

## **Vidushi Yogmaya Ayurveda Himalayan University (YAU)**

### **Terms of reference for the Vice-Chancellor**

#### **Role Overview:**

The vice-chancellor of the Vidushi Yogmaya Himalayan Ayurveda University (YAU) will lead a transformative academic institution rooted in the Himalayan tradition of ayurvedic and nature-based practices. YAU is committed to a mission of contributing to the holistic development and creation of self-sustaining communities and nations. The vice-chancellor will lead this newly founded university in a mission to integrate traditional Ayurvedic Himalayan medicine and treatment practices with teaching and research. This role also requires an individual with the vision and capacity to apply research knowledge and outcomes to advance communities and make meaningful contributions to global prosperity. The vice-chancellor will be responsible for establishing the university in a manner that reflects international standards while remaining deeply rooted in Himalayan society, its people, and ecology. The vice-chancellor will be based at the University's headquarters in Khandbari Municipality, Sankhuwasabha District, in Northeast Nepal. They are expected to be willing to work in a remote, rural place that is also one of the least developed regions of Nepal.

#### **Vision and Strategy:**

The vice-chancellor will be tasked with crafting and implementing a long-term, context-responsive mission that positions Vidushi Yogmaya Himalayan University as a globally recognized hub for Himalayan health sciences and sustainable living. The YAU mission is that Nepal's socio-cultural and ecological diversity must align with health, education, and community resilience in the face of climate change. The strategies to realize the vision and mission of YAU should reflect the university's institutional commitment and responsibilities to local communities, cultural accommodation, and the practical application of Himalayan healing practices and ancient wisdom in addressing contemporary challenges to create a self-reliant, peaceful, and prosperous human society.

#### **Academic and Transformative Leadership:**

The successful candidate will be expected to design and implement innovative programs that integrate the knowledge of Ayurvedic medicine and treatments with modern scientific research and teaching, founding a prominent center for research and education, which will in turn promote interdisciplinary teaching and research emphasizing mindfulness, well-being, connectedness with nature, and personal and societal transformation. The vice-chancellor must foster a reflective and empowering academic environment that prioritizes student and faculty engagement, empirical learning, and dynamic scholarship in producing well-qualified and competent graduates for the job market.

#### **Governance and Institutional Management:**

The vice-chancellor will serve as an ex-officio member of the university's senate, ensuring transparency, accountability, and collective decision-making under the guidance of the university's President. The Vice-Chancellor shall provide competitive leadership and coordination, including,

but not limited to, the university Senate, National Planning Commission, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, and the University Grants Commission. The vice-chancellor should be able to internalize the fact that this position is about building a community in which all the faculty, students, and staff feel a sense of belonging as members of a university community.

### **Organizational and Strategic Agility:**

Given the multiple challenges in well-functioning universities in Nepal, the vice-chancellor must be capable of working under pressure, adapting to changing circumstances, and managing institutional difficulties with resilience and creativity. This may include forming high-performing, qualified teams, managing limited resources strategically, and prudently resolving conflicts as and when they arise. The ideal candidate shall demonstrate emotional intelligence, intercultural competence, and the ability to work in challenging and high-stress environments.

### **Global Engagement and Resource Mobilization:**

The vice-chancellor, under the leadership guidance of the university president, will represent the university nationally and internationally, forming strategic partnerships with other universities, research institutes, and philanthropic donors, including the Nepali diaspora. The vice-chancellor will lead the campaign to secure external funding for the university through different sources, which will help to expand the university's teaching hospital, schools, research laboratories, Ayurvedic and traditional Medicine production and processing centers.

### **Student and Community Engagement:**

Creating a nurturing and inspiring environment for students will be a central part of the vice-chancellor's role. The Vice-Chancellor will initiate the programs that will directly benefit schools, health posts, and communities near the central campus through internship and volunteer activities. Community-based research, field learning, and service-oriented applied research and education will be the main features developed under the leadership of the vice-chancellor.

### **Desirable Attributes:**

The ideal candidate will embody the values of YAU humility, service, resilience, and wisdom. The vice-chancellor will be deeply aligned with the university's commitment to cultural and societal empowerment towards creating a peaceful and prosperous society. Experience in conflict mediation, intercultural negotiation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and community-driven leadership will be highly valued. Fluency in written and spoken English is essential.