



---

# **SEC Academic Leadership Development Program Liaisons**

---

TM



# University of Alabama - Liaison



## **Patricia (Patty) Sobecky**

Associate Provost for Academic Affairs  
254 Rose Administration Building  
801 University Boulevard  
Box 870114  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0114  
(205) 348-4890  
**[psobecky@ua.edu](mailto:psobecky@ua.edu)**

Dr. Patricia (Patty) Sobecky is Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, Executive Director of the University of Alabama Water Institute, and a Professor of Biological Sciences at Alabama. She is an American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow and was also selected as a Jefferson Science Fellow. Maintaining an active research lab, Dr. Sobecky has authored more than 65 scientific publications, been awarded more than \$8.5 million in extramural research funding, served as chief scientist for oceanographic research cruises in the Gulf of Mexico, and she is an editor for the international journal *FEMS Microbiology Ecology*.

Dr. Sobecky earned a Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Georgia in 1993, and from 1993 to 1997 she was a postdoctoral fellow in the Center for Molecular Genetics at the University of California, San Diego. Her research interests are in the area of environmental microbiology, applying microbial processes to address societal issues related to water and soil quality. She was on faculty at Georgia Institute of Technology and came to Alabama in 2009. She was an SEC ALDP fellow in the 2012-13 cohort.

# University of Arkansas - Liaison



## **Kathryn Sloan**

Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

422 Administration Building

Fayetteville, AR 72701

(479) 575-2152

[ksloan@uark.edu](mailto:ksloan@uark.edu)

Dr. Kathryn Sloan is Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and Professor of History at the University of Arkansas. Dr. Sloan has served in many capacities, including as Associate Dean in the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, as Chair of the Department of History, and as Director of Graduate Studies and Associate Chair in the department. She was instrumental in launching the IDEALS (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access, Leadership Development & Strategic Supports) Institute on the Arkansas campus and helped develop the Arkansas Humanities Center. She was awarded the Chancellor's Innovation & Collaboration Grant in 2018.

Dr. Sloan is the author of three books on Latin American history, most recently *Suicide and the Social Imaginary in Modern Mexico*. She has been awarded the Arnold Hirsch Award for Best Scholarly Article in Urban History by the Urban History Association, and serves as a reviewer for the U.S. Department of Education's Fulbright and area studies fellowships. Dr. Sloan received the 2012 Fulbright College Outstanding Advisor Award and the 2011 John E. King Award for Outstanding Service. Dr. Sloan was an SEC ALDP fellow in the 2014-15 cohort.

# Auburn University - Liaison



## **Andrew (Andy) Gillespie**

Assistant Provost for International Programs

227 Foy Hall

Auburn, AL 36849

(334) 844-5009

**[arg0014@auburn.edu](mailto:arg0014@auburn.edu)**

Dr. Andrew (Andy) Gillespie is Assistant Provost for International Programs at Auburn University. As the senior international officer for Auburn, he oversees programs in international student and scholar services, study abroad, internationalizing the curriculum, international alumni, international student insurance, instruction in non-traditional languages, strategic partnerships overseas, and internationalizing recruitment, development, research, and outreach.

Trained as a soil chemist and plant physiologist, Dr. Gillespie is a Professor of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, a Fulbright Scholar, and has published more than 100 refereed journal articles, book chapters, and proceedings on alternative food and forest production systems in developed and developing countries -- focusing on sustainability and the knowledge systems of indigenous peoples. He received a joint B.S. degree from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and Syracuse University, an M.S. degree from the University of New Hampshire, and his Ph.D. from Purdue University.

# University of Florida - Liaison



## **Chris J. Hass**

Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs

PO Box 113175

Gainesville, FL 32611

(352) 392-4792

**[cjhass@aa.ufl.edu](mailto:cjhass@aa.ufl.edu)**

Dr. Chris J. Hass was named Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs at the University of Florida in 2018. In this role he serves as a member of the provost's administrative team, managing the tenure and promotion process, providing leadership for university-level faculty development efforts, managing faculty personnel issues, including policy and processes, and serving as the Office of the Provost's representative for university governance.

Dr. Hass is a graduate of the University of Florida, and before returning to UF in 2006 he held academic positions at Columbia University and Georgia Institute of Technology. He has taught courses in Biomechanics, Neuroscience, Research Methods and Motor Control while his research focuses on understanding the complex interplay between the nervous system and the musculoskeletal system during whole body movements such as walking and standing balance. He has held leadership positions in the American Society of Biomechanics and the American College of Sports Medicine.

# University of Georgia - Liaison



## **Margaret A. (Meg) Amstutz**

Associate Provost for Academic Programs

204 Administration Building

Athens, GA 30602

(706) 542-5650

**[mamstutz@uga.edu](mailto:mamstutz@uga.edu)**

Dr. Margaret A. (Meg) Amstutz is Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Chief of Staff in the office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at the University of Georgia. She oversees the Office of Academic Programs as well as the Office of Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness, serving as the university's liaison to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. From July 2017 to July 2018 she served as Interim President at the College of Coastal Georgia, a state college within the University System of Georgia with more than 3,600 students.

Dr. Amstutz's career in the Georgia system began in 1997 in the Office of the President of the University of Georgia, where she served for 16 years—10 as Assistant to the President and six as Chief of Staff. As Chief of Staff she oversaw the Office of the President as well as the Office of Legal Affairs, the Office of Internal Auditing and the Equal Opportunity Office. After service to the president, Dr. Amstutz was then named Associate Provost for Academic Programs, providing oversight for a variety of academic programs and initiatives, including commencement. She is currently a member of the editorial board of the University of Georgia Press and a member of the President's Alumni Advisory Board at Centre College.

She holds an academic appointment at Georgia as adjunct Assistant Professor of English. She received her Bachelor's in English from Centre College and earned her Master's and Ph.D. in English and American literature, respectively, from Washington University in St. Louis. While in St. Louis, Dr. Amstutz worked with the Missouri Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



# University of Kentucky - Liaison



## **G.T. Lineberry**

Associate Provost for Faculty Advancement

226 Mandrell Hall

Lexington, KY 40506

(859) 323-6589

**gt.lineberry@uky.edu**

Dr. G.T. Lineberry is Associate Provost for Faculty Advancement and Professor of Mining Engineering at the University of Kentucky. As associate provost he is responsible for all matters relating to the full span of the career of UK faculty members. He has been on the mining engineering faculty at Kentucky for more than 35 years after earning and a Ph.D. in Mining Engineering from West Virginia University in 1982.

In his career Dr. Lineberry has worked internships, a summer appointment, and a sabbatical with Consol, the Army Research Institute, and the former U.S. Bureau of Mines, respectively. His research interests are in engineering education, mine excavating and bulk materials handling, and occupational health and safety. He has authored or co-authored approximately 70 journal articles, conference papers, books, book chapters, and government documents and has given more than 140 conference presentations, seminars and invited lectures.

Dr. Lineberry received the Stefanko Best Paper Award (Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration, Coal Division), the Pittsburgh Coal Mining Institute of America Educational Excellence Award, is a Life Member of SME, was instrumental in establishing the cooperative engineering programs in Paducah, Kentucky, and the joint engineering programs in Bowling Green, Kentucky and he is a three-time winner of the UK Departmental Tau Beta Pi Outstanding Teacher award, most recently in 2013. He is the founder of Mu Nu Gamma, an honorary society for mining engineering students.

# Louisiana State University - Liaison



## Jane Cassidy

Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

156 Thomas Boyd Hall

Baton Rouge, LA 70803

(225) 578-7662

[jcassid@lsu.edu](mailto:jcassid@lsu.edu)

Dr. Jane Cassidy is Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at Louisiana State University and holds the Roy and Margaret Gianelloni Alumni Professorship in Music. Dr. Cassidy's responsibilities include serving as chief deputy for the Executive Vice President and Provost, advising the provost on matters such as general campus administration, university policy, promotion and tenure, faculty development, academic space utilization, and budgetary issues. Serving as the institutional liaison to SACSCOC, LSU's accrediting agency, Dr. Cassidy has oversight of LSU's Office of Institutional Effectiveness. The LSU Rural Life Museum, LSU Museum of Art, LSU Press and *The Southern Review* also report to her. Previously, Dr. Cassidy served as Director of the School of Music and Interim Associate Dean of the College of Music and Dramatic Arts. Her field of expertise is music education, having taught courses in elementary music education, music in special education, psychology of music, measurement and evaluation, and supervision of student teachers.

Dr. Cassidy's research interests center around musical development of infants and children, music education for children with special needs and teacher effectiveness. Most notably, her research with critically premature infants elicited cross discipline interest from the music therapy and medical communities for its impact on establishing protocol for presentation of music in the NICU. She has published extensively in music education and music therapy journals, has served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Research in Music Education* and the *Journal of Music Therapy*, and served as Chair of the Music Education Research Council of the National Association for Music Education. In 1999, she was awarded a Distinguished Professor Award for excellence in teaching, research and service at LSU; and in spring of 2005, she held an endowed professorship at the University of Alabama.



# University of Mississippi - Liaison



## **Donna Strum**

Associate Provost

137 Lyceum

University, MS 38677

(662) 915-1198

[dswest@olemiss.edu](mailto:dswest@olemiss.edu)

Dr. Donna Strum is Associate Provost of the University of Mississippi. She graduated from Mississippi with a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy in 1995 and earned her Ph.D. in Pharmacy Administration there in 1999. After spending nine years in the Division of Pharmaceutical Evaluation and Policy at the University of Arkansas, she returned to Mississippi to serve as Chair and Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Administration. In 2017, she was named associate provost, where she assists with an array of administrative matters related to the academic budget, classroom space, student retention, and human resources.

In 2016, Dr. Strum received the Faculty Instructional Innovation Award from the School of Pharmacy after having taught Pharmacy Management, Medication Safety and Quality, Research Methods and Social Behavioral Theory. Overall, her research interests lie in the practice of community pharmacy and improving the quality of medication use. She has published more than 100 book chapters and articles and is a Fellow in the American Pharmacists Association. She was an SEC ALDP fellow in the 2014-15 cohort.

# Mississippi State University - Liaison



## **Peter L. Ryan**

Associate Provost for Academic Affairs

262 Lee Hall

Post Office Box BQ

Mississippi State, MS 39762

(662) 325-0730

**[ryan@provost.msstate.edu](mailto:ryan@provost.msstate.edu)**

Dr. Peter L. Ryan has served as Associate Provost for Academic Affairs at Mississippi State University since May 2011. His responsibilities include management of international academic agreements and study abroad policies, coordination of the self-study review process for academic departments and supervision of new faculty development. Dr. Ryan received his Ph.D. from the Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph, Canada, and is currently Interim Dean of the Graduate School.

Dr. Ryan is a Professor in the Departments of Animal and Dairy Sciences and Pathology and Population Medicine. He has served as Coordinator of the Animal Physiology Graduate Program since 2000. His research is in the area of reproductive physiology with a major focus on uterine pathogenesis and pre-term delivery using domestic animals as models for the human condition. His research has been supported by the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and other public and private sources.

Dr. Ryan is Co-Director of the Facilities for Organismal and Cellular Imaging that utilizes bioluminescent, fluorescent, ultrasound, and digital thermal imaging technologies to investigate physiological events in living systems. In August 2009, he joined the Office of the Provost as the Associate Vice President Intern for Academic Affairs and was appointed Interim Associate Provost in April 2010.

# University of Missouri - Liaison



## **Matthew Martens**

Senior Vice Provost

114 Jesse Hall

Columbia, MO 65211

(573) 882-6597

**[martensmp@missouri.edu](mailto:martensmp@missouri.edu)**

Dr. Matthew Martens is Senior Vice Provost at the University of Missouri. In this role, his responsibilities include overseeing the academic program review process, coordinating new degree proposals, and serving as the university's accreditation liaison officer. Prior administrative appointments include serving as an associate division director and division director within the Missouri College of Education. In his division director position, Dr. Martens oversaw three academic departments and two engagement units, which encompassed approximately 1000 students, 100 staff, 60 faculty, and an annual budget of approximately \$9.5 million.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Boston College in 1995, a Master of Arts degree from the University of North Carolina in 1997, and a Ph.D. from the University of Missouri in 2002. His primary research interest is in the area of health psychology, particularly addictive behaviors. He has been either a principal or co-investigator on multiple federally and foundation-funded studies examining the efficacy of brief motivational interventions at reducing at-risk alcohol use and harmful gambling behaviors. He has more than 125 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters to his credit. Dr. Martens was an SEC ALDP fellow in the 2014-15 cohort.

# University of South Carolina - Liaison



## **Cheryl Addy**

Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate School

Osborne Administration Building

Columbia, SC 29208

(803) 777-2808

**caddy@mailbox.sc.edu**

Dr. Cheryl Addy is Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School at the University of South Carolina. Her responsibilities include oversight of faculty affairs and direction of faculty leadership development opportunities and grant programs. Prior to this appointment, she chaired and served on numerous university committees and councils, including the Graduate Council, Space Reservation Policy Task Force, Carolina Core (general education) Committee, Academic Program Liaisons Committee and Interprofessional Education for the Health Sciences Steering Committee.

Dr. Addy is a Professor of Biostatistics in the Arnold School of Public Health and has served in various administrative positions, including graduate program director and chair at the department level, and most recently, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the school level. She has more than 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals, including the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, *Journal of the American Public Health Association* and *Epidemiology*. Dr. Addy's more recent activities include several randomized trials to evaluate interventions to increase physical activity behaviors and to improve nutrition behaviors in diverse populations ranging from preschool children to older adults. She is also active within the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health and is a trained accreditation site visit chair for the Council on Education for Public Health.

# University of Tennessee - Liaison



## **Diane Kelly**

Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

507 Andy Holt Tower

Knoxville, TN 37996

(865) 974-0152

**dianek@utk.edu**

Diane Kelly is Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs at the University of Tennessee. Prior to this, she served as Professor and Director at the School of Information Sciences, where she guided the School through a number of significant successes including a 110% enrollment increase in the MSIS program and the creation of a new bachelor's degree in information sciences. She has received several awards for both her research and teaching, including the ASIST Research Award, British Computer Society's IRSG Karen Spärck Jones Award, Best JASIST Paper of the Decade (2000s) and the ASIST/Thomson Reuters Outstanding Information Science Teacher Award.

Kelly is chair-elect for the iSchools organization, past chair of the Association for Computing Machinery's Special Interest Group in Information Retrieval (SIGIR), co-editor-in-chief of Foundations and Trends in Information Retrieval, and associate editor of ACM Transactions on Information Systems. Kelly received her bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama, and a master's degree, graduate certificate in cognitive science, and PhD from Rutgers University. Prior to joining Tennessee, she was a professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

# Texas A&M University - Liaison



## **Blanca Lupiani**

Associate Provost and Dean of Faculties

1126 TAMU

College Station, TX 77843

(979) 845-4274

**[blupiani@tamu.edu](mailto:blupiani@tamu.edu)**

Dr. Blanca Lupiani is Associate Provost and Dean of Faculties at Texas A&M University, having been named to the position in March 2019 after serving as Executive Associate Dean of Faculties since 2016. She earned her Ph.D., as a Fulbright Scholar, from the University of Maryland, College Park, and subsequently did postdoctoral work at the Agriculture Research Service in Beltsville, MD, East Lansing, MI, and at Michigan State University. Dr. Lupiani joined Texas A&M as an Assistant Professor in 2002 and is currently a full Professor in the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology.

Dr. Lupiani's research focuses on investigating molecular mechanisms of virus pathogenesis and better understanding the ecology and evolution of avian influenza viruses. Her research has resulted in more than 70 peer reviewed publications and has been funded by grants from federal and state agencies, as well as private foundations. Her research has led to the development of vaccines to control leukemia in chickens for which two U.S. patents have been granted. She serves on the editorial board of the journal *Avian Diseases*, has been on the guest editorial board of a number of special issues, and has served as a reviewer for numerous national and international scientific journals and funding agencies. Dr. Lupiani was an SEC ALDP fellow in the 2012-13 cohort.



# Vanderbilt University - Liaison



## **Tracey E. George**

Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

105 Kirkland Hall

Nashville, TN 37240

(615) 322-6310

[tracey.george@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:tracey.george@vanderbilt.edu)

Tracey E. George is Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, the Charles B. Cox III and Lucy D. Cox Family Chair in Law and Liberty, and a Professor (secondary) in Political Science at Vanderbilt University. As vice provost, her portfolio includes faculty hiring and retention authorizations, faculty appointments and promotions, faculty awards and honors, faculty development and funding initiatives, and endowed chair appointments. She works with academic leaders across campus to enhance Vanderbilt's efforts to hire, support, and retain faculty.

In her scholarship, George brings a social science perspective to a range of topics, including judges and courts, judicial selection and elections, legal education and the legal profession, and contract law and theory. George has published numerous studies in which she examines how institutional design influences actions and outcomes in state and federal judicial systems. She is co-author of an innovative casebook on contract law, a subject for which she has earned Vanderbilt's student-selected Hall-Hartman Teaching Prize eight times. In addition to teaching Contracts to first-year students, George teaches a required introduction to law school course, "The Life of the Law," which she created with colleague Suzanna Sherry along with the course textbook and teaching materials, now used at numerous law schools. George received a J.D. from Stanford University and an M.A. in Political Science from Washington University.