



VANGUARD
UNIVERSITY



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS/PROVOST

OPPORTUNITY PROFILE

Presented by The Dingman Company



ABOUT VANGUARD UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1920, Vanguard University is a private, Christian, comprehensive university of liberal arts and professional studies that encompasses more than 2,100 students from every region in the country, over 33,000 alumni worldwide, 100 regular full-time faculty, over 30 undergraduate programs, and six graduate degree programs. A hallmark of a Vanguard education is collaborative scholarship in the arts and sciences which foster the intellectual development, moral maturity, and spiritual vitality of its students for the public good.

Rooted in a strong academic tradition and commitment to student success, Vanguard University is recognized by the U.S. News & World Report 2021 rankings as a first-tier regional university in the West and is regionally accredited by the Western Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC).



The vision that guides Vanguard is rooted in the university's [heritage](#) as an institution affiliated with the Assemblies of God in the Pentecostal tradition which was birthed out of the Azusa Street Revival in Los Angeles, California at the turn of the twentieth century. From its inception, the movement generated a multicultural, multiracial, and gender-inclusive community of Spirit-empowered Christian believers who were committed to peacemaking and reconciliation.

A strong commitment to cultural diversity, racial reconciliation, and gender equity is a consequence of Vanguard being deeply grounded in the faith tradition that brought the University into existence. Moreover, these core values continue to define the institutional vision that pulls Vanguard forward toward its mission and educational targets and goals. Within this Christian context of inclusiveness, the University aims to provide a quality educational experience by cultivating a Spirit-empowered life in Christian-centered leadership and service; promoting academic excellence that integrates faith and life; and providing professor-mentors in a dynamic community environment.





MISSION

The mission of Vanguard University is to pursue knowledge, cultivate character, deepen faith, and equip each student for a Spirit-empowered life of Christ-centered leadership and service.

VISION

Vanguard University will become the leading source for Christian higher education in California.

VALUES

Truth – We pursue truth by knowing Christ who is Truth.

Virtue – We honor God by committing ourselves to the person and model of Jesus Christ.

Service – We develop our talents to their potential and discern God's purpose for our lives.

STRATEGY: OUR UNIQUE CONTRIBUTION TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Cultivating the Spirit-empowered life in Christ-centered leadership and service

Promoting academic excellence that integrates faith and life

Providing professor-mentors in a dynamic community environment

METRICS: OUR MEASURE OF SUCCESS

Spiritual Vitality | Academic Excellence | Institutional Health



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VANGUARD AT A GLANCE

Founded in 1920 as Southern California Bible School

Regionally accredited in 1964 by the Western Association of Schools & Colleges

Affiliated with the SoCal Network of the Assemblies of God

Over 2,100 students in traditional undergraduate, professional studies and graduate studies programs

Recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a Majority-Minority Institution and [Hispanic-Serving Institution](#)

45% of traditional undergraduate students first-generation to attend college

51% traditional undergraduate students Federal Pell Grant-Eligible

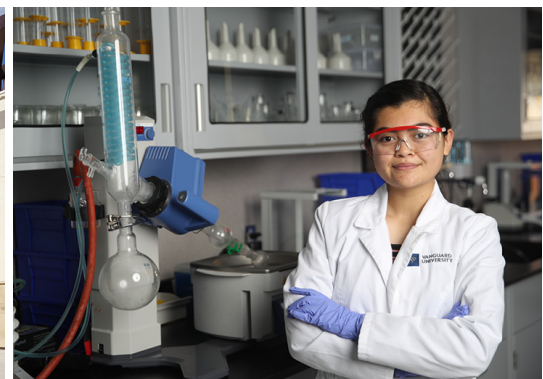
100 regular Faculty and 175 adjunct faculty

Over 75% of faculty hold a terminal degree

16:1 Student to Faculty ratio

40-acre residential campus

33,000 alumni serving across communities worldwide.





PRESIDENT MICHAEL J. BEALS

Over the last 40 years, Dr. Michael J. Beals has been called to Vanguard University in many different capacities, including undergraduate student, graduate student, faculty member, and administrator. Mike's rich journey with Vanguard is evidence of his ability and willingness to serve its constituents in the highest capacity. After a rigorous and prayerful search, the Board of Trustees chose him to serve as the 10th president of Vanguard University.

A native of California, Mike originally came to faith in Christ at Vallejo First Assembly of God in 1977. That same year, Mike followed God's initial call to Vanguard and became an undergraduate student of Religion, double-majoring in Christian education and psychology. After receiving his BA, he went on to earn his MA from Vanguard in church leadership, and a second MA at Fuller Theological Seminary in biblical studies and theology. Mike also holds a Ph.D. in Christian ethics from Fuller, where he taught philosophy and ethics as an adjunct faculty member for 15 years.

Mike began teaching at Vanguard as an adjunct faculty member in 1991. In 2005, Mike became an assistant professor of philosophical theology and Christian ethics. He left that position in 2009. In 2012, after serving for 23 years as the senior pastor of Mission Hills Community Church in Rancho Santa Margarita, Mike returned to Vanguard as Dean of Spiritual Formation, a position that serves as the university pastor for the Vanguard community and the senior administrator of the spiritual formation department.

Mike is an ordained minister with the Assemblies of God and spent 31 years in ministry in local churches.

LOCATION

Vanguard University, located in Costa Mesa, California, just five miles north of Newport Beach, about 60 minutes south of Los Angeles and 90 minutes north of San Diego, is an independent university affiliated with the Assemblies of God.

Costa Mesa is one of California's most eclectic and vibrant cities. The city is home of the world-class Segerstrom Center for the Arts and South Coast Repertory Theater. Located between Newport Beach and Anaheim, Costa Mesa encompasses 16 square miles and has a population of 110,000. Since its incorporation in 1953, Costa Mesa has evolved from a semi-rural farming community of 15,000 to a city with a robust local economy. Orange County is a highly desirable place to live or vacation.

Costa Mesa residents enjoy a mild Southern California climate. The city's location provides easy access to many of Southern California's major attractions, including beaches, mountain areas, high and low deserts, Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, Palm Springs, and Los Angeles.



THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS/PROVOST

As the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) of the University, the VPAA/Provost provides vision and leadership for all academic services and programs of the University, including the Undergraduate College, all graduate and professional studies programs, academic centers and institutes, the Registrar's Office, and the Library.

The Provost reports to the President, is a member of the President's Cabinet, the peer positions are those of the CFO, Advancement, Enrollment Management, and Student Affairs/Campus Operations.

Currently, the following positions report to this position:

- Associate Provost and Dean of the College
- Associate Dean of Assessment & Quality Improvement
- Dean of Teaching and Learning
- Dean for the School of Professional Studies
- Associate Director of Institutional Research
- Director of the Jesse Miranda Center
- Accreditation Liaison Director
- Director of Academic Operations

The CAO serves as the Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO) with the WSCUC and oversees licensure and accreditation of other professional accreditation agencies.

The governance is a "Provost-led deliberative model" with full faculty involvement in curriculum and faculty affairs.

The duties include, but are not limited to the following:

- Reflect and promote the mission, vision, and identity of the University.
- Affirm without reservation the University's faith confession.
- Assure the execution of policies for all Academic programs of the University.
- Provide for the organization and supervision of the academic programs and personnel in the undergraduate college, professional studies, and graduate programs.



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- In consultation with the academic community, develop, allocate, and manage the annual academic budgets.
- Provide the necessary programs, faculty, and staff to fulfill the institutional mission.
- Maintain and preserve the accreditation of the University with WASC and other professional agencies.
- Oversee the development and implementation of the Strategic Academic Planning of the University.
- Work collaboratively with the President and other institutional leaders to formulate the University's Strategic Plan.
- Promote an atmosphere of shared governance within the academic community that enhances creativity, innovation, and excellence.
- Create opportunities for professional growth and development of academic personnel under their leadership.
- In consultation with the President, prepare agendas for the Academic Life Committee of the Board of Trustees.
- Appoint, delegate authority to, and supervise those administrators who report to the Provost Deans and Directors, the Registrar, and the Head Librarian to assure quality student experiences and exceptional academic programs and services.
- Delegate authority to and supervise all other academic personnel.
- Preserve the academic integrity of the University.
- Work collaboratively across institutional departments to create co-curricular learning environments.
- Promote diversity and cultural competencies across the campus and as part of student learning.
- Recommend faculty candidates to the President for hire, promotion, and tenure.
- Fulfill other assignments given by the President.



PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- An earned doctorate: Ph.D. preferred.
- A record of scholarly and administrative achievement that demonstrates a commitment to academic excellence.
- Significant experience as an academic administrator with demonstrated leadership skills necessary to manage the academic resources and advance the University's mission and standing.
- A proven ability to utilize data, research, and broad-spectrum input to make (sometimes difficult) informed decisions on a regular basis. An ability to prioritize a multitude of concurrent opportunities and challenges, often quickly.
- A record of success in making wise collegial decisions, policies, and management practices through a consultative and collaborative process with the University community and in creating an environment responsive to all forms of diversity and equity.
- Experience in facilitating strategic planning, assessment of institutional effectiveness, accreditation leadership and developing/executing policy and capital improvements to enhance academic programs.
- An understanding of and commitment to the mission of Vanguard University.
- Experience growing a comprehensive distance learning program is highly desirable.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

The ideal candidate will bring:

- Excellent organizational, management and communication skills.
- Excellent presentation/public speaking skills.
- Sound, rational decision-making skills, and the ability to be consistent in challenging and/or adverse situations.



- Demonstrated leadership abilities in consensus building, conflict resolution, organization, and objective critique.
- An active promoter of the highest standards of teaching, learning and scholarship while ensuring the integration of faith and learning.
- A commitment to the University's Pentecostal identity. A champion of Vanguard's Christian heritage and mission in an ever-changing culture.
- A strong work ethic yet balanced with the needs of one's family, spiritual walk, and self-care.
- Strong emotional intelligence, and, while very caring about others, is also results-oriented.

COMPENSATION

Compensation will be competitive and commensurate with the experience level, credentials, and professional characteristics of the candidate. Relocation assistance will be offered. A comprehensive benefits package in the form of medical, dental, 403(b), defined contribution and other benefits will be included as part of a complete compensation package. If qualified as a credentialed minister with a like denomination, a housing allowance (a tax benefit) can be authorized. Tuition remission is also available for spouse and children. Qualified candidates may be eligible for housing allowance as defined by the IRS.

THE SEARCH AND SELECTION PROCESS

President Beals will select the new VPAA/Provost with input from board members and other members of the multiple Administrative Committees. President Beals is assisted by Bruce Dingman, Tim Bernstein, and Dr. David Gyertson of The Dingman Company (www.dingman.com) an executive search firm and has a successful track record for similar searches.

With input from President Beals, this document was created and then sent to people who might be potential candidates or who might suggest potential candidates. From the people being contacted with this Opportunity Profile, many names will be considered. The Dingman Company will consider each name suggested or applicant and will interview the strongest candidates through personal interviews and then confidentially check their references. All candidates will go through this process.



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The list of candidates will be reduced to approximately four people who will be interviewed by President Beals and search committee in the Fall of 2021, with intended start date in 2022. Following this, one will be chosen by the search committee for affirmation by board members. Maintaining candidates' confidentiality will remain an important part of the process up to this point.

This is an opportunity for someone with excellence in technical and people skills, knowledge, and strong desire to serve the Lord in an environment committed to helping students grow in knowledge, faith, and maturity as they ready themselves for making a difference for Christ in the world. This person must feel called of the Lord to this opportunity! This person will have senior level administrative experience with a private university, college, or seminary.

We fully respect the need for confidentiality of information supplied by interested parties and assure them that their backgrounds and interests will not be discussed with anyone, including our client, without their prior consent, nor will reference contacts be made until mutual interest has been established. As part of the process of being a candidate, the person will authorize a background check for driving history, credit, social media, degree verification and criminal records.

Our client is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate based on race, age, color, gender, national origin, or physical handicap. As a religious non-profit organization, Vanguard University will make decisions based on theological faith, as will The Dingman Company as Vanguard University's agent.

To learn more about this opportunity, please visit www.vanguard.edu/provostsearch for a special message from President Beals.

The Dingman Company, Inc. is a retained executive search firm devoted exclusively to serving Christian organizations in matters of executive selection.



For further information on this position, please contact:

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