



EXECUTIVE SEARCH

Assistant Vice President for Facilities Operations





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Lander University, a comprehensive regional public university in South Carolina, seeks an experienced administrator and proven leader to serve as the **Assistant Vice President (AVP) for Facilities Operations**. Applications and nominations are being accepted.

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THE OPPORTUNITY

For over 150 years, Lander University has been preparing graduates for their chosen career paths. Today, the University offers exceptional educational opportunities in business, education, science, nursing, and an extensive set of professional programs, along with traditional liberal arts programs. Currently serving nearly 5,000 students, Lander is one of the fastest-growing institutions of higher education in South Carolina. Continued growth is anticipated.

Lander University and Vice President of Finance and Administration (VPFA) Joe Greenthal seek a strong and committed operational leader for Facilities and other auxiliary units of the University, serving in a newly created position. Reporting to the VPFA, the AVP will provide leadership to a wide variety of administrative units under the Finance and Administration umbrella.

The AVP will provide operational leadership in support of the VPFA and to the functional units assigned. The new AVP will help create policy and improve operational processes for a variety of units, including Facilities Services, Capital Projects, Special Events, the Equestrian Center, Transportation, Campus Scheduling, and the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

This position will operate with a significant amount of independence and will enable an entrepreneurial and business-minded individual the opportunity to significantly enhance the Lander experience for students, faculty, and staff through a variety of different areas of influence. Serving as part of a dynamic team under the VPFA will ensure that the units for which they provide leadership are moving Lander forward on all of its important strategic initiatives, operating with honesty, openness, courtesy, and respect.



Lander University

Mission Statement

Lander University offers high-demand and market-driven programs to ambitious and talented students in South Carolina and beyond. These programs are delivered in a rich liberal arts environment to produce highly qualified and marketable graduates.

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Duties and Responsibilities:

The AVP will provide leadership to unit heads responsible for these areas, manage the budgets within these areas, and work in support of the mission and goals of the Finance and Administration division. The Facilities division comprises roughly 75 staff spread across an array of departments. The AVP will lead and grow this staff in accordance with the University mission and in service to Lander's students and the campus community. This individual will be responsible for:

- Chairing the Space Utilization Committee and building the Project Request process.
- Managing personnel, including writing position descriptions, EPMS performance/evaluation, training, counseling and promotion.
- Leading the Lander University Physical Plant, which includes roughly 65 staff members in a wide variety of roles supporting building maintenance, grounds maintenance, custodial, central receiving, motor pool/short-term vehicle leasing, and the University Lockshop.
- Overseeing the Lander University Transportation Department, which operates the Lander Line and the Bearcat Shuttle, running routes connecting the local community to Greenwood and other nearby areas.
- Leading the Lander University Special Events staff, which works closely with the facilities team to plan and manage the many special uses for the Lander campus.
- Overseeing the Lander University Equestrian Center, the first university-based equestrian facility in South Carolina to offer academic, therapeutic, and sporting opportunities for students and community members. The complex consists of 37 beautiful acres featuring 26 stalls, a 300' x 150' covered arena, a 190' x 140' outdoor arena, and 19 different pastures.
- Managing the Work Order System.
- Creating status reports on operational and capital projects.
- Campus-wide energy management and reporting. Helping to prioritize energy efficiency measures to lower the campus carbon footprint while saving on utility costs.
- Leading the process of consolidating Scheduling, Fleet Management, and Space Utilization.
- Announcing to campus through mass communication about facilities activities, weather preparation, etc., as needed.
- Supporting the Campus Emergency Response Plan and Facilities Master Planning, in collaboration with the VPFA.

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Qualifications:

- Strong analytical, evaluative, and problem-solving abilities.
- Ability to advance and improve processes.
- Use of energy data to generate reports for decision making.
- Record of successful and effective budget management.
- Effective communication skills.
- Clear and demonstrated record of outstanding leadership, significant supervisory/management experience.
- Strategic and entrepreneurial mindset and approach to any issue, with a demonstrated ability to work collaboratively as a member of a senior management team.
- Customer service-focused and a campus relationship builder.
- Experience in higher education preferred.

Candidates must have a bachelor's degree. Three years of experience, including financial and/or administrative leadership experience, preferably in higher education, and a master's degree in a field such as business, project management, or public administration preferred.



Lander University Leadership

President Richard E. Cosentino

Richard E. Cosentino, Ph.D., began his tenure as Lander University's 12th president on July 1, 2015. He has over 30 years of experience in higher education as a senior administrative and financial executive and a background in fundraising, enrollment management, and governmental relations.

Dr. Cosentino came to Lander from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke (UNC-P), where he was the Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration. He was responsible for strategic management and leadership in over a dozen areas, including budget and financial planning, information technology, human resources, risk management, procurement, and facilities management. A native of Baltimore, MD, Dr. Cosentino has a Bachelor of Science in business administration with a major in finance and a Master of Business Administration with a major in strategic financial planning from the University of Baltimore in Maryland. He earned a Ph.D. in engineering from The George Washington University (GWU) in Washington, D.C.

Prior to UNC-P, Dr. Cosentino was an Assistant and Associate Vice President for Finance and Administration at GWU and Vice Dean for Finance and Administrative Affairs in the University's School of Engineering and Applied Science. He also worked as a Senior Budget Manager at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and as a Senior Administrator and Director of Budget and Finance at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He has presented at national conferences, addressing contemporary issues affecting higher education. His particular interest is the fielding of complex enterprise class systems in higher education environments.



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Lander University

Established in 1872, Lander University is experiencing unprecedented growth, as evidenced by a 26% increase in freshman enrollment over the previous fall, and over 60% increase since Dr. Cosentino's arrival. More than 91% of Lander's students are South Carolina residents, with every county in the state represented.

Ranked third among regional public colleges in the South by *U.S. News and World Report*, Lander offers more than 60 areas of study, including 16 signature academic programs in fields that are emerging and in high demand. In addition to its academic programs in Arts & Humanities; Behavioral & Social Sciences; Business; Education; Science & Mathematics; and Nursing, the University has an Honors College that offers academically accomplished students challenges both inside and outside the classroom.

The University has more than 500 full- and part-time faculty and staff. The campus is a close-knit community of professionals who work together toward the same goal of providing the best educational experience for students.

Lander's athletic teams are continually ranked in the top 25 in the country and are highly competitive in the Peach Belt Conference and NCAA Division II. Lander student-athletes also score high in the classroom, as many are listed on the Peach Belt Conference Presidential Honor Roll.

For additional information, visit the University's website at www.lander.edu.

Greenwood, South Carolina

Lander University is located in Greenwood, a beautiful, thriving county of some 70,000 residents nestled in South Carolina's Upstate region. The city has a high quality of life, with affordable quality housing and public and private schools. The area offers 100-plus restaurants, shopping malls, an art center, community theatre, movie theaters, parks, festivals, golf courses, fitness centers, and museums.

Greenwood is home to a number of regional festivals, including the nationally acclaimed Festival of Flowers and the Food Network-featured Festival of Discovery. The area also offers plenty of recreational options, including the beautiful 11,000-acre Lake Greenwood. The mild winter weather permits year-round outdoor recreation. Larger cities, Atlantic coast beaches, and the mountains are easily accessible with three major roadways serving the city.

Greenville, South Carolina

America's "Next Big Small Town" according to *People* magazine is also a top-ranked spot for foodies and travel, and it's one of America's fastest-growing cities. Discover all that its burgeoning and much-bragged-about downtown has to offer. Downtown Greenville is just 60 minutes from Lander's main campus, and is home to concert venues, the Greenville Symphony Orchestra, more than 1,000 restaurants, several minor league sports teams, the Swamp Rabbit system of multiuse trails, and much more.

Upstate South Carolina is Growing

The Upstate of South Carolina is home to some of the most beautiful natural resources in the country, including beautiful Lake Greenwood. Greenwood is located centrally and provides easy access to hiking, biking, waterfalls, and a wide variety of events, festivals, and concerts that provide exceptional quality of life along untouched natural beauty.

AGB Search is pleased to assist Lander University with this search.

To apply:

Candidates are requested to submit the following materials online to:

<https://bit.ly/4lhqNG1>

- 1) a curriculum vitae or resume,**
- 2) a letter of interest that addresses the leadership opportunities and desired experiences and attributes in this profile, and**
- 3) contact information for five references (to be contacted at a later date with candidate's permission).**

Review of materials will begin immediately, and the search will remain open until an appointment is made.

Nominations and expressions of interest are encouraged. Please direct them to LanderAVPFacOp@agbsearch.com or to one of the AGB search consultants:

Peggy Plympton, Ed.D.

Principal

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