



CAMERON UNIVERSITY

Executive Search Profile: **PRESIDENT**

PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE



The Board of Regents governing The University of Oklahoma, Cameron University and Rogers State University invites applications and nominations for the position of President of Cameron University. The President is the chief executive officer of the institution and reports directly to the seven-member governor-appointed Board of Regents. The selected individual will assume the presidency in Fall 2025.

The next President will lead the institution in advancing students toward attainment of their educational and career readiness goals by effectively marshaling its instructional and support resources to improve student outcomes. The President will have the opportunity to lead the University toward future success by advancing financial and enrollment stability and strengthening external relationships and visibility. The President will lead the development and execution of a strategic vision that aligns with the University's mission and long-term goals, while respecting its legacy and purpose. The President will be an entrepreneurial and highly effective fundraiser, with a particular capacity to raise revenue and develop resources that support strategies for improving student success.

Cameron University is a state-supported regional institution located in Lawton, Oklahoma, with a branch campus in Duncan, Oklahoma. CU offers both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Master's-level degrees are offered in business, behavioral sciences, and education. Baccalaureate programs are offered in more than 40 disciplines, and associate degrees are offered in a number of other areas. Its proximity to Fort Sill contributes to an area rich in cultural diversity and provides the opportunity for frequent community engagement. The combined community of Lawton/Fort Sill has a population of more than 100,000 and is located adjacent to the picturesque Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge. CU's undergraduate enrollment is approximately 3,200, with an additional 300 graduate students. In addition, CU has 14 athletic teams and is part of the Lone Star Conference. CU employs 105 full-time faculty, 108 part-time faculty, and has an annual budget in excess of \$43 million.

For more information about the University, please visit www.cameron.edu



THE UNIVERSITY

The university is a part of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, which is composed of all higher education institutions supported wholly or in part by state appropriations. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education is the coordinating board for the system.

The university – as part of the public educational system of the state, established by legislative action and supported by annual legislative appropriations – places emphasis on sound scholarship, good citizenship, and the duties of the individual to the community and the commonwealth.

By constitutional enactment, the governance of the university is vested in the Board of Regents, which consists of seven members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Oklahoma Senate. Each member is appointed to serve for seven years, except when appointed to fill an unexpired term, and is subject to removal from office only as provided by law for the removal of officers not liable to impeachment.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the university regents approve the requirements for admission and graduation, the degrees offered, and the fees and expenses. The boards reserve the right to change these requirements.



Cameron University's history is rooted in Oklahoma's statehood. In 1908, a year after Statehood, the Oklahoma Legislature created six agricultural high schools – one in each judicial district. The Cameron State School of Agriculture was named for the Rev. E. D. Cameron, a Baptist minister and Oklahoma's first State Superintendent of Schools. The first classes were held on Statehood Day, Nov. 16, 1909, in the basement of a bank building in downtown Lawton while a new campus building was constructed west of town.

Cameron added junior college work in 1927. With this changed function came a new name – Cameron State Agricultural College. As World War II loomed in 1941, high school courses were dropped, and Cameron became solely a junior college.

Baccalaureate degrees were authorized in 1966 by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, following action by the Legislature. The institution's name was shortened to Cameron College in 1971, and then changed to Cameron University in 1974.

In 1988, State Regents expanded Cameron's functions to include offerings at the master's degree level. This change in function was the first granted to an Oklahoma institution since Cameron was given the authority to offer bachelor's degrees more than 20 years earlier. In May 2004, a higher education center in Duncan became an official branch campus and was renamed Cameron University-Duncan.

Today, Cameron University serves students from around the globe, offering nearly 50 degrees through certificate, two-year, four-year and graduate programs. Cameron offers an honors program, early admission, advanced standing, a study abroad program, and college-level examination programs. Free tutoring is available in labs across campus to assist students in achieving academic success. Cameron University is committed to providing its students with a top-quality education from caring and qualified faculty. Small class sizes provide an environment where learning and student success are the highest priority.

CAMERON HISTORY AND POINTS OF PRIDE

ATHLETICS AT CU



In athletics, Cameron University is an NCAA Division II member of the Lone Star Conference.

Cameron sponsors 14 varsity programs consisting of approximately 200 student-athletes. These span a wide variety of sports to include men's and women's teams in basketball, cross country, golf, tennis, and track and field, as well as baseball, softball, women's volleyball, and a spirit squad.

Cameron Athletics takes pride in providing an exceptional, holistic, student-centered experience through the pursuit of academic and athletic excellence and a strong commitment to community engagement. Cameron strives to have a championship level intercollegiate athletics program that serves as a symbol of pride for the University, its alumni, and the greater community.





OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Reporting to the Board of Regents, the President serves as the University's chief executive officer and provides senior administrative leadership for all campus programs, services, operations, and activities. The President is responsible for setting the academic vision, ensuring effective leadership and management of the campus, working effectively with the faculty, and representing the University to the alumni, the community, the region, and the state. The President exercises overall leadership for resource development and fundraising initiatives and is responsible for ensuring the fiscal well-being of the University.

The President will advance the University's academic and outreach efforts to support the institution's commitment to excellence. The next President will be a dynamic, visionary leader and strategic thinker who will possess excellent judgment and diplomacy, personal and professional integrity, and a reputation for working collegially and collaboratively with internal and external constituencies.

QUALIFICATIONS AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

The President of Cameron University will be a seasoned executive leader with an established record of achievement and success in progressively responsible positions, with a passion for public higher education. An advanced degree is required; candidates holding an earned doctorate are preferred.



It is the expectation of the CU community and the Board of Regents that the successful candidate be willing to make a long-term commitment to the University and the State.

Additionally, the next President of CU will:

- Show a genuine passion for the success of students;
- Display an understanding of public education systems and a commitment to shared governance;
- Model a history of successful leadership in a complex, multi-faceted organization, particularly in times of transition and growth;
- Demonstrate superb communication, interpersonal, and relationship-building skills;
- Facilitate strategic visionary direction of the University through planning and executing long-term vision and strategy, inspiring and empowering others toward action;
- Demonstrate skills in developing financial support from both public and private sources and the proven ability to grow resources in times of financial constraint;
- Exude passion for public higher education and possess a deep understanding of the current issues impacting education today, both at the state and national levels;
- Support and promote high academic standards and an excellent professional reputation;
- Foster a climate of collaborative and inclusive leadership and the ability to build and develop a senior team;
- Show an appreciation for the role of athletics within a higher education institution;
- Actively show an interest in learning about the history and culture of CU, the surrounding area, and the state;
- Passionately serve as an ambassador for CU and work effectively with state governments, local businesses, and other partners;
- Possess a solid commitment to the principles of accountability and the policies and directives of the Board of Regents and demonstrate an ability to work successfully with the Board.

QUALIFICATIONS AND
PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

APPLICATION AND NOMINATION PROCESS

Review of materials will begin immediately and continue until the appointment is made. For best consideration, letters of interest, full curriculum vitae or resume, and the names and contact information for at least three references should be provided by October 1, 2024.

All attachments should be in Microsoft Word or PDF format. Nomination letters should include the name, position, telephone number, and email address of the nominee.

Information should be submitted electronically to:

Mackenzie Wilfong, J.D.

Executive Secretary of the Board of Regents

CUsearch@ou.edu

For questions related to the search process, calendar, or position profile, please contact Mackenzie Wilfong at CUsearch@ou.edu.

If you prefer to visit by phone, please include availability and contact information in your initial email.

Cameron University, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, age, religion, disability, political beliefs, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies may be directed to:

Dr. Keith Vitense, 580-581-6712, eo-tix@cameron.edu

Lawton is a city in southwestern Oklahoma known for its rich military history and diverse cultural heritage. Home to the U.S. Army's Fort Sill, a major training and artillery base, the area has a significant military presence. Lawton offers a mix of outdoor recreational opportunities, including the nearby Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, and a variety of cultural attractions such as museums and historic sites. The city is also home to the main campus of Cameron University, which serves as a cultural and intellectual hub for the region.

Cameron University also has a thriving branch campus in nearby Duncan. Serving as the Stephens County seat, Duncan encompasses 46 square miles and is home to approximately 23,000 people. Duncan is a vibrant community with a variety of special events and recreational activities including live theatre productions, festivals, concerts at multiple venues coupled with beautiful outdoor parks, outstanding indoor recreation, award winning golf courses, and abundant lake recreation.



SURROUNDING COMMUNITY



2800 W. GORE BLVD. LAWTON, OK
1-888-454-7600 OR 580.581.2842 • WWW.CAMERON.EDU

