



OFFICE OF THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

Information for Administrative Fellow Applicants for 2021-2022

Dr. Lora Weiss is the Senior Vice President for Research at Penn State and has more than 30 years of experience in higher education. In her role, she is the principal academic and administrative officer for the Office of the Senior Vice President for Research, which advances, facilitates, and manages the full breadth of Penn State's research activities across the institution.

Dr. Weiss oversees the research of eleven academic colleges, seven university-wide interdisciplinary research institutes, a University-affiliated research center for the Department of Defense, and offices for sponsored programs, research protections, research information systems, industry partnerships, technology transfer, intellectual property, commercialization, and others.

Penn State consistently ranks among the nation's top 25 public research universities, with research expenditures reaching record highs for each of the past three years, including an all-time high of \$1.01 billion in fiscal year 2020. Penn State has created a culture of research collaboration that is unrivaled, allowing the University to aggressively pursue new innovations with diverse teams. Dr. Weiss continually seeks to ensure the research strategy preserves this dynamic interdisciplinary culture.

As the Senior Vice President for Research, Dr. Weiss works closely with other University leaders, including the President, the Executive Vice President and Provost, vice presidents, deans of the academic colleges, chancellors of the Commonwealth Campuses, and numerous committees. She oversees strategic planning for the office, budgets and budget planning, research operations, and activities at remote locations such as the Philadelphia Navy Yard and the College of Medicine in Hershey.

Dr. Weiss also engages with and serves on several external advisory groups and organizations, including the Big Ten Academic Alliance, the Association of American Universities, and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

The Administrative Fellow in the Office of the Senior Vice President for Research will have the opportunity to be involved in numerous aspects of leading research in higher education, including research leadership, research excellence, diversity and inclusion, and strategic directions. The Fellow will have the opportunity to accompany the Senior Vice President for Research to internal and external meetings, recognizing that during the COVID-19 pandemic, many of these meetings may be held virtually. Although these may be tumultuous times, the Fellow will be exposed to leadership and management of large-scale operations in the face of uncertainty. The Fellow will also engage regularly with Dr. Weiss throughout the academic year.