



## Provost

### Leadership Profile

Winter | Spring 2023



*WittKieffer*

## Executive Summary

University of Portland (UP), a thriving and diverse community of more than 3,300 undergraduate students and approximately 400 graduate students from around the nation and the world, is seeking an innovative, collaborative, and strategic Provost to join a leadership team that is reimagining the University for a new age of Hope, Renewal, and Transformation. This premier Catholic and Holy Cross University is located up on a bluff in a residential neighborhood overlooking the Willamette River and the city of Portland. The University's location is the inspiration for its nickname, "The Bluff." The beautiful campus is situated near the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers, home to some of the most skilled mariners in the world. UP's athletic teams are known as the "Pilots," as an homage to the expert riverboat pilots who guide ships around Portland's waterways and into the Pacific Ocean.

Since shortly after its inception in 1901, UP has been guided by the Congregation of Holy Cross, a Catholic order of priests and brothers. The founder of the order, Blessed Basil Moreau, CSC, said, "The mind will not be cultivated at the expense of the heart." This commitment to educating the hands, heart, and mind are hallmarks of the University's belief in educating the whole person.

UP is Oregon's only comprehensive, liberal arts-grounded university with schools of business, education, engineering, and nursing; a College of Arts & Sciences; and a graduate school. It is also the state's only Catholic university and largest private undergraduate institution. It offers more than 40 undergraduate programs and 30 minors, as well as 18 graduate programs and more than 1,300 courses. The University features small class settings (11:1 student-faculty ratio) and an award-winning faculty committed to excellence in undergraduate and graduate education.

In accord with its Holy Cross identity, UP places a strong emphasis on the undergraduate campus and residential experience. The University is a proud member of the West Coast Conference (WCC) and its varsity athletics programs compete at the NCAA Division I level. Nearly 40,000 University alumni reside in the Portland metropolitan area and along the West Coast, but also throughout the country and around the world.

Under the guidance of its 21st President Robert D. Kelly, Ph.D., UP is now engaged in the process of searching for a new Provost. Reporting to the President and serving as the University's chief academic officer, the Provost partners closely with academic and administrative leaders to ensure that all schools and programs are achieving their teaching, research, and service missions, and to elevate the already sterling academic profile of the University. The Provost ensures UP continues to earn excellent accreditation reviews and provides clear assessment of learning outcomes. They are responsible for leading major institutional initiatives that inform strategic direction setting and resource allocation. As a member of the President's Leadership Cabinet, the Provost works in close partnership with the President, Cabinet colleagues, and the Board of Regents to define and pursue the University's vision for its future. The Provost is both a highly visible and active member of the University community and an advocate for the University among its many external constituencies.

The successful candidate will be an experienced, visionary academic leader with a proven capacity to provide thoughtful, inclusive leadership, as well as the energy and enthusiasm to help the University achieve critical goals. The new Provost will contribute to institutional strategy and possess the ability to translate expertise into actionable, sustainable, and impactful programs. They will be a collaborative,

generous, and humble colleague who can create alignment and influence by means of vision, credibility, and trust. The new leader will embrace UP's Catholic, Holy Cross identity and its mission of teaching and learning, faith and formation, and service and leadership. As a highly visible leader on campus, the Provost will embrace the representational expectations incumbent upon senior leaders. The Provost will provide wise, proactive, and strategic counsel to the President and the President's Leadership Cabinet. This leader will embrace both the opportunities and challenges of leading and serving an enrollment-focused Catholic institution and will collaborate with the President, Cabinet colleagues, and the Board of Regents to develop a vision for ensuring UP's long-term, sustainable success.

To submit a nomination or express personal interest in this position, please see Procedure for Candidacy at the end of this document.

## Role of the Provost

Reporting to the Provost are the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Dean of the School of Nursing & Health Innovations, Dean of the Pamplin School of Business, Dean of the Donald P. Shiley School of Engineering, Dean of the School of Education, and Dean of the Clark Library. In addition to the Deans, two Associate Provosts, an Assistant Provost, the Registrar, Director of Institutional Research and Assessment and Accreditation, and Directors for several academic centers and programs also report to the Provost.

The Provost will partner with University leaders and constituencies to develop an ambitious academic plan based on UP's [Strategic Plan: 2022-2027](#). This academic plan shall aspire to greater academic excellence and the continued refinement of UP's distinctive educational offering, featuring a rigorous focus on student success fostered by a diverse and inclusive University community. The Provost will also provide significant leadership in helping the University benefit from the best current trends in teaching, learning, research, and overall academic excellence. They will ensure that UP remains nimble and highly adaptive to the current environment in higher education, especially in optimizing the quality and effectiveness of the University's academic programs.

Although not exhaustive, additional responsibilities of the Provost will include:

- Engaging in leadership, oversight, and representational duties as an officer of the University and a member of the President's Leadership Cabinet.
- Overseeing the development, implementation, oversight, and assessment of strategic initiatives and plans regarding all academic matters.
- Overseeing the management of all faculty and staff who support UP's academic mission by, inter alia, securing the most qualified faculty and providing the President with recommendations for tenure and/or promotion as promulgated by the Rank and Tenure Committee.
- Overseeing and approving the development, implementation, oversight, and assessment of all applicable compliance requirements regarding academic matters.
- Making required reports to the national and state educational organizations with which UP is associated and approving all reports on academic affairs of the University before they are submitted to any agency or institution outside of the University.

- Overseeing and approving the development, implementation, oversight, and assessment of budgets in all academic areas, consistent with University financial policies and procedures.
- Collaborating closely with the President to advance and elevate the academic programs and reputation of the UP.
- Serving as principal liaison between the academic division and the Academic Affairs Committee of the University's Board of Regents.

## Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

On September 23, 2022, University of Portland marked the Inauguration of its 21<sup>st</sup> President, Dr. Robert D. Kelly, the first layperson and first person of color to lead UP in its 121-year history.

In his Inaugural Address, Dr. Kelly spoke of University of Portland as a "shining beacon on The Bluff," noting:

*"In a world where disinformation and discord are currency, UP can be a beacon for the dissemination of truth, for testing hypotheses and gaining new wisdom, for modeling what it means to debate the thorny issues of the day and achieve new insight and understanding."*

*"In a world facing tremendous challenges — poverty, houselessness, inequality, racism, war, climate change, declining spirituality — UP can be a beacon for human dignity and stewardship of creation."*

*"In a world that cries out for compassion, for concern for humanity, for recognizing the sacred and miraculous that exist all around us, UP can be a beacon for hope and a life lived in solidarity with others."*

The current spirit, energy, and drive that shines throughout UP will extend into an aspirational vision for academics that is grounded in fact and infused with the spirit of the UP motto, "The truth will set you free." As an institution of higher learning, University of Portland will enliven its curriculum with the power of the scientific method and with truth. As a Catholic institution, it will celebrate the Catholic intellectual tradition and breathe the values of the Congregation of the Holy Cross into the classroom and beyond. The next Provost will be expected both to appreciate the gifts of the mind and of the heart, and to be mindful of the charism of the Holy Cross order and a deep and abiding commitment to educating the whole person. The next Provost will embrace Holy Cross's calling to, "cross borders of every sort," and to serve all community members, be they Catholic, of another faith tradition, or of no faith tradition.

The Provost will be asked to address the following key priorities, among others:

- **Lead academic units in enhancing and developing curricular and co-curricular disciplinary and interdisciplinary innovations that prepare all University of Portland students to address complex problems:** The next Provost of UP will be an exemplar of the institution's values of inclusion, grace, and education of the whole person. They will advance the 2022-2027 strategic plan, "Hope, Renewal, Transformation," that builds upon the over century-long education inspired by the charisms of Holy Cross. The Provost will engage with a committed and premier President's Leadership Cabinet and Provost's Council to create curricular and co-curricular programs that engage with and develop solutions for the pending and future social issues of our day. They will model administrative and inclusive excellence, advancing a strategic plan that builds bridges and highlights

the talent of faculty and students in the areas of learning, research, scholarship, and inclusive teaching. The result will be an enhanced sense of community, where all feel a sense of well-being and belonging. The Provost will also conceive of all of the University's offerings as comprising a system that is oriented toward its educational mission. That is, they will view and champion all of the University's resources, assets, and functions — classroom instruction, experiential learning, Campus Ministry, Division I athletics, performing and fine arts, clubs and organizations, etc. — as constituent elements of UP's provision of a transformative educational experience.

- **Inspire a culture of belonging:** In partnership with the President, the Provost plays a critical role in cultivating and enhancing the sense of inclusion and belonging for which UP is known. As a Holy Cross institution, University of Portland holds core values related to inclusion and care for the whole person. The new Provost will embody and extend those Holy Cross values, represented through the order's five charisms: development of the mind, the cultivation of the heart, the enkindling of a zeal for service, the encouragement of hope in the cross, and the uniting with others as family. The Provost will draw from these charisms as they inspire the campus in its commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging.
- **Advance enrollment, retention, and completion rates:** UP recruits in a highly competitive enrollment market, and students who apply to UP are also considering other top-ranked Catholic universities and public research universities that offer a lower price point. Strong and sustained enrollment are among the highest priorities for this administration, making it possible for the University to maximize its potential and realize its aspirations. The successful candidate will work collaboratively with the President's Cabinet — including a new Vice President for Enrollment Management — and the Provost's Council to inform a comprehensive strategic enrollment plan. The Provost will engage faculty, students, and external partners in meaningful conversations about enrollment objectives and enlist their expertise in defining a path toward sustainable growth.
- **Secure UP's standing as a pre-eminent undergraduate and graduate Catholic university:** University of Portland will leverage its *U.S. News & World Report* ranking as the No. 1 institution in the West to expand its profile. Under the leadership of the next Provost, UP will lend a voice to the national dialogue around the importance of faith-based institutions and its holistic approach to developing the next generation of servant leaders. As Oregon's only Catholic university and the largest private undergraduate institution in the state, UP will no longer be a "best-kept secret" but a cornerstone to 21<sup>st</sup> century higher education.
- **Support and advance the needs of faculty and staff:** The successful candidate will work closely with the University's staff and faculty, collaboratively advancing a communal understanding of and commitment to shared governance, transparency, and civil dialogue. The new Provost will advocate for the continuous development of the faculty at every stage in their career, understanding that faculty success results in student success. A commitment to a community of scholars with a highly diverse population and an inclusive environment will be the Provost's charge. The central mission of teaching and learning will guide the Provost's dedication to their community of scholars and positively impact the student experience. They will appropriately advocate for the needs and wellbeing of faculty members and support the academic life of the institution. The leader will also embrace the vital role that staff play in supporting the institution's academic mission. They will collaborate with the President, Cabinet, Human Resources, and other constituents to make UP an "employer of choice" for staff.

- **Work in close collaboration with President Kelly and other academic leaders to strengthen the University's impact as a partner to the City of Portland:** Institutions of higher education serve as thought partners and think tanks in addressing social and economic dilemmas of the city in which it resides. A trusted, close working relationship between Provost and President is vital to the success of any university. The next Provost at UP will complement President Kelly's skillset, representing the University on key initiatives and programs and working diligently to ensure experiential learning outcomes for students rooted in a relationship built on mutual respect and reciprocity. In the President's absence, the Provost will communicate on his behalf, representing Dr. Kelly's vision, telling the UP story with pride and conviction, and carrying the President's message far and wide. The Provost will collaborate closely with the Deans to advance UP's progress toward strategic goals and foster a culture of collaboration that encourages Deans and other leaders to creatively and cohesively solve challenges and enhance the institution's academic profile. Finally, the Provost will lead academic efforts to advance President Kelly's vision of positioning UP as the University *for* Portland.

## Professional Qualifications and Personal Qualities

University of Portland seeks an innovative, collaborative, and strategic scholar to serve as its next Provost. The successful candidate will possess many of the following professional qualifications and personal qualities:

- **Academic achievement:** An earned doctorate in an academic discipline with progressively responsible academic management experience, preferably at the level of a Vice President/Provost for Academic Affairs or Dean, bringing a teaching and scholarly record that would merit appointment to a tenured full professorship.
- **Mission alignment:** Embraces UP's Catholic, Holy Cross identity, its mission of Teaching & Learning, Faith & Formation, and Service & Leadership. Deeply understands the higher education landscape and can articulate the value of a liberal arts education with conviction. Student centered, committed to meeting the needs of students, staff, and faculty.
- **Strategic leadership:** Willingness to serve as a highly visible leader on campus and embrace the representational expectations incumbent upon senior leaders. Demonstrated success with implementing policy/process changes within a relatively short timeline. Ability to lead a team and bring out the best in staff members. High-level academic budget management experience, an understanding of how the market can be translated to the resources available and creating new revenue for the institution. Ability to leverage relationships with higher education, governmental, civic, business, religious, and other leaders for the benefit of an institution.
- **Servant leadership, management acumen, and a commitment to collaboration:** Commitment to collaboration as a key to effective problem solving. Willingness to respect the context and culture of the place and people, combined with an ability to lead change in an appropriate and humane way. Effective advocate for staff and faculty. A mentoring mindset to effectively nurture faculty and staff while holding high standards. Aptitude for promoting transparency, cultivating trust, and building consensus across the institution. Willingness to share information and communicate with frequency in an open and candid fashion. Embraces servant leadership and humility. Shows deep respect for the work of all University staff and faculty, and seeks to use position as Provost to advance their success.

- **Proven record in advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and access:** A track record of helping achieve results in enrolling students from historically underrepresented groups. Willingness to expand the search for prospective students and faculty to schools/places that typically have not sent students to UP. Commitment to creating an environment where everyone benefits from being exposed to a wide range of ideas, experiences, and perspectives.
- **Analytical skill and technological acumen:** Strong commitment to data-driven analysis and an understanding of predicting the innovations necessary to meet the needs of tomorrow's students.
- **Excellent communication skills:** Effective communicator with an ability to present a compelling narrative about the unique value of a UP education to diverse audiences. A speaking style that is open and engaging and a willingness to speak truth to power. Ability to communicate with empathy, confidence, clarity, candor, and transparency.
- **Budgeting ability and supervisory skills:** Experience in staffing and resource prioritization and allocation to support the University's strategic goals.
- **Personal qualities:** High integrity and humility. Organized, driven, focused, projects competence. An entrepreneurial spirit. A builder who is hungry and action-oriented and takes action with kindness. Passionate about the work and the place and demonstrates a willingness to be a member of a close-knit community that is welcoming to all. Ability to build mutually respectful relationships with all community members including faculty, staff, alumni, members of the Board of Regents, students, and parents of current and prospective students. Sense of humor.
- **Catholic values:** While there is no requirement that the successful candidate be a member of the Catholic faith, they must demonstrate an unqualified commitment to foster, promote, enhance, and maintain the Catholic ethos of the University's academic enterprise which values the development of the whole person and embraces the themes of teaching and learning, faith and formation, and service and leadership.

## About University of Portland

University of Portland, a premier Catholic and Holy Cross University is located up on a bluff in a residential neighborhood overlooking the Willamette River and the city of Portland. The school's location is the inspiration for its nickname, "The Bluff."

Since shortly after its inception in 1901, the University of Portland has been guided by the Congregation of Holy Cross, a Catholic order of priests and brothers. The founder of the order, Blessed Basil Moreau, CSC, said, "The mind will not be cultivated at the expense of the heart." This commitment to educating the hands, heart, and mind are hallmarks of UP's belief in educating the whole person.

UP is Oregon's only comprehensive, liberal arts-grounded university with schools of business, education, engineering, and nursing; a College of Arts & Sciences; and a graduate school. It is also the state's only Catholic university and largest private undergraduate institution. It offers more than 40 undergraduate programs and 30 minors, as well as 18 graduate programs and more than 1,300 courses. The University features small class settings (11:1 student-faculty ratio) and an award-winning faculty committed to excellence in undergraduate and graduate education. Today, some 3,700 students and approximately 800 faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and research on its beautiful campus.

For 28 consecutive years, UP has earned a top-10 ranking by *U.S. News & World Report* in the “Regional Universities – West” classification, including the number one spot in the [2022 rankings](#). For nine consecutive years, UP has been [the top Oregon school in Kiplinger’s Personal Finance](#) annual ranking of best values in private universities. Additionally, for three consecutive years, *Bloomberg Businessweek* has named UP the top school in Oregon for “return on investment” in a state-by-state ranking of schools providing graduates with the most return for the price of their education.

In accord with its Holy Cross identity, UP places a strong emphasis on the undergraduate campus and residential experience. Its varsity athletics programs compete at the NCAA Division I level in the West Coast Conference (WCC) with such schools as Santa Clara University, Loyola Marymount University, University of San Diego, Gonzaga University, Saint Mary’s College, and the University of San Francisco, among others.

Nearly 40,000 University alumni reside in the Portland metropolitan area and along the West Coast, but also throughout the country and around the world.

## Mission

University of Portland, an independently governed Catholic university guided by the Congregation of Holy Cross, addresses significant questions of human concern through disciplinary and interdisciplinary studies of the arts, sciences, and humanities and through studies in majors and professional programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. As a diverse community of scholars dedicated to excellence and innovation, we pursue teaching and learning, faith and formation, service and leadership in the classroom, residence halls, and the world. Because we value the development of the whole person, the University honors faith and reason as ways of knowing, promotes ethical reflection, and prepares people who respond to the needs of the world and its human family.

## Strategic Plan – Hope, Renewal, Transformation

University of Portland is building upon its 121 years of excellence to initiate a [new strategic plan](#) and advance its purpose of preparing people to bring hope to the world. The plan’s guiding vision is that UP will become the nation’s transformative Catholic university.

The plan will leverage the University’s position as Oregon’s only Catholic university, the largest private undergraduate institution in the state, and its location in the heart of the Pacific Northwest, to grow into a better version of itself. UP is already recognized for its well-rounded educational experience anchored in the liberal arts, excellent teaching, strong sense of community, high graduation rate, and the post-graduation success of its alumni.

At the conclusion of this plan in 2027, UP will have strengthened its position as a premier Catholic, comprehensive, liberal arts-rooted university excelling in ethics, experiential learning, athletics, service, health professions, engineering, business, education, and the liberal arts. The six themes of this plan are rooted in the University’s Catholic, Holy Cross charism and support its mission of teaching and learning, faith and formation, and service and leadership. Each theme features both a set of tactics and a long-range aspirational goal for the University to pursue.



## Six Themes

- **Engaged Learning and Experiential Education:** Focus on engaged learning and experiential education grounded in ethics.
- **Community Rooted in Catholic, Holy Cross Identity:** Embrace and renew our Catholic identity and Holy Cross charism to grow and enhance the University of Portland community, foster faith formation, and promote holistic community health.
- **DEIJ Rooted in Catholic Social Teachings:** Committed to the tenets of Catholic Social Teaching, the University community will strengthen its efforts in the areas of diversity, equity, inclusion, justice (DEIJ), and access.
- **Optimized Student Enrollment and Success:** Diversify our sources of new students; increase access to the University, ensuring that it remains a vehicle for social mobility.
- **Human, Physical, and Financial Resources:** Enhance and expand our human, physical, and financial resources.
- **Meaningful Impact:** Expand and communicate the ways in which the University's Catholic mission and identity animate its students and alumni to make a meaningful impact on the world.

## Campus Ministry

[Campus Ministry](#) at University of Portland provides opportunities for all members of the community to grow in awareness of God's presence and God's invitation to communion. For Christians this includes growing in the capacity to know, believe, and live out the Good News of Jesus Christ. This flows from its grounding in the Catholic tradition inspired by the charism and spirituality of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

### About the Congregation of Holy Cross:

The brothers and priests of the [Congregation of Holy Cross](#) have served and lived at University of Portland since 1902. This community of Catholic, apostolic men work to make God known, loved, and served in education, parish, and mission ministries around the world. Their presence at the University in classrooms, residence halls, chapels, and administrative offices, as well as the presence of many women and men who also serve the University's mission, provides ready access to opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to grow in faith and service.

## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

UP is a close-knit community that is open to all. It is a place where diversity, equality, and inclusivity are paramount. That translates into continually striving to create an environment where everyone benefits from being exposed to a wide range of ideas, experiences, and perspectives. Because UP believes inclusivity is a way of life, it is always looking at enhancing the types of programs, events, and resources offered to best embrace our diverse community.

## Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the land on which we sit and occupy at University of Portland. The Portland Metro area rests on traditional village sites of the Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Bands of Chinook, Tualatin, Kalapuya, Molalla, and many other tribes who made their homes along the Columbia River creating communities and summer encampments to harvest and use the plentiful natural resources of the area. The University thanks and honors the original caretakers of this land. Read more about [Portland's Native diverse and vibrant community](#).

## Academics

University of Portland is Oregon's only comprehensive liberal arts-rooted university with schools of business, education, engineering, and nursing; a College of Arts and Sciences; and a graduate school. There are more than 40 undergraduate programs and 30 minors, as well as 18 graduate programs and more than 1,300 courses. The University features small class settings (11:1 student-faculty ratio) and award-winning faculty. UP was ranked [No. in the nation](#) as top producer of Fulbright U.S. students among master's level institutions, with 10 students receiving prestigious grants to study, conduct research and/or teach English abroad.

The University offers a rich resource for the community through educational opportunities, research, and experts, in addition to a host of community offerings such as athletic events, cultural events, speakers and lectures.

The University is currently ranked No. 1 by *U.S. News & World Report* in the publication's "Regional Universities – West" category.

## College & Schools

- College of Arts & Sciences
- School of Nursing & Health Innovations
- Dr. Robert B. Pamplin, Jr., School of Business
- Donald P. Shiley School of Engineering
- School of Education

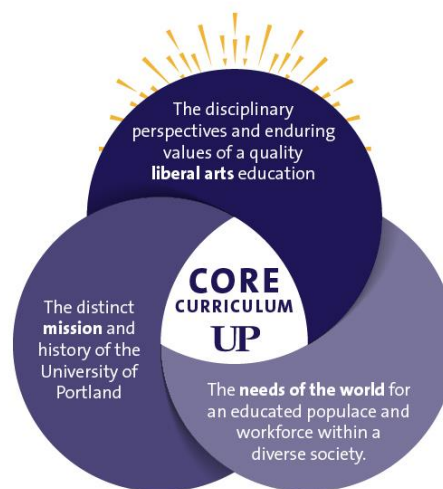
## Academic Centers & Special Programs

- Study Abroad
- Dundon-Berchtold Institute for Moral Formation & Applied Ethics
- Honors Program
- Franz Center for Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation
- Air Force ROTC
- Garaventa Center for Catholic Intellectual Life & American Culture
- Army ROTC
- Shiley-Marcos Center for Design & Innovation (opening late 2023)
- Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement
- Moreau Center for Service & Justice
- Shepard Academic Resource Center
- STEM Education & Outreach Center

## University Core Curriculum

Engaging constructively with diverse people and ideas; using scientific thinking to solve problems; working toward the common good; thinking globally and historically; drawing on imagination and aesthetic inquiry; and confronting ultimate questions with an understanding of religion, faith, and ethics — these are the habits of heart and mind students cultivate through University of Portland’s Core Curriculum.

The University Core Curriculum is the set of shared classes and learning experiences that underlie a UP education for all undergraduate students, regardless of their major, school, or professional aspirations. The Core is designed to offer the breadth of the liberal arts, to build off the distinct mission of UP, and to address the needs of the world. UP firmly believes that exposure to the Core’s habits of heart and mind prepare students to be thoughtful, ethical, and values-driven leaders, regardless of what comes after their graduation. The Core grounds and animates the academic experience of all students at UP.



## Student Life

Believing that education takes place both inside and outside the classroom, the University places a strong emphasis on residential living with most first-year students living in one of UP’s 10 residence halls. Beginning with the fall 2023 class, incoming first-year students will be required to live on campus for two years.

The University’s commitment to an education outside the classroom means that UP offers a wide variety of extra-curricular programming including an inclusive Campus Ministry program; local, national, and international volunteer opportunities through the Moreau Center; fitness, intramurals, and outdoor activities through the recreation services program in the Beauchamp Recreation and Wellness Center; study abroad; and an active student government, Associated Students of UP.

## Athletics

The Portland Pilots are members of the West Coast Conference and compete at the NCAA Division 1 level. There are 16 intercollegiate teams: baseball (M), basketball (MW), cross country (MW), rowing (W), soccer (MW), tennis (MW), indoor and outdoor track and field (MW), and indoor and beach volleyball (W). There are currently 276 student-athletes at UP, with 57% of them women and 43% men.

Student-athletes at UP are considered *students*, then *athletes*, in that order. The University’s Athletic Department places an emphasis on student-athletes’ academic, personal, and professional development. In the fall of 2022, Pilot student-athletes posted a 3.47 cumulative GPA across all programs. This GPA is the highest ever posted by the Department.

Additionally, UP finished in the top 50 of the fall 2022 LEARFIELD Directors' Cup — a metric for assessing overall competitive success. UP's rank of 48<sup>th</sup> is the highest among all Division I schools without football, second in the WCC, and in the top 10 for all mid-major programs.

## Alumni

University of Portland alumni are resources for research, internships, and full-time employment. More than half of University of Portland's 42,000 alumni reside in the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area. There are currently 21 active alumni chapters (regional, academic, affinity, and online) in 10 states across the country that play vital roles in support of University of Portland's Catholic Holy Cross and academic missions. This includes serving as ambassadors for UP and advocates for student recruitment in their respective areas.

## Leadership

### Robert D. Kelly, President



Robert D. Kelly, Ph.D., became the 21st President of University of Portland on July 1, 2022. He is the first layperson and first person of color to lead UP, a Roman Catholic, Holy Cross institution founded in 1901.

Prior to joining UP, Dr. Kelly served as Vice President, Special Assistant to the President, and Clinical Professor at Loyola University Maryland, with responsibility for mission and identity, intercollegiate athletics, student development, emergency management, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and more. He has held senior administrative and teaching positions at Loyola University Chicago, Seattle University, and Union College, among other institutions.

Dr. Kelly holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy, Education Policy, Planning and Administration from the University of Maryland, a master's degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration from the University of Vermont, and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Loyola University Maryland.

Dr. Kelly and his wife, Dr. Bridget Turner Kelly, are the parents of two children.

## Portland, Oregon

Portland — Oregon's largest city — sits on the Columbia and Willamette rivers, in the shadow of snow-capped Mount Hood. Portland is the county seat of Multnomah County, the most populous county in the state. As of 2020, Portland had a population of 652,503, making it the 26th-most populated city in the United States, the sixth-most populous on the West Coast, and the second-most populous in the Pacific Northwest, after Seattle. The Portland metropolitan area has a total population of over 2.5 million.

Also called the "City of Roses," Portland is known for its "foodie" culture, eclectic style, and fun shops. There is a little something for everyone in the city of Portland: music venues big and small, food carts for every taste, a bookstore spanning an entire city block, professional basketball and soccer teams, green spaces woven into architectural designs, miles and miles of bike paths, and start-ups and established brands. There's truly no other place like Portland.

One never tires of exploring the state of Oregon. To Portland's east is the Columbia River Gorge, known for its famous hiking trails and waterfalls, and Hood River, where you can be windsurfing or kiteboarding in 60 minutes. A 90-minute drive will take you either to the Pacific Ocean, where uncrowded beaches stretch for miles, or to Mount Hood, a year-round destination for skiers, snowboarders, and hikers. Beyond the mountains, in Central and Eastern Oregon, you'll find wide-open spaces and high desert ranchlands. To the south are the winding country lanes of the Willamette Valley and its renowned wine industry. Every direction offers a new adventure.

Learn more about the city of Portland: [travelportland.com](https://travelportland.com)

Learn more about the state of Oregon: <https://traveloregon.com>

## Procedure for Candidacy

All applications, nominations and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as two separate documents, a CV or resume and a letter of interest addressing the themes in this profile. Professional references are not requested at this time.

WittKieffer is assisting University of Portland in this search. For fullest consideration, candidate materials should be received by Wednesday, March 29, 2023.

Application materials should be submitted using WittKieffer's [candidate portal](#).

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to:

[Amy Crutchfield, Melody Rose, Ph.D.](#) and [Meredith Davis, Ph.D.](#)

[UP-Provost@wittkieffer.com](mailto:UP-Provost@wittkieffer.com)

*University of Portland does not discriminate in its educational programs, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs, or employment on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, disability, age, or sexual orientation. The University expressly reserves its rights and obligations to maintain its commitment to its Catholic identity and the doctrines of the Catholic Church.*

*At University of Portland, a Catholic University guided by the Congregation of Holy Cross, all dimensions of our communal life—teaching and learning, faith and formation, and service and leadership—are informed and transformed by prayer, scripture, and the Christian tradition. Our belief in the inherent dignity of each person is founded upon the social teaching of the Catholic Church. At the center of that teaching is the fundamental mandate that every person, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, social or economic class, age, or disability shall be treated with respect and dignity.*

*Moreover, we seek to create and sustain an inclusive environment where all people are welcomed as children of God and valued as full members of our community. We condemn harassment of every kind, and assert that no one in our community should be subject to physical or verbal harassment or abuse. Further, no one shall be denied access to programs, services, and activities for any unlawful reason. We provide all who live, learn, and work at the University the opportunity to actively participate in a vibrant, diverse, intellectual community that offers a broad range of ideas and perspectives, so that we may all learn from one another.*