



# THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

## **Michelle Strickland**

**Director, Research Administration**  
The Texas A&M University System



**Michelle Strickland** joined The Texas A&M University System as Director, Research Administration in November of 2023.

Michelle has over 20 years of management and sponsored research administration experience, including contracting with federal, state, nonprofit and for-profit entities, review and negotiation of funded and non-funded agreements, review and negotiation of SBIR/STTR agreements, development and oversight of an export control program, negotiation of procurement contracts, oversight and administration of a federal property program and administration and oversight of small business programs.

From 1992 to 2011, Michelle worked for the Texas A&M Research Foundation (TAMRF), exclusively at the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP), one of the world's largest ocean research programs, with worldwide operations of a research vessel dedicated to scientific ocean research.

In 2011, TAMRF merged with other research administrative units to form Sponsored Research Services (SRS). Michelle continued her work at IODP until 2015 when she transferred to SRS' main office. At SRS, Michelle served as a contract negotiator and Team Lead for contract negotiations for the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, Texas A&M University and Texas A&M University at Galveston, as well as the Small Business Liaison Officer. Her time at SRS included the successful coordination and negotiation of the \$96M IDIQ contract with the Army for the George H.W. Bush Combat Development Complex.

In 2022, Michelle joined The University of Texas at Austin's Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP) as the Assistant Director of Contracting, and within seven months was promoted to Associate Director of Contracting. As a member of the executive leadership team, her responsibilities included strategic planning and spearheading OSP and university-wide initiatives. While at UT, Michelle made impactful process improvements to streamline negotiations and collaborated with other OSP functional areas to refine the overall grant lifecycle and improve customer service.

Michelle received a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University in political science in 2007. During her time at TAMRF, she twice received the Exceptional Performance Award and while at SRS she received the Division of Research Staff Excellence Award in 2017.