

Dr. Regina Waters



Regina Waters, Ph.D., serves as the Director of Drury University's Leadership Collaborative, an academic unit offering leadership-focused graduate degrees and certificates, and coordinates Drury's annual Nonprofit Leadership Conference. She is Professor Emerita in the Department of Communication, an academic title she earned after retiring from a full-time career in academia in 2020. Over the past 30+ years, Regina has contributed to Drury in various leadership roles including Department Chair, Dean of Graduate Studies, and Associate Provost of Adult, Online, and Graduate Education.

Regina 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. She has received national recognition for her contributions as an academic advisor from the National Academic Advising Association and the Association for Women in Communications. 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 stackable certificates.

She is a past board chair of the Hospice Foundation of the Ozarks (HFO) and currently is the Co-Planner of HFO's inaugural 2025 End-of-Life Care Summit. 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. HFO's adoption of this program has led to the distribution of more than 4,000 advance care planning packets throughout the Ozarks.

Regina is President-Elect and Programming Co-Chair for the Association for Women in Communications (Springfield) and a member of Leadership Springfield Signature Class 38.

Regina is married to Steve Mullins, a Professor Emeritus of Economics at Drury University. She enjoys international travel, listening to e-books, participating in the Rosie book club, and spending time on the water at Table Rock Lake.