



**Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs
Information for Administrative Fellow Applicants 2022-2023**

Damon Sims has been the vice president for Student Affairs at Penn State since August 2008. In this role, he is the University's chief advocate for student interests and needs. He oversees more than thirty administrative units that support the student experience and encourage student success.

These units include Residence Life, University Health Services, Counseling & Psychological Services, the HUB-Robeson Center, Career Services, Campus Recreation, Student Conduct, Student Legal Services, Student Care & Advocacy, Off-Campus Student Support, the Parents Program, Student Activities, Fraternity & Sorority Life, the Paul Robeson Cultural Center, the Center for Spiritual & Ethical Development, Sexual and Gender Diversity, the Gender Equity Center, Adult Learners Programs & Services, Health Promotion & Wellness, the Center for Character, Conscience & Public Purpose, Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response, Fraternity & Sorority Compliance, Commonwealth Campus Support, the Collegiate Recovery Community, and the Piazza Center. He partners with leadership in the World Campus and Undergraduate Education, respectively, to oversee World Campus Student Affairs and Student Orientation & Transition Programs.

The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs is deeply involved in all matters affecting students at Penn State, particularly, but not exclusively, those aspects of their experience found outside the classroom. The vice president works closely with student leaders to facilitate their efforts and collaborate on areas of mutual concern. He regularly convenes the Student Leaders Roundtable, which consist of 45 presidents of major constituent student organizations, and advises, in concert with other colleagues, the University's four student governments. The vice president is among the primary liaisons to the parents & family members of Penn State students and interacts routinely with local civic and governmental leaders whose interests impact students.

In partnership with the provost, the vice president for Undergraduate Education, and the vice president for Research, the vice president for Student Affairs serves as liaison to the Board of Trustees' Academic Affairs, Research, and Student Life Committee. He is a member of the Faculty Senate and serves as the administrative representative to the Senate's Student Life Committee. Other standing University entities on which the vice president serves include the President's Council, the Academic Leadership Council, the Ethics & Compliance Council, the Ethic Committee, and the Athletic Integrity Council.

External groups on which the vice president serves include the Town-Gown Partnership on Dangerous Drinking, which he co-chairs with the State College Borough Manager, the Town-Gown Pandemic Task Force, and the Big Ten Academic Alliance's Chief Student Officer Group, which he chaired from 2015-2021. Vice President Sims is a lawyer licensed to practice in the

State of Indiana and before various federal courts. He has taught in law school and graduate programs in higher education and has represented in court the interests of children and women who have been victims of abuse.

The Administrative Fellow to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs will become more acquainted with the complexity and scope of the student experience and the University's many efforts to support the development and success of its students. Although they will interact regularly with Vice President Sims, the Fellow also will engage routinely with the associate and assistant vice presidents for Student Affairs, various other Student Affairs leaders, as well as students, alumni, and community members. The experience will allow the Fellow to contribute in meaningful ways, even as they learn much.