Utah Tech University seeks a dynamic, visionary, forward-thinking, student-centric, and community-minded president to lead the institution into the next phase of its continued success. Utah Tech is an open, inclusive, comprehensive, polytechnic university. The institution has enjoyed rapid growth over the past decade, including through significant program expansion, a transformative building campaign, enhanced infrastructure across its distinctively beautiful campus, an award-winning branding effort, dramatically increased student enrollment, expanded fundraising, and a name change that highlights its commitment to a broad comprehensive polytechnic mission.
STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES

1. Embrace, capitalize upon, and enhance Utah Tech’s reputation as a premier polytechnic institution for Utah, the Southwest Region, and the nation.

The new president will passionately advocate for the university and its role in the community, the region, the state of Utah, and the nation. The new president will understand the community and unique geographic area and will have an appreciation for Utah Tech’s historical contributions. The new president will further inspire the university’s stakeholders to move the institution into its next phase of development. The new president will understand and embrace Utah Tech’s unique mission as an open, inclusive, comprehensive, polytechnic university and will be able to articulate, promote, and champion the institution as a place of profound opportunity for all students.

2. Foster a welcoming, supportive, and positive campus culture for all students, faculty, and staff.

The new president will support and bolster the institution’s infrastructure to address the opportunities and challenges related to rapid institutional and community growth. They will strive to provide students, faculty, and staff with resources commensurate with Utah Tech’s status as a polytechnic institution of distinction. The new president will ensure that Utah Tech encourages open dialogue, fosters viewpoint diversity, and strives to help all individuals and communities feel valued and supported.

3. Preserve and strengthen a robust tradition of supporting students at all levels.

The next president of Utah Tech will champion student success by serving as an empathetic and approachable advocate for students, prioritizing them in order to fully understand their needs. The new president will lead with an understanding of the role students’ well-being plays in their academic success. The president will recognize the individual needs of Utah Tech’s students and strive to provide individualized solutions to foster student success. The new president will ensure that Utah Tech, as an open-access institution, has the resources and opportunities to reach and retain all students at every stage of their trajectory, including those at a higher risk of degree incompletion.

4. Lead with a commitment to academic excellence and an innovative spirit.

Utah Tech’s next president will work with the faculty and staff to ensure that academic programs are highly competitive, relevant, and transformative for the students they serve. The new president will understand and strengthen the University’s 275+ existing programs through collaboration with faculty, staff, and industry partners, as well as evaluate programs and continue to create innovative and accessible educational solutions for Utah Tech’s students and communities.

5. Engage surrounding communities to advance Utah Tech’s strategic goals.

The next president of Utah Tech will respect the institution’s role within its fast-growing community and will engage with external stakeholders to collaboratively foster the institution’s success. The new president will cultivate new pathways for community engagement, grow external partnerships, and lead fundraising efforts to support and enhance the institution’s strength as a polytechnic leader.
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND ATTRIBUTES

A master's degree is required, and a terminal degree is preferred. Additionally, the successful candidate will possess many of the following professional qualifications and attributes:

- Broad and progressively responsible leadership experience in a complex organization, particularly in higher education or related environments.
- A deep understanding and passion for higher education and its impact on regional and state development.
- A collaborative, transparent, accountable, and approachable leadership style.
- A unifying team builder and team player who inspires trust, credibility, and confidence with stakeholders and who demonstrates the ability to empower others to do their best work.
- Proven efficacy in working with external stakeholders (such as industry, K-12 education, and the community) to advance goals and initiatives.
- Experience cultivating positive organizational cultures and welcoming environments.
- Experience with strategic growth management.
- Demonstrated successful experience in institutional advancement and fundraising.
- Success as a dynamic presenter.
- Excellent communication and listening skills, including demonstrated effectiveness in communicating the value of higher education.
- Experience effectively communicating an organizational mission and vision and making a mission statement and strategic plan actionable.
- A passionate advocate for student success who can champion a comprehensive approach to helping students thrive.
- Ability to advance an innovative technology framework that prioritizes best practices and addresses trends for in-person, hybrid, and online learning growth opportunities.
- Proven efficacy with large fiscal responsibility and institutional stewardship, including the ability to identify and secure new sources of revenue.
- Experience working with governing boards and legislative and executive branches of government.
- Knowledge of the current trends in higher education and how the 21st-century higher education landscape presents opportunities for Utah Tech University.
Utah Tech University is proud to be one of the only open, inclusive, comprehensive, polytechnic institutions of higher learning in the U.S. We welcome all students to experience how hands-on, polytechnic education prepares students for successful careers. Our more than 275 programs offer transformative experiences across all disciplines – humanities, arts, education, health sciences, business, and STEM – with the most affordable university tuition in Utah. Our students create and innovate in the classroom and online while gaining real-world, active learning experiences through internships, clinical opportunities, undergraduate research, industry partnerships, and service learning.

As a teaching institution, we meet students where they are by providing personalized learning and creating a caring, supportive community for anyone with a desire to improve their future through education. Students graduate with the technical, critical thinking, and collaborative skills needed to excel in our ever-changing world. This helps our graduates secure rewarding careers that enrich their lives.

Utah Tech University is an open-access institution that offers access to open educational resources. UT promotes inclusivity through personalized services and diverse teaching methods. Utah Tech offers programs in humanities, arts, education, health sciences, business, and STEM. UT students gain real-world learning experiences through active learning.
MISSION

Utah Tech University is an open, inclusive, comprehensive, polytechnic university featuring active and applied learning to advance students’ knowledge and skills while fostering competent, resilient, lifelong learners to succeed in their careers and personal lives as creators, innovators, and responsible citizens.

VISION

Utah Tech University aspires to be a premier open, inclusive, comprehensive, polytechnic university distinguished through an ethos of innovation and entrepreneurship and the achievement of exceptional student learning and success.

VALUES

ACADEMIC DISTINCTION
Excellence as an open, inclusive, comprehensive, polytechnic university that distinguishes UT from other universities

STUDENT LEARNING AND SUCCESS
Achievement of learning outcomes and the attainment of an academic award or other educational goal, including holistic personal development

OPPORTUNITY AND BELONGING
A safe, tolerant and welcoming community that collaborates and learns through open and civil discourse

PURPOSEFUL DISCOVERY
Creative thinking and acting across boundaries to solve complex problems both individually and collaboratively

COLLABORATIVE CULTURE
An open culture grounded on principles of honesty, integrity, sharing, transparency, accountability, mutual respect, and freedom of inquiry

PUBLIC SERVICE
Effective leadership of civic, educational, economic, and cultural entities and initiatives to transform communities

LOCAL AND GLOBAL RESOURCES
Mutually beneficial partnerships that engage and integrate local and global resources into learning experiences, with a special emphasis on southern Utah

INNOVATION AND RESPONSIVENESS
Responsive to local and regional needs and opportunities through institutional innovation and entrepreneurship
275+ Academic Programs

Most Affordable University Tuition in Utah

100% Acceptance Rate

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

15 NCAA Division I Teams

Identity

TRAILBLAZERS

Mascot

Brooks the Bison
80% OF STUDENTS OFFERED SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, OR OTHER FINANCIAL AID

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

184

46 STATES

42 COUNTRIES

NUMBER OF STUDENTS

12,500+

57% FEMALE

43% MALE

82% IN-STATE

18% OUT-OF-STATE

STUDENT RACE/ETHNICITY

1,645 HISPANIC

184 INTERNATIONAL

549 MULTIRACIAL

174 UNSPECIFIED

9,470 WHITE

22% FIRST GENERATION

AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE

ASIAN

BLACK / AFRICAN AMERICAN

HAWAIIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER
Utah Tech University’s history goes all the way back to the settlement of St. George in 1861, when leaders of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints asked more than 300 families to move to the southwest corner of Utah to grow cotton, sugar cane, and olives. Many of these early settlers were from the Southeastern United States and nicknamed the region “Utah’s Dixie” because of the similarities in climate and agriculture. The encampment mall, where these pioneers parked their covered wagons, raised their families, and taught their children school lessons, is now the center of Utah Tech’s main campus.

The first iteration of Utah Tech University, St. George Stake Academy, opened in September 1911 to meet the educational needs of a growing community. Samuel Brooks was eager to earn an education and arrived at 4 a.m. on the day registration opened so he could be the first student to enroll. A trailblazer in his own right, Samuel Brooks is the inspiration for Utah Tech’s mascot, Brooks the Bison.

The institution has grown and expanded its mission and role over the years to better serve students. In 1933, it was incorporated into the state’s public system of higher education as Dixie Junior College, a reference to the nickname the pioneers had given to the area. In the late 1990s, Washington County residents petitioned the Utah Legislature for the addition of baccalaureate degrees to the college’s associate programs. Thanks to excellent leadership and tireless community effort, the college was granted approval to award bachelor’s degrees in business administration and computer science in 2000.

The college continued to add baccalaureate programs and, just two years after celebrating its centennial, gained university status in 2013. The community was instrumental in helping the storied institution achieve university status and secure the opportunities that come from an expanded institutional role and mission. The University continues to grow; it adopted a polytechnic approach to education in 2016, and began offering master’s degrees in 2018 and a doctorate program in 2023.

As the University grew, it started attracting students, faculty, and staff from across the US and around the globe. From athletics to academics, our students also began competing and winning awards on a national stage. As the institution gained national prominence, the university’s name was changed to Utah Tech University in 2022 to align the institutional name with the mission of being an open, inclusive, comprehensive polytechnic university.

Learn more about Utah Tech’s pioneering transition at about.utahtech.edu/history
Today, a Utah Tech University education means active learning within all academic disciplines. Our human-centered approach to problem-solving prepares students for future success. Students learn through our hands-on education and authentic industry experiences that cater to diverse abilities.
“active learning. active life.” is more than a motto at Utah Tech. It is a commitment to our students that their college experience will be full of hands-on learning opportunities inside and outside of the classroom. As a comprehensive polytechnic university, encouraging our students to learn by doing is paramount to our educational mission. As part of this, we are committed to not only offering our students high-impact practices, such as study abroad, internships, and undergraduate research, but making them an integral part of their educational experience. As our University continues to grow, we look to expand both the depth and breadth of available active learning experiences.
Our students participate in real-world learning opportunities through internships, clinical experiences, undergraduate research, industry partnerships, and service learning. However, none of this would be possible without strong community and industry partnerships that we are committed to leveraging for the benefit of our students and community alike. Since an economy is only as strong as its workforce, we routinely meet with our region’s largest employers, community leaders, and up-and-coming industries to learn about their needs. This information not only shapes what academic programs we add and expand, it also ensures our curriculum includes relevant, up-to-date instruction within all our degree programs so our students can graduate ready to immediately fill the region’s workforce demands.

The list of our community partners is expansive and includes large regional employers representing a variety of sectors.
As part of Utah Tech’s commitment to innovation, technology, and incorporating cutting-edge learning practices across all disciplines, we opened Atwood Innovation Plaza in 2016. As Southern Utah’s premier business development pipeline, Innovation Plaza offers the entire community no-cost consultations and incubator workspace through the Business Resource Center; resources to create prototypes and perform small-run manufacturing through the Makerspace; assistance with research, patents, trademarks, and copyrights through Innovation Guidance & Solutions; and help getting businesses up and running through the Startup Incubator.

### INNOVATION GUIDANCE AND SOLUTIONS CENTER

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### BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER

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### THE FUTURE OF INNOVATION AT UT

To continue to serve our community’s innovation needs in the future, Utah Tech is developing a comprehensive plan for our very own innovation district. This innovation district will be developed in the south end of St. George over the next two decades and will offer next-step resources for businesses who have utilized our offerings at Atwood Innovation Plaza. The district will primarily house three core industry sectors: desert technology, genomics, and endurance sport tech, bringing entrepreneurs in these spaces together for better collaboration. Additionally, the district will allow for “bumpability” between students and entrepreneurs and an environment in which they can share ideas and resources.
Utah Tech is committed to providing our community with the benefits associated with living in a university town, including access to a wide variety of social, cultural, educational, entertainment, and athletic events. UT continues to expand the quantity and quality of our community events, hosting hundreds of thousands of attendees on campus every year.
Utah Tech University sits in the heart of Greater Zion — a world-renowned destination with more than 2,400 square miles of stunning views and unbeatable adventures. Utah Tech’s main campus is in St. George, Utah, with multiple satellite education centers in surrounding cities such as Hurricane, Hildale, and Panguitch.

Average days of sunshine per year: 300
Average snowfall: 0 inches
Average annual high temperature: 77° F
GREATER ZION IS HOME TO:

- 14 golf courses within a 20-mile radius
- More than 300 miles of nearby mountain biking trails
- Tuacahn Center for the Arts
- IRONMAN 70.3 North American Championship
- St. George Marathon
- 1,660 rock climbing and bouldering routes
- 20,000 acres for ATV and off-road racing
- More than 300,000 acres of forest and national parks

- **ZION NATIONAL PARK**
  50 minutes from campus

- **BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK**
  2 hours from campus

- **SAND HOLLOW STATE PARK**
  25 minutes from campus

- **SNOW CANYON STATE PARK**
  20 minutes from campus

- **QUAIL CREEK STATE PARK**
  15 minutes from campus
At Utah Tech University, students are at the center of everything we do.

We recognize the value of a complete college experience and are committed to offering our Trailblazers a myriad of ways to get involved.

**TRAILBLAZERS HAVE OUR FULL SUPPORT**

As an open-enrollment institution with nearly a quarter of our students being first generation, we are committed to ensuring all students have access to the support they need to succeed. Students can seek medical and mental health services through our Booth Wellness Center and access peer coaches or a success advisor through our Student Success Center. They can also get involved in the Center for Inclusion & Belonging or tap into needed resources through the Student Resource Center, Disability Resource Center, or Veteran’s Resource Center.

We know our students’ well-being is key to their overall success and have created a culture on campus where they can thrive and be safe. In fact, the Utah Tech Police Department was ranked third in the nation by Safe Campus.
Trailblazer student-athletes work hard on the field and court, in the community, and in the classroom, with a 3.00 overall GPA for 12 straight semesters.

Our school spirit runs deep. Utah Tech athletic events are the perfect opportunity for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members to come together and proudly cheer our Trailblazers on to victory.

**NCAA Division I**

**MEN’S SPORTS**
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf
- Soccer

**WOMEN’S SPORTS**
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Golf
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track & Field
- Volleyball
CANDIDATES SHOULD PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Letter of interest addressing the experience and qualifications identified in the profile
- A curriculum vitae/resume
- Five professional references with email addresses and phone numbers provided (references will not be contacted without prior permission from the applicant)

NOMINATIONS AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST MAY BE SUBMITTED TO:

UtahTechPresident@agbsearch.com

FOR FULL CONSIDERATION, APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 29, 2024.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

AGB SEARCH IS ASSISTING WITH THIS SEARCH. NOMINATORS AND PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS MAY CONTACT THE EXECUTIVE SEARCH CONSULTANTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Laura Woodworth-Ney, PH.D. - Principal
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Applications should be in PDF format and submitted through the AGB Search portal at: President - Utah Tech University

UtahTechPresident@agbsearch.com