

Position Description of Chancellor at UNBC

Statutory Requirements

Part 5 of the University Act of British Columbia states:

- 11** (1) There must be a Chancellor of each university, who is to be appointed by the board on nomination by the alumni association and after consultation with the senate or, in the case of the University of British Columbia, after consultation with the council.
- (1.1) The Chancellor holds office for 3 years and after that until a successor is appointed.
- (2) A retiring Chancellor is eligible for reappointment.
- (3) A person may not hold the office of Chancellor for more than 6 consecutive years in addition to the period of office held by the person as a result of having been appointed for the unexpired term of the person's predecessor.
- (4) The Chancellor must not be employed by a university.

Attributes

The Chancellor is a distinguished person with an exemplary record of demonstrated excellence in his/her chosen field and in public service. The Chancellor is an individual whose reputation, relationships and experience help advance the University. He/she demonstrates a passion and understanding of UNBC and its regional mission. He/she is able to show evidence of the ability to fulfill the requirements of the position, including desire, energy and stamina; a friendly presence and demeanor; and a high level of ease and comfort with ceremony.

Responsibilities

Under Section 17 of the University Act of BC, the Chancellor serves as chair of Convocation and confers all degrees of the University. The Chancellor is also the titular head of the University and, with Senior Administration and the Board of Governors, represents the University to the external community. In this role, the Chancellor is an advocate for the vision of the University as it is articulated by the President and Board of Governors. He/she plays an essential ambassadorial role in advancing the University's interests within the local, provincial, national and international arenas.

a) Relation to the University

The Chancellor has an established relationship with the University and demonstrates an unquestioned commitment to the University. He/she exemplifies and symbolizes the University by his/her conduct and the standards he/she sets. The Chancellor shares the President's commitment to equity, excellence and diversity.

b) Ceremonial Activities

The Chancellor is comfortable with and adept at ceremony and generally familiar with protocol in university and government settings. The Chancellor presides at Convocation ceremonies of the University. Currently 6 ceremonies are held in May and early June: two in Prince George, one in Terrace, one in the Nass Valley, one in Quesnel and one in Fort St. John. In addition, the Chancellor attends, together with the President, the Annual Alumni Awards Reception to recognize alumni who have made outstanding contributions to their alma mater, their professions and their communities. The Chancellor may be called upon to attend, to host, or to speak at a number of events throughout the year.

c) University Governance

The Chancellor is a member of both the Board of Governors and the Senate. The Board meets 4 times per year in addition to an annual planning session/retreat. The Senate meets monthly and the Chancellor is also a member of the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees and other forms of Special Recognition.

d) University Advancement

The Chancellor personifies UNBC. By working with the President, Senior Administration and the Board of Governors, the Chancellor brings integrity and credibility to the University.

The Chancellors of UNBC have been:

- Honourable Iona Campagnolo
- Dr. K. George Pedersen
- Dr. Peter Bentley
- Dr. Alex Michalos
- Dr. John S. MacDonald