



Associate Vice President for Research Compliance



Northern Arizona University (NAU) invites applications and nominations for the position of Associate Vice President for Research Compliance.

The Associate Vice President for Research Compliance (AVPRC) reports to Northern Arizona University's Vice President of Research and ensures that the research activities of faculty, staff, and students comply with local, state, and federal laws, regulations, and university policies. NAU seeks a leader who can effectively collaborate with, inform, and support faculty, staff, and students while ensuring that they abide by federal, state (Arizona Board of Regents), and university requirements related to research compliance.

Located in Flagstaff, AZ, Northern Arizona University is a comprehensive public research university serving over 31,000 students. The university is an officially designated Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and is recognized for its strong commitment to serving Native American students and communities. NAU offers more than 150 undergraduate and graduate programs through its seven academic colleges and is known for its long-standing strength in the area of education and teacher training, as the only university with a School of Forestry in the state of Arizona, and for its dedication to student access and success. NAU is home to a variety of research centers and institutes, which together with its academic units, host a diverse set of strengths in research and scholarship. NAU is particularly recognized for its strengths in research areas that include community health & health disparities, pathogen and infectious disease genomics, forest health & wildfire resilience, ecosystem & climate-change science, solar system science, informatics, and numerous other areas of study with robust and well-developed research programs.

Research at Northern Arizona University

NAU, widely recognized as a higher-research institution, has built a reputation for scientific discovery and the invention of innovative technologies. With annual research expenditures exceeding \$69 million, NAU is "an engine of opportunity" for the region and is poised to grow its research enterprise. This future growth will present an exciting opportunity for the next AVPRC to participate in assisting the university better serve its constituencies.

Vision

The NAU Research Division has as its primary mission to support and increase the scope and impact of research, scholarship and creative activities conducted at NAU. The Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) and its reporting units have overall responsibility for the University's research enterprise. It seeks to create a culture and stimulate an environment that fosters and rewards innovation, creativity, collaboration and community. It provides leadership and support for campus-wide research efforts; advocates on behalf of research needs and resources; and maximizes the benefits of NAU's research to the scholarly community, and to the quality of life in Northern Arizona, the state, and the nation.



Mission

NAU Research is dedicated to discovery and innovation that expands the boundaries of knowledge and provides insights into and solutions for a complex world.

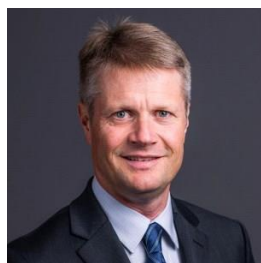
Values

Discovery, knowledge, and innovation must be disseminated for the benefit of society.

Overview and Organizational Structure

The Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) oversees NAU's overall research division, which includes the Office of Research Regulatory Compliance, the Office of Sponsored Projects, NAU Innovations (intellectual property, licensing and commercialization), and the university's shared Instrument and Research Cores. Interaction among these offices within the OVPR is frequent and collaborative and the majority of the approximately 35 full-time staff in the OVPR are co-located in an open working environment with ample meeting space, a comfortable communal and eating area, and expansive views of Flagstaff and the San Francisco Peaks.

Jason Wilder, Ph.D., Vice President for Research



Dr. Jason Wilder joined NAU in 2008 as a faculty member in Biological Sciences and Director of the Biomedical Science degree program. During his time at NAU, Dr. Wilder has served in a variety of leadership roles, including as Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences, Dean of the College of the Environment, Forestry and Natural Sciences, and, since July 2021 as NAU's Vice President for Research. He currently serves as Principal Investigator on two major awards to NAU, the National Cancer Institute-funded "Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention" and the NAU portion of the National Science Foundation-funded "NSF I-Corps Hub (Track 1): Desert and Pacific Region".

Dr. Wilder's research background is in the field of evolution and genetics, with a focus on the genetic basis of disease susceptibility in recent years. His work has been published in journals that include *Nature Genetics*, *Genes Infection & Evolution*, *Molecular Biology and Evolution*, *Genetics*, etc. Dr. Wilder earned his bachelor's degree from Williams College and his master's and doctorate degrees from Princeton University, specializing in evolutionary genetics.



Leadership Opportunities for the Associate Vice President for Research Compliance

The AVPRC will provide direct leadership for the staff supporting research compliance in the Office of the Vice President Research (OVPR) and will set the positive tone of service and collaboration in managing the compliance affairs of the university. The AVPRC will be a facilitator who will help researchers determine which regulations, policies, and rules apply to their particular area of research. They will understand the needs of established, high-level researchers, as well as those of faculty in the early stages of their research career, and assist them in knowing how to meet compliance requirements.

As a direct report to the Vice President of Research, the AVPRC will represent the OVPR in regulatory compliance and provide coordination across the institution of the university's commitment to research integrity. The individual will work to ensure occupational health for individuals on campus and will work very closely with the Division of Environmental Health and Safety. The AVPRC will be the subject matter expert on campus for research compliance policies and for complying with policies and regulations.

The AVPRC will have a responsibility for the training & education of staff and students on compliance and research integrity topics. Communication with the campus on changes and updates to regulations and policies will be an important responsibility for the AVPRC. Periodic instructional sessions for faculty, staff, and students will be offered to keep the campus fully informed on compliance and research integrity topics.



Associate Vice President for Research Compliance

The AVPRC serves as NAU's subject matter expert for research compliance and oversees policies and issues related to conflicts of interest & commitment, animal use and care, human research, export controls & foreign influence, and the responsible conduct of research. This position also coordinates with other university offices to help oversee research activities that may include biological select agents, restricted research, recombinant DNA, dual use research of concern, or other highly regulated/controlled work. The AVPRC is expected to monitor regulatory developments, along with the proposed and current work of research staff; introducing and overseeing changes (when necessary) to university policies and activities to ensure institutional compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

The AVPRC has official status as the university's designated Institutional Official (IO) when dealing with federal and state agencies and regulations. As such, the AVPRC serves as the institutional officer for the protection of human subjects and research animals and for research integrity.

Responsibilities

- Provide strategic leadership for the Office of Research Compliance supporting the visions, plans and programs of the President and Vice President for Research.
- Responsible for establishing, maintaining, and implementing all university policies and procedures related to research compliance, export control compliance, use of controlled substances in research, monitoring foreign influence on research/federal funding, research related risk management, animal safety, human subjects & clinical trials, and managing conflicts of interest/commitment in research.
- Collaborate with university leadership to review and update relevant university policies to ensure cohesiveness and consistency as well as to ensure compliance policies are being enforced.
- Collaborate with other university offices across campus to address regulatory and compliance issues with overlapping oversight, *e.g.*, Office of Sponsored Projects, NAU Innovations, Environmental Health & Safety, Native American Initiatives, Purchasing & Contracts, HIPAA Compliance, Information Technology, etc.

- Establish collaborative working relationships with faculty, staff, and students to achieve research goals while ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements and university policies.
- Develop and implement plans to ensure institutional compliance with new and evolving regulations and policies. Specifically, ensure compliance with annual disclosure, attestation, and other required institutional assurances.
- Organize and lead distinct monitoring functions and compliance oversight groups including the IRB, COI Committees, etc.; Institutional Official for IACUC, IRB, and IBC.
- Coordinate with the Office of General Counsel, Risk Management, etc. to address risks to the University and to respond to requests for information with a high-level understanding of security, confidentiality, and potential liabilities to the institution
- Lead or assist in investigations arising from allegations of non-compliance and serve as NAU's Research Integrity Officer.
- Supervise assigned personnel, which includes hiring, work allocation, training, and problem resolution; evaluate performance and make recommendations for personnel actions.
- Serve in a leadership capacity for compliance topics at a state and national level.
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

Minimum Requirements

- Master's, J.D., or Ph.D. degree required; preferred fields include Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Social Sciences, Research Administration, or related field. Degree must be conferred at the time of application.
- 5-7 years supervisory experience.
- 8+ years in research administration or research compliance administration.
- 4+ years leading across organizations or job families.

Preferred Qualifications

- Professional experience related to the minimum qualifications which demonstrate depth and breadth of expertise in regulatory requirements, compliance functions, and associated best practices in a university research setting.
- Experience engaging in sponsored research as an investigator, professional research administrator, or in a research compliance role.
- Evidence of commitment to creating and maintaining an inclusive working environment that respects diverse perspectives

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Previous regulatory experience in academic health science centers, research institutes, or similar research-intensive environments.
- Considerable administrative acumen in a higher education environment.
- Comprehensive knowledge and current subject matter expertise of federal, state and local policies, procedures, and regulations relating to human subjects research, animal care and use in research, controlled imports/exports and embargos, biosafety research, and other applicable research compliance regulations.
- Experience with developing and administering research related training programs directed at regulatory and compliance responsibilities.

- Experience interacting with federal and state regulatory agencies.
- Strong critical thinking skills and the ability to analyze, summarize, and effectively present data.
- Effective communicator and collaborator.
- Excellent communication and writing skills along with current knowledge of multi-platform software and both PC and Mac computer environments.
- Excellent project management skills.
- Ability to resolve complex problems and issues in a timely and collaborative manner.

About Northern Arizona University

Strategic Plan

[NAU 2025 – Elevating Excellence](#) is NAU’s roadmap for delivering a bold and boundless future for all. The strategic priorities described represent a robust synthesis of the NAU community’s thoughtful engagement and bold aspirations for the future, and it reflects the evolving challenges and opportunities that NAU faces as an engaged public institution of higher education. It provides a plan to capitalize on NAU’s 122-year history of distinctive excellence as an engine of opportunity to drive social impact and economic mobility for the people of Arizona and beyond.

NAU’s Strategic Priority centered on “Impactful Scholarship” emphasizes research by NAU’s teacher-scholars as essential to creating transformative learning opportunities for our students, for promoting research and service activities that enhance the quality of life for the communities that NAU serves, and produces knowledge and innovation that helps to solve pressing issues of regional, national and global importance.



Academic & Research Organization

NAU’s faculty and academic programs are housed in seven colleges, which are complemented by research & public service centers and institutes that foster multi- and transdisciplinary programs that bring together expertise from disparate fields of study.

Academic Colleges:

- College of Arts and Letters
- College of Education
- College of Engineering, Informatics and Applied Sciences
- College of Health and Human Services
- College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
- College of the Environment, Forestry, and Natural Sciences
- W.A. Franke College of Business

Research and Public Service Centers & Institutes:

- Center for Adaptable Western Landscapes
- Center for Ecosystem Science and Society
- Center for Health Equity Research

- Center for Materials Interfaces in Research and Applications
- Center for Science Teaching & Learning
- Center for Service and Volunteerism
- Diné Institute for Navajo National Educators
- Ecological Restoration Institute
- Economic Policy Institute
- Institute for Human Development
- Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals
- Martin-Springer Institute
- Pathogen & Microbiome Institute

Dr. José Luis Cruz Rivera, President



José Luis Cruz Rivera began his tenure as the 17th President of Northern Arizona University (NAU) on June 14, 2021. Prior to joining NAU, Dr. Cruz Rivera served as President of The City University of New York's (CUNY) Herbert H. Lehman College (Bronx, NY) and as Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost of the 25-campus, 500,000-student CUNY system—the world's largest urban university. Previously, Cruz Rivera served as

provost of California State University, Fullerton. He is a former vice president of Higher Education Policy and Practice at The Education Trust in Washington, DC and a former Chief Student Affairs Officer for the University of Puerto Rico system. He began his career as a faculty member in engineering at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, rising through the ranks and serving as chair of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department and dean of Academic Affairs.

A leading national advocate for policies to broaden participation and deliver equitable educational value for all students, Cruz Rivera is a frequent keynote speaker and writer on higher education issues. He has testified several times before the US Congress, and his work has been funded by federal, state, and philanthropic organizations including the National Science Foundation, Lumina Foundation, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the US Department of Education, among others. Furthermore, his work in higher ed has been covered by many media outlets, including The Chronicle of Higher Education, the New York Times, the Washington Post, and Univision.

Cruz Rivera chairs the board of directors of The Education Trust and serves on the board of the Data Quality Campaign, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), the National Advisory Committee for Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI), the Arizona Commerce Authority, and the steering committee of the Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration.

Cruz Rivera is a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, a patented inventor, published scholar, and a National Science Foundation Career Award recipient. He earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering (magna cum laude) from the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, and his master's and doctorate degrees from the Georgia Institute of Technology,

specializing in optical interconnections for ultracompact massively parallel processing systems. He is an alumnus of the Harvard Institute of Educational Management.

NAU's Land Acknowledgement

Northern Arizona University sits at the base of the San Francisco Peaks, on homelands sacred to Native Americans throughout the region. We honor their past, present, and future generations, who have lived here for millennia and will forever call this place home.

About Flagstaff

Flagstaff has a population of about 70,000 and is rich in cultural diversity. With its elevation of 7,000 feet and four-season climate, Flagstaff is ideal for year-round outdoor activities and has a reputation as a magnet for outdoor enthusiasts. The city maintains more than fifty miles of off-street trails as part of the Flagstaff Urban Trail System and nearby attractions include the Grand Canyon, Lowell Observatory, Oak Creek Canyon, Sedona, Monument Valley and Sunset Crater. Flagstaff has a vibrant arts and cultural scene as the home to the Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra, Northern Arizona Book Festival, Flagstaff Mountain Film Festival and Flagstaff Festival of Science, among many other events and activities. Flagstaff is served by its own airport and rail station, and the nearby Phoenix airport serves as a major domestic and international hub. Flagstaff is consistently ranked among the best college towns in the United States.



Northern Arizona University is a committed Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution. Women, minorities, veterans, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. NAU is responsive to the needs of dual career couples.

Applications, Nominations and Expressions of Interest

AGB Search is pleased to assist Northern Arizona University with this search.

To apply for the Associate Vice President for Research Compliance position, please click on the "Apply" button at the end of the job description if viewing this position through the NAU HR website. Otherwise, to view the original post and to apply, proceed to nau.jobs, click on "Current Openings" button, follow the 'Faculty, Library, Administrator Openings' link, locate vacancy **607076**, and then "Apply" at the bottom of the page. Please include with your application:

- (i) a curriculum vitae or resume;
- (ii) a letter of interest that addresses the leadership opportunities and preferred qualifications in the profile; and
- (iii) contact information for five references (to be contacted with candidate's permission at a later date).

If you are an individual with a disability and need reasonable accommodation to participate in the hiring process please contact the Disability Resources Office: DR@nau.edu or 928-523-8773, or PO Box 5633, Flagstaff, AZ 86011.

Application materials will be reviewed on a rolling basis and should be sent to:

AVPresearchNAU@agbsearch.com. The search will remain open until an appointment is made.

Nominations and expressions of interest in the Associate Vice President for Research Compliance position are encouraged. Please direct them to AVPresearchNAU@agbsearch.com or to the AGB search consultants listed below:

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