



## NCURA Region III: Professional Development Committee and LEAP Coaches



**Georgetta Dennis, MRA, CRA, CPRA, CFRA**

Senior Associate, Attain Partners

*R3PDC, Lead Committee Coordinator and LEAP Coach*

Georgetta has been an active NCURA member since 2014 and has over 20 years of experience in the field. She has served in both department and central roles at public and private institutions. Dedicated to sharing knowledge with fellow research administrators, Georgetta actively participates in various voluntary roles aimed at promoting personal and professional growth and recognizing the value research administrators

contribute to their organizations.



**Erin C. Blackwell, MRA, CRA**

Associate Director, Research Administration Services Team (RAST),  
College of Community Innovation and Education, University of Central  
Florida

*R3PDC, Committee Member and LEAP Coach*

Erin is a dedicated research administration professional with nearly two decades of experience supporting faculty and managing sponsored projects. She currently leads a team supporting over 200 faculty and a research portfolio exceeding \$35 million annually. She is an active member of NCURA, regularly presenting at regional and national conferences. As a former Co-Chair and Coordinator of the NCURA Region III Research Administration Mentoring Program (R3RAMP), Erin brings a deep commitment to mentoring, professional development, and fostering community among research administrators.



**Leerin K. Shields, BA, CRA**

Grants and Contracts Manager, AdventHealth Orlando

*R3PDC, Committee Member and LEAP Coach*

Leerin has over 20 years' experience in Sponsored Programs with hospitals and academic medical centers. Her specialties include negotiation of biomedical agreements, grants with government entities, clinical trial budgeting and negotiations, policy development and implementation, and training in research administration. She has been an active member of NCURA since 2003. Her NCURA activities include regional chair, regional and national mentor, multiple national and regional speaking engagements, and an active member of several regional committees. She is driven by the belief that empowering people to grow unlocks not only their potential but also creates a stronger, more compassionate community.