

Pamela Gunter-Smith joined Drew University July 1, 2006 as Provost and Academic Vice President. In this role she serves as chief academic officer with overall responsibility for academic programs and academic support in the university's three schools - the College of Liberal Arts, the Theological School, and the Caspersen School of Graduate Studies. Her most recent activities at Drew focus on strategic planning and assessment and on developing the case for the sciences in support of fund-raising efforts. Prior to this appointment, she served as the Porter Professor of Physiology at Spelman College from 1992-2006. At Spelman, Gunter-Smith chaired the Biology department (1992-2002) and was the Associate Provost for Science and Mathematics (2002-2003). She also served as the Program Director for Spelman's NIH-sponsored Center for Biomedical and Behavioral Research (2002-2003) and Spelman's Howard Hughes Medical Institute Program (1993-2002). She played an integral role in Spelman's enhancement of science curricula across the disciplines, the development of a mentoring program for junior faculty, and the building of a science facility. Gunter-Smith has also held academic appointments at the George Washington University (Washington, D.C.) and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (Bethesda, Maryland).

For 12 years before joining Spelman (1981-1992), Gunter-Smith was a research scientist and science administrator at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute in Bethesda, Maryland. In addition to conducting her own research, she was responsible for aligning the research of three laboratories along institutional priorities and had budgetary responsibility for all project resources.

Gunter-Smith has served on numerous committees that address science education and the underrepresentation of minorities in science. These include review panels for the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. She served on the AP Biology Redesign Commission for the College Board and is a former co-chair of the Porter Physiology Development Committee for the American Physiological Society, the minority affairs committee of the society. More recently, she serves on the Board of Directors of the William Townsend Porter Foundation and the Higher Education Resource Services (HERS).

Gunter-Smith holds a B.S. in Biology from Spelman College and a Ph.D. in Physiology from Emory University. She conducted postdoctoral studies at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. She has published in the areas of gastrointestinal physiology and membrane ion transport and is the recipient of grants to support science education and her research. Gunter-Smith is a graduate of the 2001 HERS Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration. In 2003-2004, she was an American Council on Education Fellow at the University of Miami working with the university's president Donna Shalala.