The Western Experience” is founded on an unwavering commitment to outstanding student engagement across the spectrum of the university student experience, including a deep commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonization. Combining academic excellence with life-long opportunities for intellectual, social, and cultural growth, Western has been preparing future leaders to contribute to their communities since 1878. Western is a founding member of the U15 group of Canada’s most distinguished research universities – a destination university for high-performing students. Western’s Strategic Plan Towards Western at 150 outlines a bold vision for the University’s future.

The School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (SGPS) at Western is home to more than 7000 graduate students and 300 postdoctoral scholars. With a history of innovation and growth in graduate education, Western currently offers over 150 graduate programs, including doctoral, master’s, combined, and graduate diploma programs. A recognized leader in graduate and postdoctoral professional development, SGPS delivers trailblazing Own Your Future and Competitive Edge programs that support graduate and postdoctoral scholars in developing skills for success in their studies and beyond.

Reporting to the Provost, the Vice-Provost (SGPS) is the chief academic and administrative officer of the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. The VP (SGPS) provides senior executive strategic oversight for graduate and postdoctoral education, planning and policy, program development, quality assurance, relevant internal and external relations, and team management – all with an abiding focus on advancing the principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonization. The VP (SGPS) works with graduate students and postdoctoral scholars, administrative leaders, faculty, and staff across the University to continually strengthen the learning and research environment, foster the development of interdisciplinary programs as well as domestic and international partnerships, and ensure that Western offers optimal education, financial, health, and career supports for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars.

Collaborative, innovative, and student-centred, with an interest in all disciplines, the VP (SGPS) will be an effective communicator and advocate, skilled in building synergy, trust, and community. The role requires a doctoral degree and a respected record of scholarship and teaching, consistent with appointment at the rank of Professor at Western, including substantial experience supervising
graduate students. The VP (SGPS) will have a successful record of progressive academic administrative leadership, including experience leading a graduate studies portfolio in a peer university as dean, associate dean, and/or chair. Ethical and compassionate, with sound judgment and the ability to navigate complexity, the VP (SGPS) will have the capacity to lead and inspire a high-performing team. This is an opportunity to work productively with diverse internal and external partners and stakeholders to advance the pursuit of knowledge and original thought across the University, to prepare future leaders for careers of impact both within and beyond academe, and to champion Western’s vision to be “a destination of choice for the world’s brightest minds seeking the best learning experience at a leading Canadian research university.”

We acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society.

Western is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from women, members of racialized groups/visible minorities, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression. The University provides support in its recruitment processes to applicants with disabilities, including accommodation that takes into account an applicant’s accessibility needs. Candidates requiring accommodation during the recruitment process are asked to advise the search consultants.

This position requires residency in London, Ontario. The VP (SGPS) will be appointed for a five-year term, ideally commencing before the end of the calendar year. To apply, please submit a comprehensive CV along with a cover letter outlining the reasons for your interest in the role and describing the aspects of your experience that are relevant to the required criteria. Please include a statement describing your record of accomplishment with respect to advancing the principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonization.

Consideration of candidates will begin immediately. Please direct confidential inquiries and/or applications to Project 210349 at caldwell.thriveapp.ly/job/980.