

**Deb Hamernik**  
**Deputy Director, Institute of Food Production & Sustainability**  
**USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)**



Deb Hamernik is a tireless volunteer and leader who is known for her thoughtful and positive perspectives, consistency, inclusive engagement, timely communications and as a passionate advocate for quality research. She constantly worked to streamline processes for efficiency and purposeful impacts to enhance individual faculty and teams of faculty research programs. Deb is a 'go to' administrator who innovates and catalyzes collaborative team performance.

Deb joined NIFA in July 2020 as Director, Division of Animal Systems and was appointed Deputy Director, Institute of Food Production and Sustainability in November 2020. Previously, Deb served as Associate Dean, Agricultural Research Division; Associate Director, Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station; and Associate Vice Chancellor for Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). She was responsible for administration of state and federal funding for agricultural research and enhancing competitiveness of interdisciplinary research teams for extramural funding. Deb was National Program Leader at USDA-CSREES (now NIFA) and Scientific Review Administrator in the NIH Center for Scientific Review.

Deb was Chair NCRA (2016) and Chair NCRA Multistate Review Committee (2014). She was a member of the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee (2014-2018) and was elected ESS Chair (2019). She was an administrative advisor to five multistate committees and led the recent formation of NC1206 Antimicrobial Resistance.

Deb was President of the American Society of Animal Science (2017). She was inducted into the CSREES Hall of Fame; received the CSREES Employee of the Year Award in Science and Education; the Women's History Month Alumni Award from the Washington State University (WSU) CAHNRS; and the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the Department of Animal Science at WSU. Deb was inducted into the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement (2017).

Deb earned a B.S. from UNL; a M.S. from WSU; and a Ph.D. from Colorado State University.