

New Office of Research Contracts Director Begins Today

ORLANDO, April 19, 2021 – Jeffrey Warner today joins the UCF Office of Research as our new director of contracts.

Warner comes to UCF from University of California San Diego (UCSD) with more than 10 years of experience in research administration and contracts. He was selected after a national search, which was prompted when former director Jane Gentilini retired in March.

“I am so excited to be joining the research administration team at UCF,” Warner says. “UCF has an excellent reputation among the research administration community. I believe our role in the research enterprise is to be facilitators. I learned at UCSD that the research enterprise at a university is dependent on successful collaborations and I look forward to building those relationships here.”

Warner has a bachelor’s degree in political science and discovered research administration when he was hired as a temporary employee to provide administrative support for its IRB and sponsored programs office at the University of California Irvine (UCI). He went on to attend UCI for graduate school.

“I was enamored with the variety of services that the sponsored programs office provided on a daily basis,” says the California native. “I worked diligently to advance through the various contract officer positions and spent time as a policy analyst for the University of California Office of the President.”

Warner went on to serve as Principal Contract and Grant Manager at UCI before moving to UCSD where he has spent the last four years in leadership roles, including Director of Ancillary Research Agreements. He has extensive experience in contracts and has managed large teams. He also is a Certified Research Administrator. He has spent his entire professional career in California but jumped at the opportunity to work at UCF because of its commitment to research and the research administration community.

“I am grateful for the opportunity to join an organization that values the research administration field so much so that it created a program for a master’s degree in Research Administration,” he says. “I am also excited to collaborate and partner with the world-renowned researchers at UCF.”

At UCF Warner will be responsible for negotiating, maintaining, and updating **contracts** as well as working to make sure they comply with state regulations. He will oversee the contracts team of 14 that supports colleges with their research contracts. He will report to Associate Vice President for Research Dorothy Yates.

Warner and his family are thrilled to now call Orlando home and they are looking forward to meeting their colleagues at UCF and joining the golfing and running community in the area.