



Chief Information Security Officer

Leadership Profile

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The WittKieffer logo is positioned in the bottom left corner of a dark teal rectangular area. The logo consists of the word 'WittKieffer' in a white, sans-serif font. The 'W' and 'K' are significantly larger and more prominent than the other letters. The background of this area features a decorative pattern of thin, light-colored lines that curve and flow across the space.

WittKieffer

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The Opportunity

Arizona State University (ASU) seeks an experienced, strategic security executive to serve as its Chief Information Security Officer (CISO). ASU is unique in its progressive and innovative growth and offerings. The CISO will be a critical strategic partner to align with the organization as it continues to evolve to meet the needs of where ASU is and will be going. This is an outstanding opportunity to lead information security and digital trust at one of the largest public university systems in the nation and the world. ASU is a public institution that was founded in 1885 and serves more than 100,000 students in metropolitan Phoenix, Arizona. The CISO is a highly visible position and will have a key role in protecting and ensuring ASU's ability to fulfill its mission and priorities in support of education and research.

ASU is a new model for American higher education, an unprecedented combination of academic excellence, entrepreneurial energy, and broad access. This New American University is a single, unified institution comprising four differentiated campuses positively impacting the economic, social, cultural, and environmental health of the communities it serves. Reporting to the University Chief Information Officer, the CISO will have primary oversight for cybersecurity and digital trust at ASU. The CISO will serve as the strategic cybersecurity advisor to the President and executive leadership within ASU's senior leadership team, including its Executive Vice Presidents, Provost, and deans across university colleges and schools. The successful candidate will work closely with the General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer to align risk and digital trust efforts across the institution. The CISO will develop strategies to enable and ensure regulatory compliance. One of ASU's enterprise aspirations is to leverage AI and related technologies to achieve scalable and effective information security environments.

The university's cybersecurity conducts its activities using the Information Security Program cycle for continuous improvement of ASU's information security posture and collaborates with internal departments/units and external agencies. The role will have stewardship and set the strategic direction of the portfolio of both internal and external facing elements reflecting the full breadth of the university's digital infrastructure as well as the ongoing need to educate the campus community. ASU cybersecurity consists of four major focus areas which are acted upon in a continuous cycle: Governance, Implementation, Awareness, and Risk Management.

The mission of ASU cybersecurity is a commitment to preserving the availability, confidentiality, and integrity of its information resources while preserving and nurturing the open information-sharing requirements of its academic culture and advancing the function through the implementation of new technologies including AI. The CISO will execute on the vision of embedding cybersecurity into the culture of ASU, ensuring alignment of cybersecurity to the University's mission and increase visibility into the University's security posture. The role will maintain a strong risk management program and safeguard ASU's assets.

The successful candidate will be a strategic executive with a proven track record of leading information security and digital trust in a large, complex organization through driving best practice, consensus, and an overall culture of information security. Experience working in a federated organization within higher education, healthcare and/or another regulated industry is ideal. The CISO will be able to engage and influence a diverse group of stakeholders and establish relationships with leaders and staff across the institution. This position requires a politically savvy, visible, and collaborative leader with excellent communication skills, interacting effectively at all levels to facilitate exchange of latest information security updates and trends, while also providing guidance and advocacy to leadership regarding information security and privacy issues, risks, and mitigation strategies. Relocation is required.

Organization Overview

Arizona State University

Arizona State University (ASU) is a [new model](#) for American higher education, an unprecedented combination of academic excellence, entrepreneurial energy, and broad access. This new American university is a single, unified institution comprising four differentiated campuses positively impacting the economic, social, cultural, and environmental health of the communities it serves. Its research is inspired by real world application blurring the boundaries that traditionally separate academic disciplines. ASU serves more than 100,000 students in metropolitan Phoenix, Arizona, the nation's fifth largest city. ASU champions intellectual and cultural diversity and welcomes students from all fifty states and more than one hundred nations across the globe.

ASU exemplifies a new prototype for the American public research university. More than a decade ago, the University set forth a new and ambitious trajectory to become a comprehensive knowledge enterprise dedicated to the simultaneous pursuit of excellence, broad access to quality education, and meaningful societal impact. From that point forward and founded on a vision for a new "gold standard", all of its energy, creativity and manpower have been brought to bear on the design of a uniquely adaptive and transdisciplinary university committed to producing master learners.

The University has been [recognized many times](#) for the success of its students, innovation, globalization, research, engagement, and value.



Charter

ASU is a comprehensive public research university, measured not by whom it excludes, but by whom it includes and how they succeed; advancing research and discovery of public value; and assuming fundamental responsibility for the economic, social, cultural, and overall health of the communities it serves.

Mission and Goals

Demonstrate leadership in enabling academic excellence and accessibility at scale

- Maintain the fundamental principle of accessibility to all students qualified to study at a research university.
- Maintain university accessibility to match Arizona's socioeconomic diversity, with undifferentiated outcomes for success.
- Ensure that more than 90 percent of students continue studies beyond their first year.
- Enhance university graduation rate to greater than 85 percent and more than 40,000 graduates annually.
- Continuously enhance quality while maintaining affordability.
- Overcome geographic and financial barriers to education by enrolling 150,000 degree-seeking students.
- Continuously increase measured student development and learning outcomes.
- Engage learners of all socioeconomic, geographic, and demographic backgrounds.

Establish national standing in academic quality and impact of colleges and schools in every field

- Advance and maintain national standing in academic quality for each college and school.
- Attain national standing in the learning and post-graduation outcomes for students in all colleges and schools.
- Become the leading university academically (faculty, discovery, research, creativity) in at least one department or school within each college and school.

Expand ASU's role as the leading global center for interdisciplinary research, discovery, and development by 2029

- Launch the prototype medical center for the planet.
- Become the leading American center for discovery and scholarship in the integrated social sciences, and comprehensive arts and sciences.
- Enhance research competitiveness to more than \$1 billion in annual research expenditures.
- Drive regional economic competitiveness through research, discovery, and socioeconomically integrated programs.
- Serve as a leading American center for innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainability.
- Create the leading American center for education and learning technology.

Enhance local impact and social embeddedness

- Leverage ASU as a public enterprise to strengthen Arizona's interactive network of teaching, learning and discovery resources.
- Co-develop solutions to the critical social, technical, cultural, and environmental issues facing 21st-century Arizona, ensuring sustainability and resilience.

- Meet the needs of 21st-century Universal Learners through personalized learning pathways that promote adaptability to emergent social and technological changes.

Design and launch ASU Health as a comprehensive cluster of teaching, learning and discovery health systems for the enhancement of social-scale health outcomes

- Design and launch the Health Observatory at ASU.
- Design and launch the School of Medicine and Advanced Medical Engineering.
- Design and launch a school to advance the future of public health technology.
- Triple current nursing production and increase our nursing research tenfold.

Academics

Arizona State boasts a diverse and comprehensive range of academic programs, with over 800 undergraduate and graduate degrees, minors, and certificates across various fields of study. Renowned for its commitment to innovation and quality education, ASU provides students with numerous opportunities for growth and learning, including accelerated master's programs, double majors, and customizable degree options. The University is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is recognized for its academic rigor, affordability, and the career prospects of its graduates.

Colleges and Schools

ASU is organized into 17 schools and colleges:

- W. P. Carey School of Business
- Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
- Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering
- College of Global Futures
- Graduate College
- College of Health Solutions
- Barrett, The Honors College
- College of Integrative Sciences and Arts
- New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences
- Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication
- Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
- College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation
- Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions
- Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College
- Thunderbird School of Global Management
- University College

To address significant and growing healthcare needs and help improve health outcomes across Arizona, the University has also launched [ASU Health](#), a "learning health ecosystem," and is launching [a medical school](#), creating two other new schools, expanding its alliance with Mayo Clinic, and launching a state health observatory.



Campus and Locations

ASU truly is "one university in many places," including four campuses in metropolitan Phoenix: Downtown Phoenix, Polytechnic in Mesa, Tempe (ASU's largest campus), and West in northwest Phoenix. The University has several other centers throughout Arizona, as well as Innovation Zones and sites in conjunction with other institutional partners. The University also has locations in Hawai'i, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C.

ASU's global activity surpasses 40,000 sponsored projects, online innovations, alumni chapters, academic partnerships, study abroad programs and more around the world. Global at ASU's [Global Scope website](#) has detailed information about the University's worldwide engagement.

Student Life

In Fall 2023, ASU projected a record enrollment with more than 144,800 undergraduate and graduate students. The breakdown was nearly 80,000 students joining on ASU's campuses and locations, and over 65,400 students enrolled online, marking the largest ASU Online enrollment in the University's history. Additionally, ASU welcomed nearly 16,600 first-year students across its campuses, locations, and online programs. Out of more than 59,000 Arizonans enrolled, nearly 16,500 were first-year, transfer, and graduate students from Arizona starting their first semester.

Whether cheering for the Sun Devils at a sporting event, participating in cultural activities, or contributing to impactful projects, ASU students enjoy a dynamic environment that fosters personal growth, leadership, and lifelong connections. Student life is vibrant and diverse, offering a rich tapestry of experiences that cater to a wide array of interests and passions. With over 1,000 student clubs and organizations, students can easily find or create communities that resonate with their personal and academic interests. ASU's commitment to inclusivity and engagement is evident through initiatives like Project Humanities and the Garden Commons, which provide

platforms for service and sustainable practices. The University also emphasizes career readiness, ensuring students have access to internships, volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial resources.

The ASU Sun Devils will join the Big 12 Conference (except men's hockey, which is joining the National Collegiate Hockey Conference) in 2024-2025. The University competes in 26 intercollegiate varsity sports, with more than 650 student-athletes representing the University.

Research Impact

ASU ranks top 5 in the U.S. for research expenditures among universities without a medical school, ahead of Princeton, Caltech and Carnegie Mellon, according to the National Science Foundation Higher Education Research and Development Survey. Since 2002, ASU research expenditures have grown more than sevenfold, going from \$123 million to more than \$879 million in 2023, making ASU one of the fastest growing research enterprises in the country.

Since 2003, ASU research has resulted in more than 4,750 invention disclosures and 1,551 U.S.-issued patents. Startups based on ASU intellectual property have generated \$1.3 billion in investment capital.

One of the top-performing U.S. universities for inventions and licensing deals, ASU has been the launching pad for more than 230 startups, generating more than \$2 billion in economic output in Arizona alone.

For more information, please visit: www.asu.edu

Position Summary

Reporting Relationships

Reporting to the University Chief Information Officer, Lev Gonick

Responsibilities

The successful Chief Information Security Officer candidate will:

- Serve as ASU's senior cybersecurity leader working in partnership with the University President, the President's Office, Executive Vice Presidents, deans, research leadership, and others, in a highly matrixed environment focused on information security
- Ensure that the security program for ASU is appropriate to the risk associated with its information asset portfolio and complies with state and federal requirements
- Provide constant feedback to executive leadership at ASU on the efficacy of institution programs, the international threat landscape, changes in state and federal requirements, and provide recommendations for how ASU can lead on these issues
- Identify opportunities for information security advancements that enhance academic programs, student experiences, and operational efficiency
- Advance ASU as a leader in providing advanced AI empowered solutions in the application of information security initiatives and outcomes
- Create and administer metrics or other forms of risk reporting required from institutions to track and evaluate the evolution and effectiveness of their information security program and generally serve as an advocate for information security best practices
- Be highly visible within the higher education professional domain and serve as a thought leader with national work groups, professional organizations, and others by attending industry events, serving on national taskforces, committees, and boards
- Foster partnerships with industry, government, and research organizations to enhance the university's information security capabilities and impact
- Continually evaluate and maintain ASU information security and responsible use policies to ensure their effectiveness for the broad audience of stakeholders that includes students, faculty, staff, leaders and external partners
- Be responsible for the appropriate design and functioning of security and privacy governance groups and activities
- Lead the investigation and analysis related to security, privacy and disaster incidents, and guide the investigation and resolution of such concerns
- Provide guidance to research leaders at the institution on how to adequately protect faculty research, studies, and innovations

Goals and Objectives

The following goals and objectives have been identified as priorities for this position:

- Partner with the University Chief Information Officer and become fully integrated into the ASU leadership team. Be perceived as a solid team player and trusted advisor who has credibility and contributes broadly as a subject matter expert in information security
- Quickly develop a common understanding for the current strengths and potential needs for the information security program at ASU as it relates to both centralized and decentralized IT across the institution. Develop an information security strategy that drives continuous improvement of the program across ASU and its campuses
- Work collaboratively and develop strong trusting relationships and partnerships with stakeholders including administrators, faculty, and researchers across ASU in order to understand their needs and effectively evangelize information security
- Be a national thought leader in the space in developing new models, best practices, and policies that positively contributes to the security of sensitive data, research, innovation, and intellectual property of the institution
- Review and refine the current information security policies and risk posture to align with a constantly changing environment. Assist the Deputy CIO in the development of a scalable security operations group. This plan should include developing metrics to measure the effectiveness of the information security program
- Collaborate closely with research enterprise to address cybersecurity needs and translate those into joint information security initiatives that seek to ensure alignment with the researchers and information security best practices, policies, and technologies so as to provide adequate support to the faculty of the institution
- Ensure that ASU is compliant with the regulations and policies related to The Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act and The General Data Protection Regulation

Candidate Qualifications

Education/Certification

- Bachelor's degree required; Master's degree preferred

Knowledge and Work Experience

- Relevant work experience designing and implementing in information security demonstrating a strong understanding of information security processes, technologies, and practices
- Significant leadership experience in information security, risk or other relevant functions
- Experience working in a highly complex organization with a mix of both centralized and decentralized IT is ideal
- Demonstrated ability to successfully define and implement the strategic direction of the organization's information security program through listening and understanding the needs of a vast constituency in combination with available resources and teams
- Significant experience in information security planning and policy development; experience developing a multi-year information security roadmap and plan, which includes metrics to measure performance and can be understood by a variety of audiences

Leadership Skills and Competencies

- Deep knowledge of information security and privacy best practices with an ability to provide project coordination experience across diversified operational units
- Ability to develop an effective, trusted partnership with a variety of representative groups with potentially dissimilar priorities
- Demonstrated judgment and discretion in working with sensitive, confidential information and matters
- The ability to be diplomatic, and an effective listener
- Ability to plan and appropriately prioritize enterprise initiatives
- Ability to translate complex technical information to a broad range of technical and non-technical audiences; capable of educating stakeholders about security-related issues to drive acceptance of best practices
- A critical thinker, with excellent analytical and problem-solving skills who is able to quickly diagnose and resolve security and compliance problems and offer solutions that mitigate risk
- A team builder with outstanding interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence, who empowers, motivates, and challenges staff while holding them accountable; capable of building, developing, and mentoring a high performing team; able to work well individually, as part of a team and with all levels of ASU
- A person of high integrity who possesses good judgement and is able to garner the trust of others

The Community

Tempe, Arizona

Located just 20 minutes east of downtown Phoenix, Tempe is home to the [historic ASU Tempe campus](#) and is one of the most densely populated cities in the state and serves as a crossroads for the area's largest communities. The sprawling campus is abuzz with activity, but Tempe is more than a college town. Visitors love Tempe's shopping options, outdoor recreation, natural desert beauty and proximity to other Arizona destinations such as Sedona and Flagstaff. Tempe's striking Tempe Center for the Arts hosts concerts, dance and comedy shows.



The Salt River runs west through the northern part of Tempe; part of the river is dammed in two places to create Tempe Town Lake. Created in 1999 at a site on the Salt River where riverboats once delivered grain to be ground at the historic Hayden Flour Mill. Now, more than 2.4 million people a year visit the 220-acre manmade reservoir for kayaking, paddleboarding and fishing. Or stick to the miles of surrounding parks and paths for walking, bicycling, Segway tours, volleyball competitions, music and food festivals and other Tempe Town Lake events. Rising above the city, Hayden Butte is a mountain dotted with centuries-old rock art.

The lake marks the north end of downtown Tempe, known as Mill Avenue, where the sidewalks buzz day and night with people checking out the shops, restaurants, bars, and clubs. Twice a year, the neighborhood hosts the Tempe Festival of the Arts, where more than 350 artists and artisans take to the streets and sidewalks to display their wares. At Papago Park, the 150-acre desert preserve split between Tempe and Phoenix, visitors can enjoy more than 10 miles of Tempe hiking and biking trails. One of the most popular (and shortest) leads to the iconic Hole in the Rock, a west-facing cave carved out of a sandstone butte that affords fantastic sunset vistas.

The ASU Tempe campus is an energetic environment comprised of broad pedestrian malls and eclectic architecture set amid subtropical landscaping. Landmarks include the iconic, century-old Palm Walk; Old Main, the oldest original campus building; Sun Devil Stadium and ASU's other Pac-12 athletic venues; and the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Gammage Auditorium. With an unrivaled commitment to sustainability, the Tempe campus is the most solar powered of any in the U.S. and offers easy access to all of metropolitan Phoenix through public transit including light rail.

The Phoenix metropolitan area, known as the Valley of the Sun, offers a vast array of amenities and a sprawling size that appeals to those considering relocation. Covering approximately 14,598 square miles, it's the largest metropolitan area in the Southwestern United States, boasting a population of over 4.8 million people. Newcomers can enjoy a rich blend of urban and suburban living, with access to diverse dining options, cultural institutions, outdoor recreation, and a thriving job market. The region's growth is propelled by its vibrant economy, focusing on sectors like technology, healthcare, and education.

For more information, please visit: www.tempetourism.com

Procedure for Candidacy

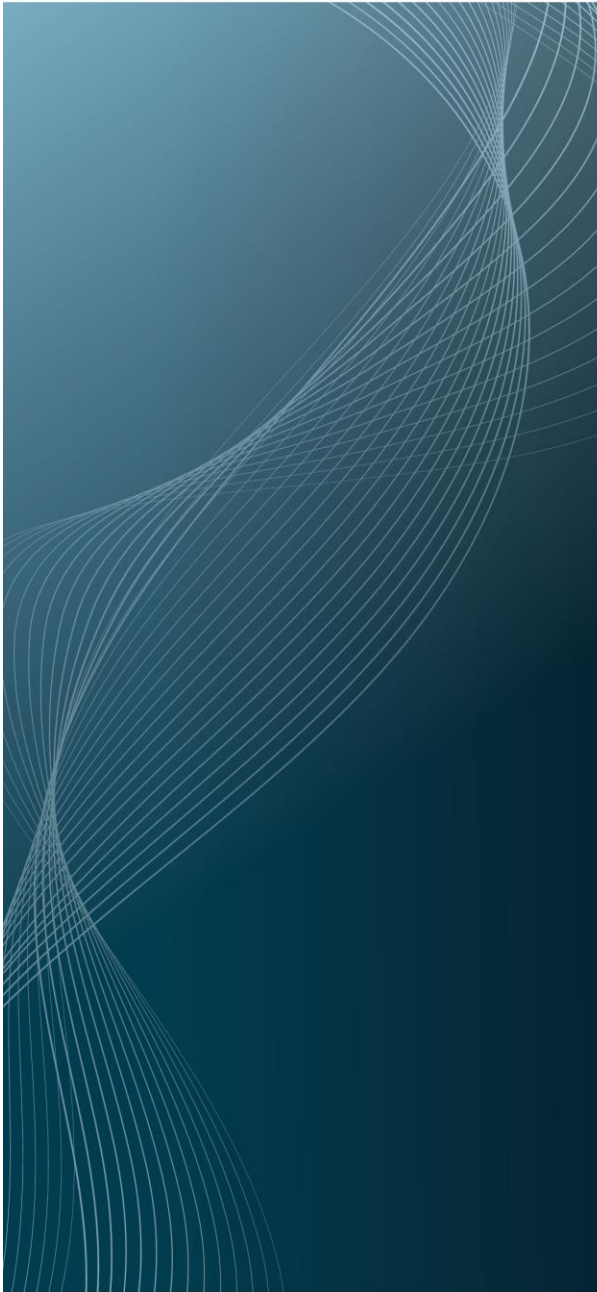
Inquiries, nominations and applications are invited. Please direct all application materials to Hillary Ross, Zach Durst, or Scott Dethloff via the WittKieffer Candidate Portal [here](#). Inquiries and nominations may also be directed to the consultants through the portal or sdethloff@wittkieffer.com.

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Arizona State University values diversity and is committed to equal opportunity for all persons regardless of age, color, disability, ethnicity, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status or any other status protected by law.

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