

Dr. Almesha Campbell



Almesha L. Campbell, Ph.D., RTTP, is the Vice President for Research and Economic Development at Jackson State University (JSU). In this capacity, she has overall responsibility for the Division of Research and Economic Development. She previously served as Assistant Vice President, and for over 12 years, she has served as the Director for Technology Transfer and Commercialization at JSU. Almesha designs and manages a number of national and local programs

around innovation and entrepreneurship. She has garnered approximately \$12M in federal grants and grants since 2016. She is the principal investigator or co-principal investigator for several federally funded programs including the National Science Foundation (NSF) Mid-South I-Corps Hub and the National Institutes of Health REACH Hub, the NSF Enabling SBE Science via the Network for Transformative Research program, the NSF Engines Development Award: Advancing Food Security and Climate Resilience (MS), and the recently awarded NSF Accelerating Research Translation program led by the University of Southern Mississippi. She co-led the development of the JSU Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at JSU, which houses XR Academy, makerspace, an eSports Lab, a learning collaboratory, a production room, and more. She created the JSU Innovation Fellows Program and spearheads an initiative to transform the STEM curriculum using virtual reality. She is nationally and internationally recognized for her commitment and contributions to innovation and research translation and promotes the inclusion of innovation and entrepreneurship in the faculty tenure and promotion process. She was elected a chair of the AUTM Board of Directors (2023 - 2024). In addition to AUTM, Almesha holds membership in professional organizations such as the Licensing Executives Society, Society of Research Administrators (SRA) International, and the American Society of Public Administration, and is an honorary member of the National Academy of Inventors. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Central Florida, and a master's degree in mass communications, and a doctoral degree in public policy and administration from Jackson State University.