



Graceland University invites nominations and applications for a dynamic, entrepreneurial financial professional for the position of

Vice President for Business and Finance. Graceland University

The university seeks a leader who will be a strong partner for growth.



POSITION PROFILE

The new Vice President for Business and Finance (VPBF) will engage with Graceland President Dr. Patricia H. Draves, a deeply committed and experienced administrative team, and an active, engaged board of trustees.

Together these groups will continue to develop and implement a strategic plan that builds upon Graceland's rich history and leads to the support and development of graduates prepared for success and fulfillment.

The VPBF serves as the senior business and finance officer of the University, responsible for accounting, budget management, fiscal operations, facilities, and human resources. This position is expected to facilitate business process improvement, develop strategic financial plans, oversee all financial matters, risk management and related compliance issues of the University and advise the President and Board regarding business model improvement, investments, and talent management strategies as well new streams of revenue. The VPBF is a member of the President's cabinet and works collaboratively with the other senior officers and university staff and faculty.





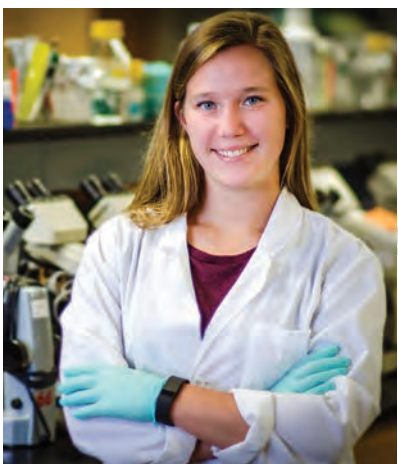
Graceland recently launched their strategic framework for the future of the University. Designed to address the rapidly evolving higher education landscape, the Blue, Gold & Bold strategic framework sets Graceland's path to a sustainable future that is exciting and relevant while still remaining rooted in the school's history of liberal arts education. The successful candidate for the VPBF will be a strong partner for growth who is responsible for the financial scaffolding upon which Graceland's mission of preparing students for a dynamic world is built.

The successful candidate will be the one whose education, experience, and accomplishments have prepared them to address these leadership opportunities and one who can be identified by the following attributes of leadership and personal abilities:

a mission centered leader; a track record of increasing responsibility and accomplishment; an entrepreneurial thinker; a gifted communicator; a "student" of higher education; displays professional courage; an effective decision maker; a principled and trusted colleague; a person of intercultural competence; and a seasoned decision-maker.



- **Courageous leadership and collaborative skills**, ready to empower all levels of leadership among both staff and faculty.
- **Sound fiscal management and data-based decision-making**; prepared to oversee program development, budgets, and facilities of all support units.
- **An entrepreneurial spirit**, enthusiastically ready to visualize, operationalize, and lead change.
- **Strong desire to establish and maintain effective relationships** with the community, faculty, students, staff, and Board of Trustees.
- **Will enthusiastically represent the University at public events** as the senior financial leader.
- **Maintaining and enhancing the financial and administrative foundation** of Graceland University.
- **Excellent written and verbal communication skills**; a personal communicator.
- **Embracing of emerging technologies** and their effective application to enhance student learning.
- **Understanding of contemporary issues in higher education**; fostering the development of new streams of revenue.

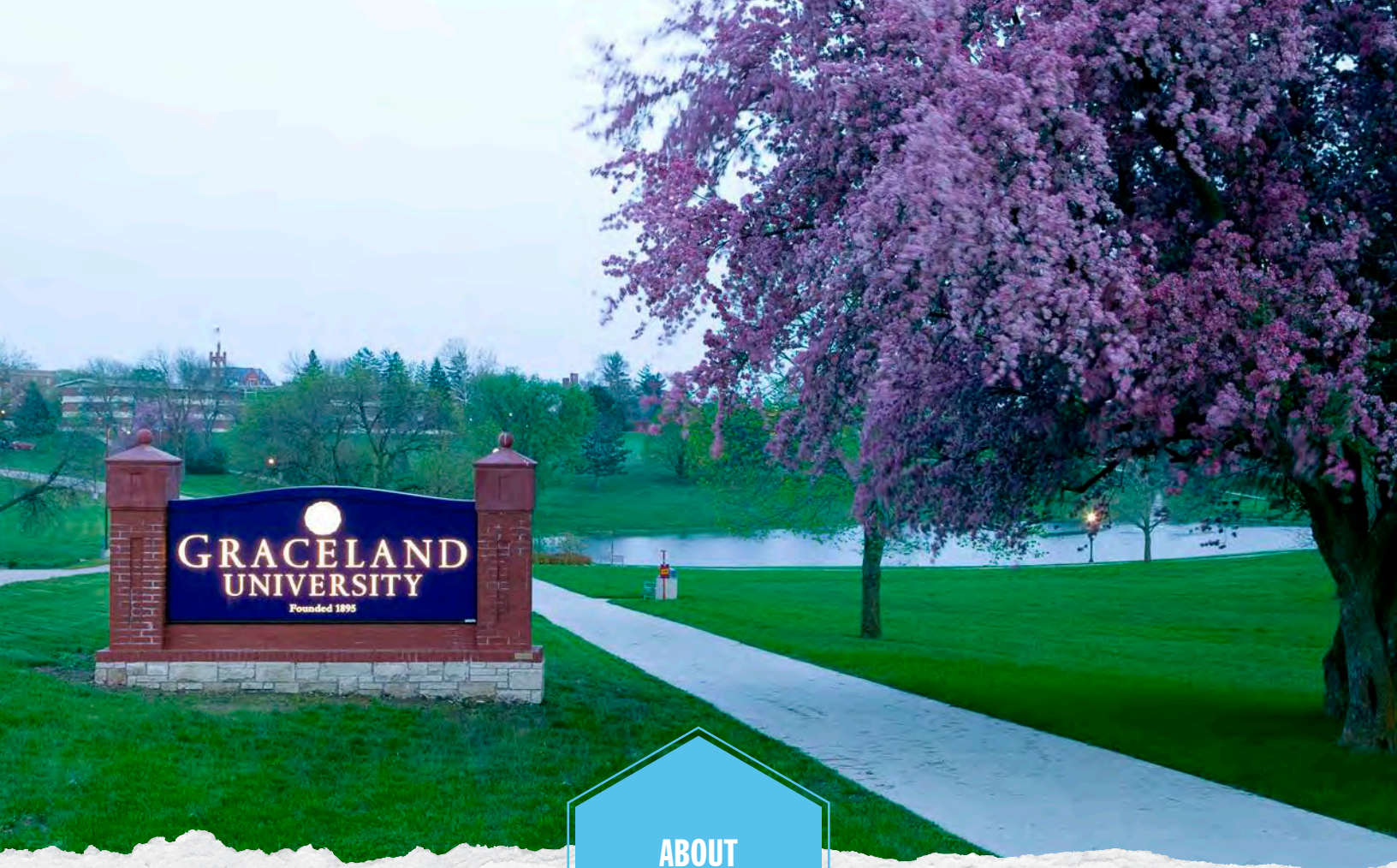


QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's degree in business, accounting or finance is expected.
- Minimum of five years' experience in financial management.
- Experience in leading growth initiatives and projects.
- A leader, mentor, and manager able to direct and inspire, Human Resources, Accounting, Business Services, Facilities, and a digital transformation of the University.
- Adept at understanding long-range economic trends and able to project their impact on future growth and market share.
- Sees and resolves financial issues and evaluates performance against objectives.
- Experience in strategic planning, financial assessment, and development of policy to enhance growth.
- Demonstrated success in shaping and developing administration and creating collaborative relationships across all facets of the university.

COMPENSATION

Compensation will be competitive and commensurate with the experience level, credentials, and characteristics of the candidate. An outstanding benefits package will be included as part of a complete compensation package.



ABOUT GRACELAND

MISSION

Graceland creates learning communities where students develop their potential for meaningful and productive lives.

VISION

Graceland University will become a recognized educational leader, inspiring and empowering persons for transformational service and leadership.

VALUES

Graceland values learning, wholeness and community. Graceland encourages the development of these values for the enrichment of lives and the betterment of the world.

LEARNING

We believe in the lifelong process of the open and free pursuit of truth.

WHOLENESS

We believe that the development of the intellectual, physical, social and spiritual dimensions of all persons is necessary for healthy and fulfilling lives.

COMMUNITY

We appreciate and welcome diversity and, as an institution sponsored by Community of Christ, believe in the inherent worth of all persons expressed through relationships built on the foundation of unconditional love and acceptance.



Marietta Walker



Administration Building, 1897

A BRIEF HISTORY

Community of Christ holds education as an important aspect of stewardship for each person. Graceland College was founded in Lamoni, Iowa, in 1895 and named “Graceland” for the graceful slope of the hill upon which the college was built. The first 20 acres were donated by Marietta Walker, after whom Walker Hall is named. The first building, which housed the entire college, was dedicated Jan. 1, 1897.

In 1910, Graceland began a cooperative nursing program with the Independence Sanitarium and Hospital in Independence, Missouri. Other programs were extended to Independence in 1968-69.

In 1920, Graceland was accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges as the first fully accredited junior college in Iowa. Four-year bachelor’s degree programs were added in 1960.

In 1995, Graceland acquired SkillPath Seminars Inc., a public seminar company in Mission, Kansas. Twenty-one years later, SkillPath acquired National Seminars Training (NST) to provide clients worldwide with lifelong learning through professional business training. (www.skillpath.com) Today, SkillPath is part of the College for Lifelong Learning and Development.

In 1998, the Graceland Independence campus moved into a new building, deepening professional education in the region, especially nursing, education and business.

On June 1, 2000, Graceland became a university, furthering the mission that its founding men and women envisioned.

In 2023, the University transformed its undergraduate tuition by nearly 40% to increase access to a Graceland education and build more transformational leaders.



QUICK FACTS

Founded 1895

Mascot: Yellowjackets “Sting”

Colors: Blue and Gold

Student Life

43

Clubs and Organizations

194

Student Leadership Opportunities

22

Varsity Sports

78%

Students participate in varsity athletics

Member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), competes in the Heart of America Athletic Conference (Heart).

Faculty

59

Full-Time Faculty

61%

Doctorate or Other Terminal Degree

14:1

Student/Faculty Ratio
16:1 including Lamoni only

Enrollment

767

Students on the Lamoni Campus
From 38 states and 37 countries

134

Undergraduate Students on the
Independence Campus and Online

294

Graduate Students on the
Independence Campus and Online



ACADEMICS

The rich liberal arts foundation of Graceland University informs its academic mission. Graceland University has an outstanding academic reputation with top recognition for innovative programming from the American Council on Education. The Graceland University School of Nursing online master's program has been rated among the top 10 nationally.

BACHELOR OF ARTS

- Accounting
- Agricultural Business
- Art
- Business Administration
- Criminal Justice
- Digital Content Creation
- Elementary Education
- Finance
- Health and Physical Education
- History
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Marketing
- Organizational Leadership
- Psychology
- Social Change
- Sport Management
- Sustainability Studies
- Transformational Leadership

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

- Allied Health
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science & Information Technology
- Data Science

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

- • • Nursing

PRE-PROFESSIONAL

- Pre-Dentistry
- Pre-Forensic Science
- Pre-Law
- Pre-Medicine
- Pre-Optometry
- Pre-Pharmacy

- Pre-Physical Therapy
- Pre-Veterinary Medicine

MASTER OF ARTS

- Peace and Social Transformation
- Religion

MASTER OF SCIENCE

- Data Science and Analytics
- Nursing
- Nutrition and Human Performance

DOCTOR

- Physical Therapy
- Nursing Practice

- Lamoni Campus
- Independence Campus
- Online

ONE UNIVERSITY, TWO CAMPUSES

The Vice President for Business & Finance reports directly to the president and assists Graceland's vice presidents and senior leaders on all strategic and tactical matters as they relate to financial forecasting, cost benefit analysis, budget management, resource allocation, and the securing of new funding when such funding comes through financial, investment, real estate, and related markets. The successful candidate will be a strategic leader at the university with a priority focused on growth, driving revenue in existing areas and leading new revenue streams with key partners at the University on both campuses.

The Lamoni, Iowa, residential campus

encompasses a beautiful living and learning environment of 170 acres and 28 buildings. It is a striking blend of attractive, architecturally interesting buildings, a picturesque lake, and expansive athletic and recreational fields. Resch Science and Technology Hall, Shaw Center for the Performing Arts and The Helene Center for the Visual Arts are among the finest facilities of their kind.

The Independence, Missouri, commuter campus,

located in the hometown of Harry Truman, the 33rd President of the United States, is just a few minutes west of the historic Independence Square. The campus sits on nine beautifully landscaped acres with a modern three-story building featuring a 275-seat auditorium, spacious atrium classrooms, skills labs and an award-winning health services library. The campus is conveniently accessible from almost any point in the Kansas City metro area.

Independence Campus





ABOUT THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Patricia Draves, Graceland University's 18th President, believes higher education is a potent equalizer. She has rejoiced in the opportunity to lead an institution that, like her, is dedicated to the liberal arts as a tool for preparing a new generation of leaders. Her pledge to honor Graceland's rich past while positioning the institution for a bright future is also shared by her dedicated executive council.

With **more than 15 years of leadership in Higher Education** spanning multiple roles and institutions, Dr. Draves brings an established history of sparking bold transformation. In her first year as President, Dr. Draves launched six strategic pathways to light Graceland's path forward. Architected to fortify the institution while meeting the needs of the 21st century student, this multi-pronged strategic framework has already resulted in three new masters programs, fresh programmatic opportunities for students, critical restructurings, and a significant operational overhaul.

Since her 2017 inauguration, **\$20M in projects, including three major renovations**, have been executed. The revitalized Newcom Student Union, Floyd McDowell Commons, and Morden Center not only celebrate Graceland's beautiful past, but affirm to all that Graceland is on course for a strong and sustainable future.

As President, Dr. Draves works to embed **equity and inclusivity into all institutional structures**. She is proud to have shepherded creation of Graceland's diversity statement and fueled formation of the first sustainability and social justice committees with equal voice on the board.

Dr. Draves earned a BA in Chemistry from Mount Holyoke College and a PhD in Biophysical Chemistry from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana in 1991. Her post-doctoral fellowship was completed at University of Texas at Austin. After serving as Associate Professor and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies at the University of Central Arkansas, she spent two years launching a new biochemistry program at Monmouth College before becoming VP of Academic Affairs at Mount Union in 2006. During this time, she oversaw development of three academic centers, 14 undergraduate programs, and the institution's first graduate program.

Dr. Draves enjoys traveling with her husband Jeffery and their twin boys William and Benjamin. Don't be surprised to find them learning another language or sampling new cuisine in preparation for their next adventure.

APPLICATION & NOMINATION PROCESS

EFL Associates (<https://eflassociates.cbiz.com>), an executive search firm, is assisting Graceland University with its search for this important leadership position. All calls and inquiries should be made through the search firm. Nominations and applications will be held in strict confidence and candidates will remain confidential until the final stage of the search, at which time the express permission of finalists will be obtained before making their candidacy public.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- **STEP 1:** Complete a brief online application (2-3 minutes):
 - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VPBF-GU>
- **STEP 2:** Send us your letter of interest and résumé or curriculum vitae:
 - Send in *PDF format please*
 - Send to ApplyHigherEd@eflassociates.com
 - Email subject line should read "Graceland University – VPBF Application"

KEY DATES

- For best consideration, apply by February 26, 2024
- Semifinalist Interviews are scheduled for March 26 and 27, 2024
- On-campus visit/interview is scheduled for April 9-11, 2024

CONFIDENTIAL INQUIRIES:

Steve Waldron, JD

Managing Director, Higher Education Practice 816-945-5423 (direct) swaldron@eflassociates.com

APPLICATION QUESTIONS & NOMINATIONS

If you would like to provide a nomination, please email all pertinent information (including an email address and phone number of the nominee) to:

Edith Ketay

Project Mgr, Higher Education Practice 816-841-4001 (direct) Edith.Ketay@eflassociates.com

Equal Opportunity Employment has been, and will continue to be, a fundamental principle at Graceland University, where employment is based upon personal capabilities and qualifications without discrimination because of race, color, creed, gender identity, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation or any other protected characteristic by law. This policy applies to all policies and procedures relating to recruitment and hiring, benefits, termination and all other terms and conditions of employment. Questions or concerns should be referred to the Human Resources Office at personnel@graceland.edu.

In compliance with federal law, all persons hired will be required to verify identity and eligibility to work in the U.S. and complete employment eligibility verification paperwork.