Western Kentucky University is located in Bowling Green, Kentucky, and is one of eight, four-year institutions within the Kentucky public higher education system. The campus is situated on a hill overlooking the city of Bowling Green, and is acclaimed as one of the most beautiful in the nation. There are 66 major buildings on the 200-acre campus, with another 785 acres on the University Farm.

Western Kentucky University offers a broad spectrum of instruction, scholarly activity, and professional service within an academic climate encouraging intellectual excellence. The university employs 550 full-time faculty who serve more than 12,000 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students. The university is the major center of entertainment and cultural activity for the city of Bowling Green and the surrounding area. Western Kentucky University supports a variety of intercollegiate athletic teams and is a member of the Sun Belt Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Reporting to an 11-member Board of Regents, the President is the Chief Executive Officer of the university and responsible for its academic and administrative direction. In order to take full advantage of Western Kentucky University’s future opportunities and challenges, the Board of Regents seeks a President who is an experienced, visible, involved, and interactive leader with a strong entrepreneurial character and the vision to lead the university beyond the traditional boundaries of a regional academic institution. Candidates should have an earned doctorate degree or equivalent, a career path of success in increasingly senior-levels of administrative leadership, demonstrated commitment and willingness to support academic excellence in teaching and learning, a clear record of achievement or demonstrated potential for significant institutional fund-raising, well-developed skills in financial management and strategic planning, exceptional oral and written communication skills, and the ability to effectively relate to students, faculty, staff, board members, and an array of community constituencies, and local and state leadership.

For full consideration, nominations and applications should be received by May 15, 1997. Applicants should submit a letter of interest, a recent copy of their résumé, the names, addresses, telephone numbers and E-mail addresses, if available, of five references. All materials should be sent to:

Western Kentucky University
Presidential Search
Post Office Box 1619
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42102-1619

Western Kentucky University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.
Personnel Specifications

PRESIDENT

The Institution: Western Kentucky University is part of the public Kentucky higher education system that includes eight, four-year institutions and fourteen community colleges.

Western Kentucky University is located in Bowling Green, Kentucky, a city with a population of 50,000, approximately 110 miles south of Louisville and 65 miles north of Nashville, Tennessee. The campus is situated on a hill overlooking the city of Bowling Green, and is acclaimed as one of the most beautiful in the nation. There are 66 major buildings on the approximately 200-acre main campus, with another 785 acres on the University Farm.

Western Kentucky University offers a broad spectrum of instruction, scholarly activity, and professional service within an academic climate encouraging intellectual excellence. The university employs nearly 550 full-time faculty who serve more than 12,000 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students. The university provides instruction at the associate, baccalaureate, and graduate levels in the liberal arts and sciences, traditional pre-professional programs, and emerging career areas and professional fields including agriculture, business, communications, education, health, and technology.

Western Kentucky University actively promotes a sense of community among teacher-scholars, students, staff, and administrators based on a spirit of cooperation, intellectual challenge, social support, and the traditional Western trademarks of helpfulness and friendliness. The university cultivates in students such values as honesty, integrity, generosity of spirit and intellect, respect for human diversity and individuals, as well as intellectual curiosity, cultural and aesthetic awareness, and creativity and imagination. It acknowledges the benefits that flow from the free and open discussion of all ideas within the academic setting, and encourages respect for others and tolerance for opposing points of view.
The university recognizes that much of this important education, which amounts to lifelong learning, takes place beyond the regular classroom setting. To that end, a collegiate environment continues to evolve that nurtures these values, and the students, faculty, staff, and administrators that embody them.

Western Kentucky University supports a variety of intercollegiate athletic teams and is a member of the Sun Belt Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Reports To: An 11-member Board of Regents, 8 of whom are appointed by the governor and one each elected by the faculty, staff, and student bodies.

Basic Function: The President is the Chief Executive Officer of the university and responsible for its academic and administrative direction. The university organization consists of:

- 34 academic departments housing 88 major degree programs.
- 29 other academic offices/special program units.
- 30 administrative departments/offices.

Key university officials reporting directly to the President include: Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Information Technology, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Vice President for Finance and Administration, and Vice President of Student Affairs, Athletics, Affirmative Action/ADA Compliance, Internal Auditor, and University Counsel.

Opportunity: To provide leadership for one of Kentucky's leading institutions of higher education as it seeks to establish itself at a level beyond the traditional regional university to more effectively respond to the changing needs of students and the communities where they live and work throughout the world.

Compensation: A competitive compensation program will be structured to attract an outstanding candidate.

Location: Bowling Green, Kentucky.
PRESIDENT - Continued

Travel: Fund-raising, external relationships and institutional association membership activity create significant travel demands which must be balanced against the needs of the on-campus operations.

Education: An earned doctorate degree in combination with demonstrated scholarship/leadership credentials is preferred.

The Candidate Should Have:

A career path of success in increasingly senior-levels of administrative leadership (if not in an academic setting, in an environment with comparable culture and complexity).

A demonstrated commitment to and willingness to support academic excellence in teaching and learning.

Exceptional oral and written communications skills.

A clear record of achievement or demonstrated potential for significant institutional fund-raising.

Demonstrated leadership in a dynamic organizational environment.

The ability to effectively relate to students, faculty, staff, and an array of community constituencies.

Demonstrated ability in organizational development and team building.

Demonstrated ability to inspire and motivate students, faculty and staff.

Demonstrated ability in financial management and strategic planning.

Demonstrated sensitivity and commitment to diversity issues.

Demonstrated ability in working effectively with a policy-making body, such as a board of trustees.

The Candidate Should Be:

A person of high, personal standards with a firm sense of ethics, honesty, integrity and morality.

A visible, involved and interactive leader, commanding the personal and professional respect of the university, its community, and its external constituencies.
A person of vision with the capacity to understand Western Kentucky's historic mission, as well as its potential future in higher education and the life of the community.

An entrepreneur who understands the risks and benefits associated with traditional, as well as new approaches to institutional development.

Committed to open communications and a decision-making style which engenders trust, builds consensus and promotes commitment.

A good listener who is able to keep criticism in perspective.

A transformational leader rather than a transactional leader.

A high-energy, high-impact person with charisma and a sense of humor.