



**President and Chief Executive Officer  
Rocky Vista University**

**Search Profile**

**THE UNIVERSITY**

Rocky Vista University (“RVU” or the “University”) is a health sciences University located in Parker, (metropolitan Denver) Colorado providing excellence in the education of osteopathic physicians for the Mountain West, the nation, and the world. The College of Osteopathic Medicine (“RVUCOM”) enrolled its first class of 160 students from across the United States in August 2008, and enrolled a second class in August of 2009. RVUCOM currently has approximately 310 students enrolled on campus. Forty one percent (41%) of the students are native Coloradans; and 53% are from the Mountain West region. RVU students graduated from some of the most prestigious undergraduate institutions in the United States, with Colorado undergraduate institutions strongly represented. The Class of 2009 consisted of 162 students hailing from 33 states, and was selected from an applicant pool of 3,139 candidates. All students hold a minimum of a bachelor’s degree. The entering class of 2009 also includes seventeen students who hold a master’s degree, two doctors of chiropractic medicine, a Pharm D, and a Ph.D. All RVU-trained physicians will graduate with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) degree.

Only two degree programs, those leading to the D.O. or M.D. degree, are recognized as prerequisites for a medical license in the United States. D.O.s must attend four years of medical school, complete an internship and residency program, pass medical board exams, and be licensed by a state, prior to practicing medicine. D.O.s also receive additional training that focuses on anatomical structure, function, and manipulation. Osteopathic physicians are licensed to practice and pursue post-graduate training in all medical specialties and sub-specialties in the United States. More than 65% of all D.O.s choose to practice in the primary care disciplines of family medicine, obstetrics, general internal medicine and pediatrics.

RVU operates as an independent, privately funded organization with a Board of Trustees that provides oversight of the educational programs and operations of the University. The University’s College of Osteopathic Medicine was granted provisional accreditation by the American Osteopathic Association’s *Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation* (an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education) in 2007, and is recognized by the *Colorado Commission for Higher Education* to deliver professional osteopathic medical education and grant the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree. The Board of Trustees anticipates that the University will add other complementary allied health programs in the years ahead.

RVU has partnered with hospital systems, community hospitals, physician groups and clinics in Denver, Colorado Springs, Greeley, Pueblo, Grand Junction (and elsewhere) to provide clinical training opportunities for students in the third and fourth year of the curriculum, and is actively assisting Colorado-based clinical affiliates with the development of graduate medical education programs.

The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Services (“AACOMAS”), the centralized application service for osteopathic medical schools, reported that RVUCOM received the highest increase in application designations of all osteopathic medical schools over the previous year’s applicant pool. RVUCOM’s applications increased nearly 55% compared with a mean increase of less than 12% for all colleges of osteopathic medicine. Applications for the class matriculating in 2010 continue to rise and the rate of increase is currently above the average of peer osteopathic medical colleges in the United States.

The University is located in a 150,000 square-foot contemporary facility housing the latest in classroom, lecture, laboratory and audio-visual design and integration. The University employs over one hundred eighty full-time and part-time faculty, staff and administrators on campus, and has over 230 adjunct faculty members at healthcare facilities in Colorado and the Mountain West region.

### **DENVER – THE MILE HIGH CITY**

The Denver metropolitan area is a vibrant community of 2.7 million, and Colorado is among the fastest-growing states in the nation. While snow does occasionally fall, Denver’s climate is mild with over 300 days of sunshine per year – more than Miami or San Diego. Denver has the nation’s largest city park system, and the Rocky Mountain panorama to the west spans over 120 miles. Denver’s International Airport provides frequent and convenient access and connections to many cities across the United States. Its location invites its residents to enjoy the outdoors, whether by hiking, walking, bicycling or touring the many sites located close by such as Pikes Peak and Rocky Mountain National Park. Ski and snowboarding enthusiasts will find plenty of options in the ski towns such as Vail, Aspen and Steamboat Springs.

Denver, which was home to the unsinkable Molly Brown who survived the sinking of the Titanic and whose home can still be visited, provides myriad opportunities to enjoy the arts, which include the Denver Performing Arts Complex, the Denver Art Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art and hundreds of art galleries. Nature lovers will love the Denver Museum of Nature & Science or the Denver Zoo, the fourth most popular zoo in the nation. Throughout the year a number of festivals and fairs are held reflecting the diversity of its population. These include Oktoberfest, Denver Art Week, the Denver Marathon and an International Wine Festival. Housing in the greater Denver area is readily available and affordable.

### **THE IDEAL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE**

The Board of Trustees of Rocky Vista University is looking for a consummate professional who combines professional experience, competency, integrity, vision, administrative skills, planning,

diplomacy and superior communications skills. As the leader of a young institution, the President must possess a high degree of energy, industriousness, and the ability to “dig in” rather than managing from a distance. RVU was established as a for-profit institution, and while generally there many similarities with private or public non-profit institutions of higher learning; the President needs to have the ability to relate to ownership while promoting the mission and vision of the University. Although experience in the for-profit educational sector is not a requirement, demonstrable experience in the management and growth of commercial businesses would be helpful. A candidate with experience in the traditional non-profit sector of academia should also have the skills and qualities necessary to facilitate a transition to the realities and needs evident at RVU. While a Ph.D. or its equivalent is a requirement, as are ten years of significant experience in higher education, the Board is interested in the candidate’s record of accomplishments. The ideal President is equally at-ease in the University and the halls of Congress or the state legislature. The candidate should be adept at dealing with regional and specialized accrediting agencies as well as state regulatory agencies. In short, the President of RVU is someone who likes a challenge and is willing to consider something new and different. If you are that person, please submit your application for consideration.

RVU offers a competitive salary and benefits package. Nominations, inquiries and applications should be directed to:

Dr. John DiBiaggio  
Senior Consultant  
Academic Search, Inc.  
jad@academic-search.com

Applications should include a letter describing the candidate’s interest and qualifications for the position; a curriculum vitae or resume; and the names (and related contact information) of five references. The tentative start date for this position is July 1, 2010. For additional information, please also consult the University’s web site: [www.rockyvistauniversity.org/presidentsearch.asp](http://www.rockyvistauniversity.org/presidentsearch.asp)