Unisa is the largest comprehensive open distance e-learning institution in Africa and the longest standing dedicated distance education university in the world, nurturing aspirant leaders of tomorrow and motivating a future generation through knowledge development, research, community engagement, research, and innovation.Unisa offers an unparalleled range of study choices in under-graduate degrees and post-graduate degrees/research. As part of UNISA's commitment to continuous life-long learning, and attention to the constant shifts in industrialization systems and shifts in the knowledge arena, Unisa offers a range of short courses, certificates, and diplomas. In recognition of its innovations in comprehensive open e-learning and distance education, with equally a strong focus on research and innovation, Unisa has won numerous awards, honours and recognition. Unisa has equally produced some of the leading, if not influential alumni in varied sectors of the economy, including at least two Presidents of South Africa.Unisa is a leading contributor to the South African graduates pool. As the access to education crisis intensifies in South Africa, Unisa has opened its doors to a third of all higher education students in the country as well as students from other African countries and internationally. At the forefront of this, is ODeL - Open Distance e-Learning – the cornerstone of UNISA's unique positioning in the global marketplace – a differentiator like no other, giving accessibility of its programs to the remotest of South Africa's rural communities, as well as to the rest of the world.

Challenging opportunity for a visionary to revolutionise or disrupt our information and communication technology Portfolio.

Vice Principal:
Information and Communication Technology

Purpose: • To provide leadership and strategic direction in the provisioning of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) services in accordance with relevant legislation and in alignment with the Institution's Open Distance and e-Learning (ODeL) and 2016-2030 strategy.

Key Performance Areas: • Strategy Development, Implementation and Governance: • Provide strategic direction and monitor the achievement of the Portfolio's strategy aligned to the overall ODeL 2016-2030 strategy • Oversee the development, implementation and review of the Portfolio's strategy, plans, policies, procedures, practices, processes and systems • Provide strategic direction to the development of the Portfolio's annual performance review as is required by the Department of Higher Education Training (DHET) • Provide leadership in developing strategies and business models to optimise the opportunities that exist for ICT in support of ODeL • Provide strategic leadership in directing and overseeing the institution's ICT risk management programme • Provide strategic leadership in directing and overseeing the Institution's ICT risk-management programme • Participate in Institutional governance structure • Engage the ICTCoC around issues, trends, and changes in the ICT operating model(s) and operational delivery • Oversee and report on legislative and statutory compliance as defined by government and relevant professional bodies Establish efficient workflows and business processes to meet the need of ICT of multiple internal and external stakeholders • Provide strategic leadership and expert advice and support on the procurement process for ICT infrastructure, gadgets and devices against Institutional spend • Comprehensive needs driven consultation with core business to ensure integration and synergy between portfolios • Comprehensive needs driven consultation to ensure that developments are driven to meeting the needs of the core business which is teaching and learning.

Stakeholder management: • Manage the strategic relationships and networks with internal and external stakeholders • Oversee, monitoring, evaluating operations and reporting to internal and external stakeholders.

People management: • Implement Talent Management throughout the portfolio • Lead, mentor and empower employees within the Portfolio to promote performance, optimal working environment and cost-effective operations • Guide and influencing strategic leadership in embedding the values and desired culture of the Institution in line with the Transformation Charter and ODeL 2016-2030 Strategy • Embed sustainability through a green Institution-wide culture • Drive a high-performance culture by taking accountability for an effective and well-articulated performance management process • Ensure the resourcing of the Portfolio through recruitment and filling of positions to meet the operational requirements of the institution • Promote the positive employee relations and climate through employee engagement within the Portfolio • Foster an organisational culture and climate that is ethics and value driven.

Operational Excellence

Providing strategic leadership regarding the operations of the Portfolio, which includes:

a. ICT Programme and Project Management;
b. ICT Architecture and Planning;
c. ICT Governance, Risk and Compliance; and
d. ICT Infrastructure and Systems.

• Provide strategic leadership in sourcing and deploying effective solutions to support the business model requirements of UNISA with specific focus on innovative and appropriate technology and tools that support teaching, learning, research and community engagement • Guide the acquisition, implementation and maintenance of systems, application, hardware and software, in compliance with license agreements • Oversee the provision of the ICT platform in support of Teaching and Learning Modalities, that is, online, virtual learning, distributed and web-based learning • Oversee and ensure quality assurance, risk management, controls and regulatory compliance and adherence to the relevant legislation governing the use of information • Ensure flexible electronic access to information and resources through multi-media based material provided by UNISA, e.g. technology and systems to enable digitisation of student assignments and electronic submission for marking and tracking, online tutorial tools, e-learning content tools • Ensure the development of ICT enterprise architecture in alignment with the ODeL Organisational Architecture enabling flexibility and student centricity through standardisation and automation of organisational core business processes • Provide strategic leadership in the development, implementation and maintenance of appropriate ICT policies, processes and practices in line with institutional requirements and internationally accepted best practice of the Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) • Direct and oversee the funding of Portfolio operations and budgeted activities.

Academic Excellence: • Ensure the enhancement of the performance of ICT functions by providing regular, timely and accurate analysis of ICT trends and forecasts to collectively support the core business of the University, being teaching, learning, research, innovation and community engagement • Facilitate the speedy provision of resources to expedite the implementation of the ODeL Business Model • Agile and responsive ICT systems and processes accessible to the academics and students

Qualifications and Experience: • Minimum of relevant Master's Degree • ICT Certification • Minimum 10 years' of relevant experience with at least 5 years' in a senior management role, general management and strategic leadership • Strategic thinking • Change leadership/management • Political savvy • Stakeholder relationship management • Collaboration and teamwork • Achievement focused • Innovation and creativity • Performance management • Organisational change and transformation • Corporate governance • Integrated solution • ITIL • CoBIT and ISO • ICT Governance Framework • ICT Architecture • ICT Infrastructure and support • ICT policies and procedures • Budgeting and Financial Management • Knowledge of Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) regulations and other relevant regulations applicable to higher education institutions.

Closing Date: 26 September 2021

The advert response email is response4@pinpointone.co.za

Enquiries: Lucia Mabasa, tel. (011) 325 5101