging the community in planning for the future and communicating about key challenges, opportunities and decisions.

The Provost is looked to as a model of good judgment and principled action, called upon to balance with care the interests of all stakeholders while keeping open channels of communication to promote a culture of engagement and trust.

While working through issues that face the university, the Provost will work collaboratively to find the pathway to "yes." The faculty and staff at UWSP are a passionate group deeply committed to their students and the surrounding communities. The new Provost will rally these dedicated individuals and provide meaningful opportunities for them to advance in their careers.

# QUALIFICATIONS AND QUALITIES

The Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs will report directly to Chancellor Robert Brinkmann and will be an integral and vital part of the UW-Stevens Point's leadership team. As such, the ideal candidate will have the following professional qualifications and personal characteristics:

## Required Professional Qualifications

### Academic Credentials

- An earned terminal degree from an accredited institution.
- Credentials would qualify them to be considered for tenure at the rank of full professor at the time of appointment.
- A record of accomplishment in scholarship, service, teaching, and mentoring.

### Administrative Leadership

- Administrative leadership experience at the dean level or higher.
- Successful record of academic leadership, including management of personnel.
- Experience in the processes of comprehensive academic planning, accreditation, strategic decision making and assessment.
- Excellent organizational and communication abilities and analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Strong commitment to the principles of liberal arts education.
- Commitment to maintaining a climate of collaboration and transparency at all levels of the university community.
- A collaborative leadership style and demonstrated ability to work collegially with varied constituencies.
- Having first-hand knowledge of governance practices, including demonstrated sensitivity to the culture of shared governance, tenure, and academic freedom.

### Financial Acumen

- Experience in managing the financial and budgeting operations of a major unit or organization.
- Record of effectively managing the business and finances of a complex organization, especially in a time where resources must be prioritized.
- Commitment to expanding external support for faculty development/research.

### Faculty and Student Success

- A record that shows commitment to hiring high-quality faculty and supporting their development as teachers and scholars.
- Strong commitment to all aspects of student success, including but not limited to support for high impact practices and student support services.

## Personal Qualities

### Academic Excellence

Commitment to an environment where teaching and student success remain the top priority, with an appropriate research and scholarship agenda integrated into that priority.

### Executive Disposition

Conveying a persona that is consistent with UWSP's values: demonstrating the high energy, positive attitude and personal demeanor that cultivate leadership and respect.

### Creative Thinking and Behavior

Conveying an entrepreneurial approach that encourages new ways of approaching problems and opportunities, and a willingness to foster and incentivize change.

### Drive for Results

Setting high goals for personal and group accomplishment; using measurement methods to monitor progress toward goal attainment; tenaciously working to meet or exceed those goals while deriving satisfaction from the process of goal achievement and continuous improvement.

### Valuing Inclusion

A demonstrated commitment to inclusion and the ability to articulate a strong rationale for their importance to effective learning at UWSP.

### Student-Success Focus

A commitment to keep students at the center of decision-making within Academic Affairs, with student academic and holistic development being the ultimate goal.

### Authenticity

A core genuineness which engenders trust, encompassing integrity, transparency and a willingness to be receptive to feedback; conveys confidence, but with humility.

### Personal Values

A servant leader who exhibits and embodies integrity, collegiality, support of scholarship and creative activity, and enthusiasm. A leader who embraces intelligent growth, respect, and mutual support.

# Role of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

The Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs serves as the chief academic officer responsible for leading both the academic programs of the university and academic personnel. The Provost is the second ranking officer at the university and acts on behalf of the chancellor as required.

## The administrative units directly reporting to the Provost include:

- College of Fine Arts and Communication
- College of Letters and Science
- College of Natural Resources
- College of Professional Studies
- University College
- Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness
- Office of Research and Sponsored Programs
- Office of the Registrar

The Provost is responsible for budget development and administration for the Office of Academic Affairs and for all its units, totaling \$72,000,000 and 650 faculty and staff full-time equivalent (FTE).

**In addition to functioning as a key member of the chancellor's senior leadership team in leading and managing the university, the Provost will engage the following responsibilities:**

## Academic Personnel Administration

- Appoints and reappoints all faculty, deans and instructional academic staff.
- Recommends faculty and academic staff promotions, tenure and indefinite appointments to the chancellor.
- Implements all Board of Regents, Universities of Wisconsin and UW-Stevens Point personnel policies for faculty and academic staff regarding recruitment, appointment, retention, evaluation, salary and tenure management.

## Academic Program Administration

- Reviews existing programs, development and approval of new academic programs, personnel policies for faculty and instructional academic staff and faculty and staff professional development.
- Corresponds with Universities of Wisconsin Office of Academic Affairs when appropriate on curricular matters and special funding opportunities (faculty/staff development, laboratory modernization and one-time budget allocations).
- Implements all Board of Regents, Universities of Wisconsin and UW-Stevens Point policies pertaining to program review and articulation agreements with Wisconsin Technical Colleges.
- With other vice chancellors, deans and other Academic Affairs administrators, provides guidance and assistance to various Common Council committees by preparing working papers as appropriate or by meeting with the committees.

## Additional Roles

- Represents Academic Affairs on campus and represents the university in the community and region at meetings with Universities of Wisconsin provosts/vice chancellors and other Universities of Wisconsin personnel. Serves on Universities of Wisconsin committees.
- Makes recommendations about resources needed to recruit and retain faculty, staff, deans and other academic leaders.
- Leads important university initiatives such as general education reform, assessment of student learning and accreditation.
- Performs other duties as assigned or as may be requested or necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of the Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.



# ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY



## History

Founded in 1894 as the sixth site for a Normal School in Wisconsin, UW-Stevens Point has evolved through several stages of educational service to the citizens of Wisconsin. In 1927, permission to grant degrees was conveyed along with a name change to “State Teachers College.” By 1964 “teacher education” was no longer the sole emphasis and the school was re-named “Wisconsin State University-Stevens Point.” With the merger of Wisconsin’s two higher education systems in 1972, the campus assumed the name University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, with a mission to serve central Wisconsin.

In a 2018 reorganization of University of Wisconsin Colleges, UWSP was combined with two former two-year campuses in Marshfield and Wausau.

UWSP celebrated its 131st year of higher education in 2025, with an enrollment of nearly 8,560 students at three campuses.

## Overview

UW-Stevens Point offers more than 100 program options within 80 baccalaureate degree programs, 73 minors and 18 graduate programs, including three doctorates, within the College of Fine Arts and Communication, College of Letters and Sciences, College of Natural Resources and College of Professional Studies. In addition, the University College offers students academic support, resources and services housed in the new Student Resource Center, such as the Academic and Career Advising Center, Disability Services, Office of International Education and Tutoring-Learning Center.

UWSP offers an exceptionally broad curriculum. Its nationally recognized natural resources program offers an interdisciplinary approach and emphasis on hands-on field experiences. The Sentry School of Business and Economics creates career-ready graduates and leaders through applied learning. Elementary and secondary education programs are recognized statewide and growing stronger through the Harju Center for Equity in Education. Students in the arts have the advantage of attending the only university in the state with all fine arts programs (art, dance, music and theater) nationally accredited. Emphasizing an interdisciplinary and career-focused curriculum, the School of Design brings together art, graphic design and interior architecture, and the School of Health Sciences and Wellness offers a broad array of degree programs designed for students seeking health careers.

UWSP also emphasizes research opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students in a variety of disciplines. Faculty members work closely with students to develop and support research projects as well as offer co-authorship and presentations at professional conferences.

UWSP is characterized by the many high impact experiences offered to students. One such example is the Cornerstone Press, a university publisher most often seen at Research I institutions, where undergraduate students gain invaluable hands on experiences in all aspects of book publishing. In 2025, Cornerstone Press published over 30 works, some receiving prestigious awards from the PEN America Literary Awards and the Chicago Writers Association.

Approximately 3,500 students live in residence halls on the Stevens Point campus, which has about 420 faculty and academic staff members, approximately 470 non-teaching professional staff members and 330 university support staff members.

## One University, Three Campuses

### UW-Stevens Point

[Explore the campus video](#)

[Virtual tour](#)

A 406-acre campus, UW-Stevens Point includes the 280-acre Schmeeckle Reserve and a 25-acre lake. There are 12 academic buildings, 13 residence halls and five student centers. The newest buildings include the state-of-the-art Haeni Chemistry Biology Building with “science on display” laboratories; a Student Health and Wellness Center that brings together Student Health Service, Counseling Center and fitness and recreation facilities; and the recently completed Gale and Paul Kirby Library and Student Resource Center that brings library resources and student services into one building. The Jenkins Theatre, Michelsen Hall and Edna Carlsten Gallery in the Noel Fine Arts Center bring theatre, music and visual art to the campus and community. The campus is located midway between Milwaukee and Minneapolis at the intersection of Interstate 39/Highway 51 and U.S. Highway 10.

The university also has three off-site natural resources research field stations: [Central Wisconsin Environmental Station](#) in Amherst Junction, Wis.; [Treehaven](#) in Tomahawk, Wis.; and [Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility](#) in Bayfield, Wis.

**Gale and Paul Kirby Library and Student Resource Center**



**Student Health and Wellness Center**



**#12** in **TOP**  
**REGIONAL**  
 Midwest  
**Universities**

## UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield

[UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield](#) is a wooded, 114-acre campus located in a quiet residential area. The campus, formed in 1963, is west of downtown [Marshfield](#), a community named one of the nation's best small cities and home to one of the state's largest health care providers, Marshfield Clinic. Campus amenities include the new state-of-the-art Everett Roehl STEM Center, 340-seat Helen Laird Theater, which hosts campus and community performances, and a 99-acre arboretum. The city of Marshfield is located nearly 40 miles northwest of Stevens Point



## UW-Stevens Point at Wausau

[UW-Stevens Point at Wausau](#) is an urban campus that is transitioning to a co-location at the Northcentral Technical College campus in Wausau, Wis. Known for strong science, math, music and theatre offerings, the campus has been serving Wausau since 1933. The city of Wausau is 35 miles north of Stevens Point.



## Mission, Vision and Values

**Mission:** Through the discovery, dissemination and application of knowledge, UW-Stevens Point fosters intellectual growth, provides a broad-based education, models community engagement and prepares students for success in a diverse and sustainable world.

**Vision:** The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point will continue to be recognized for developing, supporting and educating students and citizens to constructively engage in local, regional and global communities.

**Values:** In addition to our primary value of education, we also value:

- Community engagement
- Critical thinking
- Diversity and inclusivity
- Lifelong learning
- Professional preparation
- Research, scholarly and creative activity
- Student-centered environment
- Sustainable management of natural resources and other resources

## Sustainability

UW-Stevens Point is committed to [sustainability](#) and its practice in our daily operations. The university demonstrates this through measures such as on-site resource recovery (recycling), composting food waste, energy reduction and continually exploring ideas to promote and support sustainability initiatives.

UWSP was the first university in the state to have 100 percent of its electricity come from renewable sources and has been recognized nationally as a Green Ribbon School for numerous sustainability initiatives.

Joining over 100 other universities across the United States by signing the Second Nature's Resilience Commitment in December 2023, the university is working with Second Nature to create its [Climate Action and Resilience Plan](#). Building from a 2007 pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, UW-Stevens Point's multi-year planning process will align its carbon neutrality plan with a lens towards campus resilience, adaptation and mitigation.

The university also practices sustainable forestry on more than 3,000 acres owned by [UWSP's College of Natural Resources](#) throughout central and northern Wisconsin. Sustainable forestry is the use of forests and forest lands in a way and at a rate that maintains their biodiversity, productivity, regeneration capacity, vitality and potential to fulfill relevant ecological, economic and social functions at local, national and global levels, without causing damage to other ecosystems. These managed forests not only produce valuable timber, but also store atmospheric carbon while improving soil and water quality.



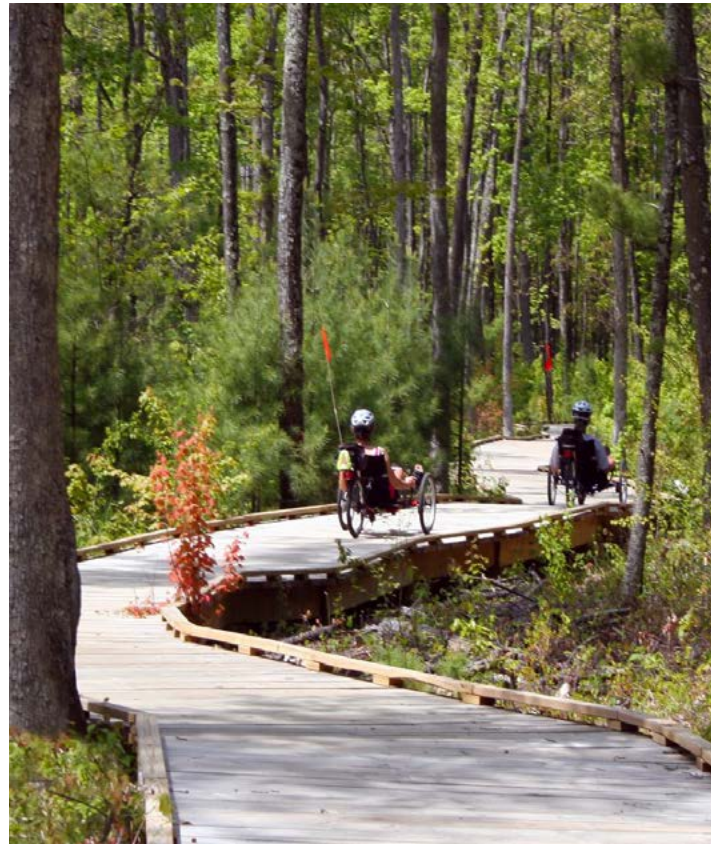
**GOLD  
RATING**  
AASHE STARS  
for Sustainability

## The Stevens Point Area

The city of [Stevens Point](#), the county seat of Portage County, was recently recognized by Wallet Hub's "[Best College Towns and Cities in America](#)." At its founding in 1858, Stevens Point was a community of loggers and fur traders. Known for the legendary Stevens Point Brewery, the city is the national headquarters of Sentry Insurance and Skyward and features state-recognized companies such as Delta Dental, Herrschners and Lands' End. Stevens Point is home to Aspirus Stevens Point Hospital, a regional center for Marshfield Clinic and other medical and physical therapy clinics.

With a population of 26,000, Stevens Point is the focal point of a Micropolitan Statistical Area that serves approximately 71,000 people. The city is known for recreational opportunities including the 27-mile Green Circle that surrounds the community and local foods movement. The many waterways and parks make the area an attractive destination for year-round outdoor sports enthusiasts.

Vibrant arts and cultural opportunities abound, with numerous museums, art galleries, venues for live music and theater and a 20-acre sculpture park. Historic downtown Stevens Point offers a local farmer's market for six months of the year, along with diverse cuisine and shopping. The city is also home to numerous festivals, including the renowned Portage County Cultural Festival.



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# PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

## **Inquiries, nominations and applications are invited.**

Applications should include the following: 1) a letter of application addressing the leadership opportunities and qualifications articulated within this document; 2) a curriculum vitae or résumé; and 3) a list of at least five references with contact information. The position will remain open until filled. Complete applications received by Friday, July 17, 2026, are assured full consideration.

Please direct all inquiries, nominations and applications to:  
Sarah Cousland, Director of Executive Recruitment  
Sarah Haen, Executive Recruiter  
[execrec@wisconsin.edu](mailto:execrec@wisconsin.edu)

## **AAEEO statement**

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, status as a protected veteran, or status as a qualified individual with a disability. UW-Stevens Point values diversity and inclusion as supported by our mission, “Through the discovery, dissemination and application of knowledge, UW-Stevens Point fosters intellectual growth, provides a broad-based education, models community engagement and prepares students for success in a diverse and sustainable world.”

Individuals with disabilities who need a reasonable accommodation during the application or interview process should contact Human Resources and Affirmative Action at 715-346-2606 or [hr@uwsp.edu](mailto:hr@uwsp.edu).

The safety and success of students, faculty, and staff at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is paramount. The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act requires the distribution of an annual security report to all current and prospective students, faculty, and staff. You may obtain the complete report at [www.uwsp.edu/dos/clery/Documents/ASR-ASFR.pdf](http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/clery/Documents/ASR-ASFR.pdf). The University of Wisconsin System will not reveal the identities of applicants who request confidentiality in writing, except that the identities of finalists must be revealed upon request. See Wis. Stat. §. 19.36(7).

