



ROSA LIND FRANKLIN  
UNIVERSITY  
of MEDICINE AND SCIENCE

# Sandra Louise Larson, PhD

Vice President of Partnerships, Associate Professor

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Nurse Anesthesia

College of Health Professions

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In September 2015, Dr. Sandra Larson was appointed associate provost for clinical partnerships at Rosalind Franklin University (RFU). In this role, Dr. Larson

provides leadership and oversight of clinical partnership strategies in alignment with the university's strategic plan, and works collaboratively with key stakeholders to create more capabilities and better supported ecosystems between academia and healthcare.

Dr. Larson joined RFU in 2011 as chair and program director for the Department of Nurse Anesthesia. Under her leadership, the department expanded innovation and operational efficiency in clinical training and developed a dynamic culture of teamwork, assessment and curriculum redesign. Dr. Larson's vision was the catalyst behind creating a Doctorate-level program for entry-level nurse anesthetists, and adding a completion program for practicing nurse anesthetists wanting to expand their credentials from master's to doctoral level.

Dr. Larson is a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) and policy analyst. She earned a BSN from the University of Illinois, an MS in Nurse Anesthesia from Rush University, and returned to University of Illinois for her PhD in public policy analysis. An expert in cardiovascular and thoracic anesthesia, she is the former director of cardiovascular nurse anesthesia services at Provena St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet, IL. During 28 years of

clinical practice, Dr. Larson anesthetized more than 10,000 surgical patients. She is the first CRNA listed as lead author on research published in the Journal of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Anesthesia.

Dr. Larson's policy background led her to scientifically investigate the nearly \$23 million, high-politics lobbying process implemented by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists and the American Society of Anesthesiologists to influence the opt-out federal regulation concerning CRNA scope-of-practice. Her work documents important aspects of each profession's history and contributes new knowledge to the social science literature on how professions develop.

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