

Littlefield and Meier Appointed to the NORDP Board

The National Organization of Research Development Professionals (NORDP) is pleased to announce the appointment of members Kimberly Littlefield, Ph.D., and Nathan Meier, to its Board of Directors.

Littlefield, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement at the University of North Carolina Greensboro (UNCG), was tapped for an unfilled Board seat designated for a representative at a minority-serving or regional institution. She will serve a four-year term ending June 30, 2023. Meier, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, was selected to complete a Board position that became available due to the resignation of Jan Abramson. He will serve through June 30, 2021.

“A full, engaged Board of Directors is essential as we work to develop a strategic plan for NORDP,” said NORDP President Karen Fletcher. “I want to recognize the significant work that Jan Abramson accomplished while serving on our Board. We will be eternally grateful to her commitment and ongoing work with the Mentoring Committee. I am grateful Kim and Nathan were willing to join our leadership team and willing to contribute their voice to the future of our organization. Their perspectives, expertise, and experience will help guide NORDP in the near future and strengthen our promotion of research development as a profession.”

A cardiovascular scientist by training, Littlefield’s research expertise has been developed through post-doctoral experiences in Vermont and California and at the NIH-funded Center for Cell Dynamics at the University of Washington (UW). At the UW Office of Sponsored Programs, she advanced her capacity for facilitating the “business of science” and was a founding member of its Complex Proposals Management Group. Recently, after five years as the Assistant Vice President for Research at the University of South Alabama, Littlefield joined The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG). At Greensboro, she supports strategic planning, faculty development, and efforts to enhance the impact of research, scholarship, and creative activity.

“I am honored to serve the NORDP constituency and represent both a regional *and* minority-serving institution on the NORDP Board of Directors,” said Littlefield. “I am thrilled to have the opportunity to lend my efforts to a legacy of leadership excellence that made NORDP what it is today and what it will be in the future.”

Meier has worked across the research enterprise during a 16-year career in research development but maintained a focus on increasing university competitiveness for federal sponsored awards. His work began in proposal development and expanded to include managing limited submission and internal funding competitions, facilitating faculty nominations for external honors and awards, partnership development, and building new interdisciplinary teams. Meier’s current efforts focus on advancing institutional research goals and fostering faculty success in implementing high-priority partnerships, projects, and programs.

“It is a humbling opportunity to join the Board,” said Meier. “I welcome the chance to give back to NORDP at a higher level and help extend the organization’s impact. I am reminded daily of the vital role NORDP members play helping research institutions achieve their education and research goals.”

These appointments are in accord with NORDP’s bylaws (Article IV, Section F) and were made to 1) fill a seat vacant due to a resignation from the Board and 2) increase the Board to an odd number of members to avoid a tied-vote situation by filling the designated seat. If you are interested in learning more about leadership opportunities in NORDP, please reach out to any Board member or committee chair.

Established in 2010, NORDP has grown from a grassroots movement of 60 individuals to nearly 1,000 members today. The membership reflects organizational leaders in research, including vice presidents of research, as well as professionals involved in grant proposal preparation. NORDP is the pre-eminent professional organization for individuals and organizations seeking to improve their competitive edge.

For more information about NORDP activities and members, visit <https://www.nordp.org/>.