

Dr. Regina Waters



Regina Waters, Ph.D., is a Professor Emerita in Drury University's Department of Communication. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in communication from (Southwest) Missouri State University and a doctorate in communication (emphasis in organizational communication) from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Throughout her career in academia, Regina has created applied projects that connect students with nonprofit organizations to promote hands-on learning and advocated for mentoring experiences that support learning and personal growth outside of the classroom.

Regina joined the Department of Communication in 1993 where she has taught a variety of courses including strategic issues and crisis management, integrated marketing communications, conflict management and resolution, and organizational communication. Recognizing the importance of academic advising and applied learning opportunities to student development, Regina focused her scholarship on topics exploring faculty advising roles as well as student experiences in internships. She has received national recognition for her contributions as a student advisor from the National Academic Advising Association and the Association for Women in Communications. As a campus leader, Regina has received the President's Award for Excellence in Community Engagement, Faculty Academic Advising Award, and the Faculty Leadership Award.

During her time at Drury, she served as Associate Provost of Adult, Online, and Graduate programs, Dean of the Graduate School, and Chair of the Department of Communication. Regina's curriculum development led to the Master of Public Service and Safety Leadership and Master of Integrative Leadership, a program that allows professionals to customize a graduate degree with certificates.

She is past board chair of the Hospice Foundation of the Ozarks (HFO) and currently serves on the Marketing and Outreach Committee. Through her work with HFO, Regina has become an advocate for end-of-life education. In 2019, Regina worked with a team of communication students to develop BucketList+1, an educational initiative that encourages individuals and families to articulate, share, and document their wishes for end-of-life health care. Regina is co-chair of programming for the Association for Women in Communication (Springfield), a member of Leadership Springfield Signature Class 38, assists nonprofits with strategic planning initiatives, and contributes to the planning of the annual Drury University Nonprofit Leadership Conference.

Regina is married to Steve Mullins, a professor emeritus of economics at Drury University. She enjoys international travel, cooking, gardening, and spending time on the water at Table Rock Lake.