



**SAINT LOUIS  
UNIVERSITY™**

## **Rector and Vice President - Madrid Campus**

Leadership Profile

2023-2024



*WittKieffer*

## Executive Summary

For more than 50 years, Saint Louis University – Madrid Campus (SLU-Madrid) has provided students with a rigorous and immersive academic and cultural program that takes full advantage of the splendid historical and contemporary resources that Madrid and Spain have to offer. Saint Louis University now seeks a Rector and Vice President (hereafter Rector) for this flagship international campus, the first American university branch campus in Europe and one that offers a unique intellectual environment that transcends borders.

Serving more than 1,100 students from approximately 65 countries, Saint Louis University – Madrid is a rich, dynamic, and stimulating campus that enrolls roughly 550 students who spend most or all of their undergraduate years at SLU-Madrid, as well as another 550 study-abroad students who come from the St. Louis campus and more than 60 colleges and universities from across the United States and around the globe. SLU-Madrid is situated in several historic buildings in the university quarter of Madrid, offering students access to one of Europe's most vibrant cities, and providing countless opportunities for cultural immersion, internships, and exploring the rich history, art, and life of Spain.

SLU-Madrid is known for its commitment to academic excellence, offering a wide range of undergraduate programs in humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, business, engineering, environmental studies, and communication, as well as master's degrees in political science and public affairs, and Spanish. Faculty and student research at SLU-Madrid is a collaborative and enriching experience, emphasizing the importance of academic inquiry, critical thinking, and global engagement. The Catholic, Jesuit tradition is deeply ingrained in the mission and ethos of SLU-Madrid, and its values and principles shape the educational experience, including student formation and commitment to social justice. SLU-Madrid's current 136 faculty and 53 staff contribute collectively to the campus' commitment to academic excellence and holistic student development. Their dedication and expertise ensure that students receive a well-rounded education in a supportive environment in which to learn, grow, and excel.

Saint Louis University seeks an experienced, collaborative, visionary, and student-centered professional to further SLU-Madrid's trajectory, one marked by substantial expansions in enrollment, curriculum, internships, research, and impact. Reporting to the University's Provost and serving on the President's Cabinet, the Rector works with colleagues in Madrid and St. Louis to define and implement a distinctive vision that further elevates SLU-Madrid and Saint Louis University as a leader in international education. The Rector is responsible for all aspects of SLU-Madrid, including academic excellence, promoting research and innovation, and the experience and well-being of its students, as well as the administrative, financial, and operational components of the campus.

The ideal candidate will be an accomplished leader who has worked in higher education and understands academic culture, especially the U.S. and Spanish systems, as well as Catholic, Jesuit institutions, and who brings significant international experience and the relationships and insights that derive from that experience. The new Rector and Vice President will be an exceptional manager of people and programs who is eager to engage with students, faculty, staff, alumni, and others to promote the continued excellence of SLU-Madrid. The Rector must be able to operate independently in leading an international campus while collaborating closely with colleagues at the St. Louis campus and must be fluent in both Spanish and English. Experience in the management of complex organizations, forming effective

partnerships with faculty and administrators across a global university, and enhancing ties to and deep engagements with a campus' host city are highly desired. A doctorate or earned terminal degree and deep familiarity with Spain are preferred.

Saint Louis University is recognized for world-class academics, life-changing research, compassionate health care, and a strong commitment to faith and service. Over 15,000 students are engaged in rigorous, transformative educational experiences designed to shape bold, confident leaders. More than 150 courses integrate community engagement into academics, marking SLU as one of the nation's top colleges for making an impact. SLU ranks among the top research universities in the U.S. with 15 graduate and undergraduate programs ranked among the nation's top 50.

The global executive search firm WittKieffer has been retained to assist Saint Louis University with this search. Information about how to nominate a candidate or to apply for this opportunity may be found at the end of this document.

## Saint Louis University – Madrid

The first American university branch campus in Europe, Saint Louis University – Madrid Campus (SLU-Madrid) is a vibrant academic community of more than 1100 students from more than 65 countries. Founded in 1967, SLU-Madrid sits in a residential neighborhood within the Ciudad Universitaria (University City) area, easily accessible from the city center by public transport.

An innovator in international education, SLU's Madrid Campus is widely recognized for its highly rigorous and transformative American educational programs that combine academic rigor with cultural immersion. SLU-Madrid provides students from the United States and around the world with a broad range of fields of study that reflect the academic standards and requirements of the St. Louis campus while offering the traditions and contemporary practices of American higher education in the context of Madrid.

SLU-Madrid attracts a diverse and international student body, creating a global and inclusive learning environment that encourages cross-cultural interactions and fosters a sense of community among students from different parts of the world. About half of the campus' students attend SLU-Madrid for all or most of their undergraduate experience; about half come for a study-abroad experience and then return to a home institution in the United States or elsewhere.

SLU-Madrid offers 16 undergraduate majors and over 30 minors that can be completed in full in Madrid, as well as more than 40 majors that can be started at the Madrid campus and completed in St. Louis or elsewhere. SLU-Madrid also offers an [MA in Political Science and Public Affairs](#) and an [MA in Spanish](#). Degrees are processed through SLU-St. Louis, which is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

The following undergraduate degrees can be completed at SLU-Madrid:

[Art History, B.A. \(Madrid\)](#)

[International Business, B.S. \(Madrid\)](#)

[Communication, B.A. \(Madrid\)](#)

[International Studies, B.A. \(Madrid\)](#)

[Computer Science, B.A. and B.S. \(Madrid\)](#)

[Marketing, B.S. \(Madrid\)](#)

[Economics, B.A. and B.S. \(Madrid\)](#)

[Mechanical Engineering, B.S. \(Madrid\)](#)

[English, B.A. \(Madrid\)](#)

[Political Science, B.A. \(Madrid\)](#)

[Environmental Studies, B.A. \(Madrid\)](#)

[Psychology, B.A. \(Madrid\)](#)

[History, B.A. \(Madrid\)](#)

[Spanish, B.A. \(Madrid\)](#)

SLU-Madrid lives the spirit and character of Saint Louis University through its educational philosophy and policies and in a host of course offerings and student activities. The campus offers a variety of extracurricular activities, clubs, and organizations that provide opportunities for students to engage in leadership, community service, sports, and other interests. Madrid's central location in Europe allows students to travel easily and explore the continent.



SLU-Madrid provides academic advising, career services, and resources to support students throughout their academic journey and to assist them in preparing for their future careers. The University emphasizes community engagement and social responsibility, encouraging students to give back through service learning and volunteering opportunities in Madrid.

## The SLU-Madrid Community

SLU-Madrid is truly an international campus. There is a strong sense of common experience among the current 136 faculty and 53 staff members on the campus. Supporting this community are a wide range of services including human resources, finance and business services, information technology, and facilities.

Saint Louis University – Madrid Campus' faculty breakdown is around 40% full-time and 60% part-time. SLU-Madrid is established as a Spanish company, "Saint Louis University in Spain, S.A.", and, as such, is subject to Spanish corporate law. Thus, all faculty hold permanent contracts, and the campus has established a system of U.S. academic ranks, for which all faculty are eligible to apply. A significant number of faculty hold terminal degrees from the U.S., Spain, and numerous others from institutions around the world.

The student population of SLU-Madrid is more than 1,100 for the fall term of 2023 and is expected to climb to over 1,200 in Spring 2024, given that the spring term is always the largest for study-abroad. Approximately 68% of SLU-Madrid students are from the United States; 8% are from Spain; 6% from other countries in Europe; and 18% from other countries. The diversity of the student body contributes to the dynamic exchange of ideas and perspectives across all academic disciplines, and SLU-Madrid's integrated educational environment fosters the cross-cultural sophistication to succeed in a global environment. Outside of the classroom, students have ample opportunity for social interaction and cultural growth through participation in various student organizations, activities, internships, and community endeavors.

The campus is situated in four buildings in the university quarter of Madrid, near the heart of the city. Space is both an asset and an ongoing concern as enrollment continues to grow, and attentiveness to space needs will continue to occupy staff time and energy. While SLU-Madrid does not offer its own housing, it offers students options of living with host families or in nearby university residences, and thus its residential life programs are robust and comprehensive.

## Social Media

- The YouTube Channel of SLU-Madrid can be found [here](#).
- SLU-Madrid's instagram can be found [here](#).
- The campus' facebook page can be found [here](#).
- Linked-In for SLU's Madrid Campus can be found [here](#).
- X (formerly Twitter) can be found [here](#).

## Living in Madrid

Madrid, the capital and largest city of Spain, holds the dual distinction of being a political and economic hub as well as a repository of rich cultural heritage. Nestled along the meandering river Manzanares, it offers a rich blend of history and urban vitality, and is renowned for its cosmopolitan nature, drawing people from all corners of the globe.

Madrid is further renowned for its world-class museums including the Prado, Reina Sofia, and Thyssen-Bornemisza. In addition, bustling streets, a diverse culinary scene, historic landmarks, and a thriving music and performing arts scene infuse the city with a lively and dynamic atmosphere. The multicultural makeup of Madrid adds to its unique appeal.

Madrid is a significant European capital with well-developed facilities and infrastructure. Madrid hosts major Spanish companies either through their headquarters or regional offices. The city features essential congress centers, financial districts, trade fair facilities, and exhibition sites, including the [Cuatro Torres Business Area](#). Similarly, the Palacio de Congresos (Congress Palace) occupies 40,000 square meters of space and is situated on the Avenida General Peron and the Paseo de la Castellana. [AZCA](#), located in close proximity to the [Picasso Tower](#), could be deemed Madrid's preeminent financial district. The Madrid Stock Exchange (La Bolsa de Madrid) and the Bank of Spain are situated more centrally, in the vicinity of [Cibeles Square](#) and [Retiro Park](#).

The city enjoys a pleasant and moderate continental climate and ample sunlight. Madrid is easily accessible, with one of the largest airports in Europe, Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas Airport, just 30 minutes from the city center. The city's efficient metro system, with over 300 stations and 15 interconnected lines, provides a convenient way to explore the city with ease.

Learn more about [Madrid](#).

## The Role of the Rector and Vice President

The Rector and Vice President is the academic, intellectual, and administrative leader of SLU-Madrid.

Reporting to the Provost and sitting on the [President's Cabinet](#), the Rector of SLU-Madrid works with colleagues in Madrid and St. Louis to define and implement a vision for SLU-Madrid. The Rector fosters and extends community among SLU-Madrid's faculty, students, and staff, and is responsible for all aspects of SLU-Madrid including academic and administrative functions and supporting the experience and well-being of its students. The Rector is ultimately responsible for the financial affairs of the campus, working closely with an experienced and skilled team in St. Louis and in Madrid.

The process of leading and managing a thriving global campus can be complex, and a high level of accountability is expected. Close collaboration with the St. Louis campus regarding financial, academic, and student life matters is essential. Partnerships with all St. Louis campus partners – particularly with the Vice Presidents, the Deans of SLU's colleges and schools, and the University Registrar – is crucial to the continued success of SLU-Madrid. The Rector represents Saint Louis University to the local community in Madrid and the greater global community and has general administrative responsibility for the campus and its programs and people, including program development, resource allocation, marketing, and fundraising.

The Rector serves as the chief executive officer and administrator of the Spanish company "Saint Louis University in Spain, S.A." and is a member of the University Leadership Council and the University-wide Council of Academic Deans and Directors. The Rector actively promotes SLU-Madrid and is expected to communicate the program's strengths and needs to others, including University leadership and external funders and partners. The Rector ensures that programs align within its community in Madrid, including compliance with Spanish laws and compatibility with local culture. The Rector and Vice President of SLU-Madrid provides leadership for 53 professional staff and 136 faculty and is responsible for a budget of 20 million euros.

## Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

The new Rector and Vice President of Saint Louis University – Madrid will encounter a community that is eager to partner with the new leader and supportive of the high ambitions for the campus. The Rector will be an innovative and unifying leader, able to leverage SLU-Madrid's strengths while catalyzing new ideas and partnerships to increase the campus' reach and impact. They will foster an entrepreneurial spirit and collegial culture that empowers constituencies to collectively move the campus forward.

The new Rector will be tasked with advancing a number of inter-related priorities during the first few years of their tenure:

- **Develop and implement a vision for the future prominence of SLU-Madrid**

The new Rector will join a campus and community that is thriving and eager for further progress. Recognizing SLU-Madrid's many strengths and opportunities, the Rector will lead faculty, staff, students, and community members in a collaborative dialogue and process focused on creating a compelling and unifying vision. Building upon SLU-Madrid's strong trajectory, resolutely developed

under the purview of former Academic Dean and Director Paul Vita over the past decade, the new leader will partner closely with the University's Provost and other senior leaders; faculty, staff, and students in Madrid; and external partners to shape a vision for the continued success of SLU-Madrid and propel the campus to an even stronger future. The new leader will be expected to learn about the campus' history, engage its many constituents, and collaboratively develop a strategic plan that builds upon the campus' excellent reputation and leads SLU-Madrid to assume a position of even greater prominence.

Development and implementation of this plan should include a plan for enrollment growth, enhanced academic strength, increased support for research and scholarship, elevated stature and recognition, and deeper ongoing ties to the campus for SLU-Madrid alumni:

- Student interest in SLU-Madrid has increased exponentially, and the fall of 2023 saw record-breaking admissions for the second year in a row. With expanded institutional partnerships as well as the increase in degree-seeking students, the University anticipates additional growth in the years to come, with the hope that the new Rector will at least double the size of SLU-Madrid over the coming years.
- The new Rector will be expected to work with faculty and with academic leaders on the St. Louis campus to envision the ongoing growth and development of additional academic programs and to further strengthen and support existing programs, all of which will result in higher quality learning opportunities for students.
- Research by Madrid faculty members is robust. Many of the faculty are leaders in their fields, contributing regularly to research and scholarship that impacts local communities and those around the globe. The new Rector will be expected to support and promote the research and scholarly activities of community members. This includes efforts to secure resources that will advance the work of faculty as well as of graduate and undergraduate students.
- The new Rector will advance the presence and reach of the campus by promoting the work of its faculty, positioning SLU-Madrid as a critical asset for the city of Madrid and for Spain and functioning as a prominent figure in the area and the region, representing Saint Louis University and SLU-Madrid, and embracing the city that the campus calls its home.
- With a relatively young alumni body, there is significant opportunity to nurture alumni and parent ties to the campus. The new Rector will be expected to work with the University's Development team to grow relationships with alumni and community members.
- **Build connections and advance relationships within Madrid and beyond**  
The new Rector should be an excellent relationship builder and effective promoter of the work of the campus, able to identify mutually beneficial partnerships that improve opportunities for internships, collaborative research, and other partnerships. They should prioritize relationship-building and the development of connections and community in Madrid, in Spain, across Europe, and beyond. An outward-looking mindset is crucial, and the Rector should actively seek out possibilities for capitalizing on existing relationships and identifying and realizing new partnerships with educational institutions and other enterprises in the community, broadening SLU-Madrid's borders and generating additional opportunities for its constituents.



- **Solidify a new organizational structure**

SLU-Madrid has traditionally had a flat structure, with roughly 15 positions reporting to its chief executive. With a transition underway, Provost Lewis has initiated a reorganization so that three key positions will report to the Rector, with responsibility for managing the day-to-day operations of the campus falling to each of these: an Associate Vice President/Vice Rector and Academic Dean who oversees faculty-facing functions; an Associate Vice President/Vice Rector for Students and Academics who oversees student-facing functions; and an Associate Vice President and CFO.

The new Rector will assess and fine-tune the new administrative structure. They will also recognize the abundant talent across the campus, including teams and individuals with great potential, encouraging and rewarding teamwork, collaboration, and ingenuity.

- **Grow resources**

While additional enrollment will undoubtedly increase the resources at SLU-Madrid's disposal, the new Rector will take the lead in developing strategies that promote revenue growth and diversify revenue streams. This will be accomplished in part by serving as an active relationship builder and creator of partnerships that are mutually beneficial to SLU-Madrid and its immediate and local communities. The new Rector will also be a strong and eager fundraiser with an interest in devoting a significant amount of time and energy to fundraising, the capacity to generate enthusiastic philanthropic support for the campus and its future, and the ability to steward key relationships with finesse while engaging and successfully cultivating new donors and friends.

- **Advance the Catholic, Jesuit mission and values of the University**

Saint Louis University – and SLU-Madrid – holds its Catholic, Jesuit identity and mission as central. The Rector will advance this identity and mission by drawing upon the University's Jesuit tradition and its emphasis on intellectual challenge, academic freedom, deep inquiry and discernment, justice, the value of taking action, care for the whole person, and a deep respect for the dignity of every individual.

The Rector will harness the richness of SLU's Jesuit heritage as an opportunity for engagement and as the basis for the diversity and inclusion that also lie at the heart of its identity. Additionally, the Rector will advance an articulation of mission that is tailored to SLU-Madrid's student body, roughly half of which attend for a short period of time and who often bring a different set of priorities from the campus' four-year students.

Whatever the new leader's personal religious background or beliefs, the Rector will project care and concern for faculty, staff, students, alumni, and other constituents as individuals and as a community and will shepherd the SLU-Madrid community with courage, compassion, and care.

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## Professional Qualifications and Personal Qualities

Knowledge of and demonstrated experience in the American university system is crucial: familiarity with the Spanish university system is desired. A doctoral or terminal degree is preferred; fluency in both Spanish and English is required. In addition, the ideal candidate will have the following professional qualifications and personal characteristics:

- **Alignment with mission:** Deep resonance with the mission of Saint Louis University and with SLU-Madrid and the possibilities that flow from its unique educational experience; absolute commitment to the pursuit of the highest academic standards and intellectual openness across SLU-Madrid's diverse constituencies; eagerness to tie into and engage with the academic, cultural, and community life of the campus; strong commitment to students that is reflected in active and visible engagement in the campus and community; interest in advancing the University's Jesuit mission;
- **Vision:** Compelling view for the future of SLU-Madrid; entrepreneurial outlook and eye to new possibilities and emerging challenges; capacity to bring people together across disciplines and programs in pursuit of continuing growth and improvement; readiness and ability to work with St. Louis partners as well as those in Madrid to grow the breadth and diversity of the campus' engagements and impact;
- **Leadership:** Track record of empowering and cultivating trust within a strong leadership team; effective delegation skills to foster a sense of teamwork, shared goals and priorities; adeptness in building consensus and a common vision in an academic setting; the ability and desire to advocate for SLU-Madrid's needs and aspirations while also actively collaborating with the St. Louis campus to further vision and strategic priorities of the University; a sincere desire to engage with and listen to faculty, staff, students, and alumni in determining the future direction of the campus;
- **Management:** Skill at leading in a highly decentralized, complex environment; the ability to build and sustain relationships both in Madrid and St. Louis; the ability to recruit and sustain faculty, lead curriculum development and planning, build consensus, and inspire joy in one's work; strong administrative skills including budgeting, program development and project management as well as the ability to delegate to and lead a strong and dedicated staff; capacity for fundraising and building alliances and partnerships, with a demonstrated ability to interface with University as well as community constituencies;
- **Communication:** Strong communication and advocacy skills with the ability both to listen and persuade; skills to promote SLU-Madrid and communicate the campus' strengths and needs to others including University leadership, external funders, and partners; effective negotiating skills combined with the ability and inclination to be a strong team player;
- **External relations and fundraising:** Eagerness to represent and foster positive working relationships with external audiences including University leaders, external funders, government officials, and others; energy and presence to be a vocal advocate to continue to raise the visibility

of SLU-Madrid internally and externally; demonstrated success, or the capacity for recruiting external funding and forming productive and effective partnerships; ability to identify opportunities for generating new resources;

- **Regional familiarity and understanding of the character and culture of Spain:** Familiarity with and affinity for the culture and opportunities of Madrid, or an eagerness to develop that affinity; familiarity with and interest in international issues and the role of Europe, Spain, and Madrid in global affairs, to contribute to the intellectual leadership of the SLU-Madrid faculty and students; the sophistication and insight necessary to be an effective educator and communicator in the cultural context of the region; the finesse to grasp the subtleties of intercultural communication; the ability to converse in Spanish to engage in substantive conversation with key constituents in the country; and
- **Personal qualities:** The highest integrity; endurance; flexibility; ability to navigate a complex institution with political astuteness, patience, and tolerance for ambiguity; open mindedness, intercultural sensitivity and ability to work across a wide range of cultures and beliefs.

## Saint Louis University: An Overview

Saint Louis University is one of the United States' oldest and most prestigious Catholic universities. Founded in 1818 and guided by its enduring Jesuit mission, the University is recognized for world-class academics, life-changing research, compassionate health care, and a strong commitment to faith and service.

Geographically, SLU is accommodated on five distinct sites. In the midtown area of St. Louis, the arts, the humanities, the social and natural sciences and the main core of University administration are located on the North Campus. Health sciences, the School of Medicine and the hospital are situated nearby on the South Campus. In downtown St. Louis, the School of Law is a short walk from the city's 19-century Old Courthouse, giving students and faculty ready access to the city's legal infrastructure. SLU's Center for Aviation Science (part of the Oliver L. Parks Department of Aviation Science in the School of Science and Engineering) lies just across the Mississippi river at St. Louis Downtown Airport, a 10-minute drive from midtown. All of the University's sites in the St. Louis area are linked by shuttle transportation. Overseas, in the heart of Spain's capital is SLU-Madrid.

Steeped in a 500-year-old Ignatian tradition of spirituality, pedagogy and intellectual inquiry, Saint Louis University enters its third century with a clear vision for its future and that of a city in which students, staff and faculty can have enormously constructive impacts. Racial justice, social justice, economic opportunity, the social determinants of health, and child and adult education are local issues in which the SLU community is intent on making a difference. The community works alongside residents as well as neighborhood and city leaders to reimagine, transform and unify St. Louis.

### Mission

The mission of Saint Louis University is the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity.

The University seeks excellence in the fulfillment of its corporate purposes of teaching, research, health care, and service to the community. It is dedicated to the continuing quest for understanding of God's creation and for the discovery, dissemination, and integration of the values, knowledge, and skills required to transform society in the spirit of the Gospels. As a Catholic, Jesuit University, this pursuit is motivated by the inspiration and values of the Judeo-Christian tradition and is guided by the spiritual and intellectual ideals of the Society of Jesus.

In support of its mission, the University aims to:

- Encourage and support innovative scholarship and effective teaching in all fields of the arts — humanities; natural, health and medical sciences; social sciences; law; business; aviation; and technology.
- Create an academic environment that values and promotes free, active, and original intellectual inquiry among its faculty and students.

- Foster programs that link University resources to local, national, and international communities in collaborative efforts to alleviate ignorance, poverty, injustice, and hunger; extend compassionate care to the ill and needy; and maintain and improve the quality of life for all persons.
- Strive continuously to build upon its Catholic, Jesuit identity and to promote activities that apply its intellectual and ethical heritage to work for the good of society.
- Welcome students, faculty, and staff from all racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds and beliefs to create a sense of community that facilitates their development as people for others.
- Nurture within its community an understanding of and commitment to the promotion of faith and justice in the spirit of the Gospels.
- Allocate wisely its resources to maintain efficiency and effectiveness in attaining its mission and goals.

## Strategic Plan

Magis: Saint Louis University's Strategy for the Future charts the University's course in a rapidly changing higher education environment. The plan comprises five key initiatives:

- Being a national exemplar of transformative educational and research excellence
- Being a market leader in health promotion and the highest quality medical care
- Being a leading catalyst for groundbreaking change in the region, the nation, and the world
- Being an innovator and entrepreneur in all that it does
- Fostering a culture of excellence, effectiveness, and efficiency deeply rooted in Saint Louis University's institutional mission and Catholic, Jesuit values.

Saint Louis University's Academic Strategic Plan features five strategic priorities as well as goals that operationalize these priorities and – for each priority – a short set of priority actions. The priorities are:

- Teaching and Learning
- Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work
- Advancing Well-Being and Equity
- Expanding Access and Reach
- Institutional Planning



## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Saint Louis University is committed to diversity as a value rooted in Ignatian spirituality. Because of this commitment, as well as its central location in a city that has experienced the injustices of poverty, racism, and segregation, the University's students, faculty, and staff aspire to build communities that are unburdened by discrimination and oppression while advancing the Ignatian concepts of educating the whole individual as people for and with others.

SLU is proud to have been the first historically White institution of higher education in a former slave state to formally admit African American students. The University's School of Law (founded in 1843 as the first law school west of the Mississippi) was also the first ABA-recognized law school in St. Louis to accept African American students. The University is also proud that [Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered a civil rights speech on campus](#) just one week before he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Saint Louis University's [Oath of Inclusion](#) is a student-led initiative that sets the expectation to promote inclusion on campus. The Oath serves as an inspiration of what the institutional community can accomplish together.

The University has made much progress in these vital areas, which have led to it being the first Jesuit university to receive the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award. The University is committed to continuing its work in this area.

## Colleges and Schools

- [College of Arts and Sciences](#)
- [College of Philosophy and Letters](#)
- [College for Public Health and Social Justice](#)
- [Doisy College of Health Sciences](#)
- [Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business](#)
- [School of Education](#)
- [School of Law](#)
- [School of Medicine](#)
- [School for Professional Studies](#)
- [School of Science and Engineering](#)
- [School of Social Work](#)
- [SLU-Madrid](#)
- [Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing](#)

97 bachelor's degree program  
126 master's and doctoral programs  
2,022 faculty members  
15,204 students from 50 U.S. states and 87 countries

## Research

Research at SLU explores new scientific frontiers and tackles the greatest questions of our time. The University is on the cutting edge of research and scholarship that makes a difference for humanity in the community and abroad. Informed by its Jesuit mission, SLU's researchers are motivated by a concern for the most vulnerable members of society.

Over the past several years, SLU research has been growing at an impressive clip. Starting in 2016, SLU reversed a decade-long decline in research expenditures, growing by 8% overall in compounded annual growth rate. In the past few years, the rate has increased to 9%. This makes SLU one of the fastest growing private research universities with expenditures of more than \$30 million in the US.

In 2018, SLU established the Research Institute, which seeks to identify, celebrate, and enculturate research excellence among faculty. Then, in 2022, SLU helped launch and began serving as host to the Taylor Geospatial Institute, which seeks to make St. Louis and a consortium of 8 area research institutions the epicenter of the rapidly emerging geospatial science and industry ecosystem. In addition, SLU has been building strengths in other areas of research and scholarship, such as Iberian studies and archaeology.

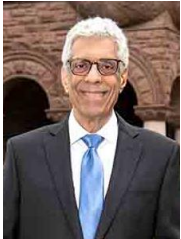
This research growth and excellence puts SLU on track to achieve Carnegie R1 status by 2027. Growth in research expenditures, combined with SLU's Jesuit mission, centered on service, combine to position the University as a unique and preeminent Jesuit research institution.

The University is rooted in over 200 years of history, which continues to guide its future. From the discovery of the life-saving properties of vitamin K to more recent breakthroughs at its federally funded Center for Vaccine Development, all of SLU's research is defined by compassion, ambition, and innovation.

Research is a central component of the undergraduate and graduate experiences at SLU. SLU provides all its students with the opportunity to work side-by-side with research teams so they can see first-hand how research at SLU impacts the world. From day one, the student experience at SLU is enriched by a vibrant research community that creates pathways for real change.

## Leadership

### President Fred Pestello



Dr. Fred P. Pestello became the 33<sup>rd</sup> president of Saint Louis University in 2014. He is the first permanent lay president of Saint Louis University since its founding in 1818 and is proud to have spent nearly 40 years in Catholic higher education.

As a graduate of a Jesuit university himself, Dr. Pestello understands firsthand the promise of an education guided by the Society of Jesus and its rigorous, justice-oriented, educational mission. He currently serves on the executive committee of the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities and is a former member of the executive committee of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. He is also a member of the executive committee of the Atlantic 10 Conference. Among the boards on which he serves in St. Louis are Greater St. Louis Inc., the Cortex Innovation Community, Bi-State Development, and Arch to Park.

Dr. Pestello is the first of only two people who have been appointed as the first lay president of two U.S. Jesuit institutions. He joined Saint Louis University after serving six years as president of Le Moyne College, where he achieved record-breaking levels of enrollment, fundraising, endowment, and campus construction. Prior to that appointment, Dr. Pestello was a faculty member, department chair, associate dean, and provost and senior vice president for educational affairs during his 25-year career at the University of Dayton.

Dr. Pestello earned his bachelor's degree at John Carroll University, from which he was awarded an Alumni Medal in 2018. He completed his graduate work in sociology at the University of Akron.

Read more about [President Pestello](#).

### Provost Michael Lewis



Michael Lewis, Ph.D. is responsible for supporting major initiatives advancing SLU's University Strategic Plan. In collaboration with the University vice presidents and members of the executive staff, he is responsible for the development and implementation of all academic strategic plans, as well as the development and adherence to the academic affairs budget. The building, renovation and allocation of all academic and research space is also under his purview.

Lewis joined SLU's Department of Chemistry in 2004. In his role as a faculty member, he received multiple teaching awards and authored numerous scholarly publications. His administrative career began in 2013 when he became Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs and Development. In that role, Lewis led University-level initiatives related to faculty development, faculty hiring, contracts, promotion and tenure policies, workload policies and other efforts aimed at serving SLU faculty members and departments. His success in that position led to subsequent appointments as Acting Provost (fall 2018), Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (2019-2020) and Interim Provost (fall 2020). Lewis was appointed SLU's permanent Provost in February 2021.

Read more about [Provost Lewis](#).

## Procedure for Candidacy

Recruitment for the Rector and Vice President of the Saint Louis University – Madrid Campus is underway and will continue until an appointment has been made. For fullest consideration, candidate materials should be received by February 12, 2024.

WittKieffer is assisting Saint Louis University in this search. Application materials should be submitted using WittKieffer's [candidate portal](#).

Nominations and inquiries regarding non-US candidates may be directed to:

Natalie Derry, Managing Partner

[nderry@wittkieffer.com](mailto:nderry@wittkieffer.com)

Nominations and inquiries regarding US candidates may be directed to:

Robin Mamlet, Senior Partner and Luis Bertot, Associate

[SLU-Madrid@wittkieffer.com](mailto:SLU-Madrid@wittkieffer.com)

*Saint Louis University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. All qualified candidates will receive consideration for the position applied for without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, military/veteran status, gender identity, or other non-merit factors. We welcome and encourage applications from minorities, women, protected veterans and individuals with disabilities (including disabled veterans). If accommodations are needed for completing the application and/or with the interviewing process, please contact WittKieffer at [SLU-Madrid@wittkieffer.com](mailto:SLU-Madrid@wittkieffer.com).*