

Sarah Hansen

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Personal Statement:

I am honored to be considered for an At-Large Board Member position with NCURA Region IV. My unique background—working in both central office/sponsored programs and departmental research administration—gives me a broad perspective on the challenges and opportunities in our field. With experience spanning agricultural research, industry partnerships, and Extension programs, I am passionate about supporting research administrators and fostering collaboration.

What excites me most about this role is the chance to connect with peers, share innovative ideas, and create a welcoming environment for new members. I vividly remember the first time I heard the term “research administrator”—it was empowering to realize there was a name for the work I had been doing for years. Today, I love partnering with faculty to turn their ideas into reality within the complexities of a university system.

Fun Fact:

As a former camp director, I still love adventure—whether it’s walking my dogs, riding horses, watching the NFR, or playing a little blackjack. When I’m not doing that, you’ll find me curled up with a Sarah J. Maas book, sipping a Dr. Pepper, and spending time with my family and friends.

NCURA Activities

- Attended the Annual Meeting in Washington, DC (2022 and 2025)
- Attended and presented at the Region IV meeting in Sioux Falls (2023)
- Currently seeking greater involvement; excited to contribute through board service and new member engagement.

Professional Positions Held Related to Research Administration

- Business Center Manager II, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2023 – Present)
- Grants Coordinator III, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2020 – 2023)
- Financial Specialist I, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2015 – 2020)
- Project Specialist, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2008 – 2015)

Other Professional Activities

- Outstanding Employee Award Recipient, IANR (2024)
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln Service Award – 15 years (2022)
- All-Staff Conference Steering Committee, Budget Chair (2021-2023)
- Service Delivery Initiative (SDI) Redesign, Finance Core Team Member (2019)
- Committee of Management member, YMCA Camp Kitaki (2011-present)
- Mentoring Chair, UNL Office Professional Association (2009-2010)