

Rita A. Teutonico, Ph.D.

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Dr. Rita Teutonico currently serves as the Director of Research Development for the Office of Research and Graduate Studies at Utah State University. She plays an instrumental role in USU's recently awarded NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (Track I) project and will assume the role of Associate Director once the program begins in Fall of 2012. She was also recently appointed as the State EPSCoR Director for Utah. Before joining USU, she was Senior Science Advisor for Integrative Activities at the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences, Office of the Assistant Director. As an NSF employee since 2002, she held numerous positions, including senior-level positions serving as Deputy Director (Acting) for the Division of Social and Economic Sciences and Deputy Director for the Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences. Prior to those positions, she was Program Officer for the Genes and Genome Systems Cluster within the Biology Directorate. Dr. Teutonico chaired the NSF-wide Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability (SEES) Group which established and coordinated NSF's portfolio of sustainability science and engineering activities, with an FY 2011 investment of over \$600M. Prior to this role, she coordinated the NSF-wide activities in the Climate Research Investment area and the Human and Social Dynamics priority area. Dr. Teutonico was very active in other cross-NSF, interdisciplinary initiatives, such as the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeships, Partnerships in International Research and Education, Cyber-enabled Discovery and Innovation, and Nanoscience and Engineering. She has also been active in interagency working groups, most recently serving as the chair of an NSTC task group on research needs for agricultural biotechnology risk analysis

Prior to her service at NSF, Dr. Teutonico was an Associate Professor in the Integrated Science and Technology (ISAT) Program, Biotechnology concentration, at James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. In addition to developing new curriculum for this interdisciplinary program, she mentored numerous undergraduate student research projects related to biotechnology research, including ELSI (ethical, legal, and social implications) and bio-ethics issues. Her research experience also includes a postdoctoral position at the University of Wisconsin, Madison where she studied the molecular genetics of stress tolerances in crop plants, such as canola.

In addition, Dr. Teutonico has had experience in private industry, having held the position of research associate in an agricultural biotechnology firm and as Vice President of Research Services for a consulting firm specializing in market research for high-technology industries.

Dr. Teutonico received her B.S. degree at Cornell University, M.S. at the University of Delaware, and Ph.D. at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Teutonico received the NSF Director's Awards for Collaborative Integration in 2012, 2010 2008 and for Management Excellence in 2009. She recently completed training at the Federal Executive Institute program on Leadership for a Democratic Society.