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Tell us a little about the work you've done at Emory throughout your career.

My entire career at Emory has been within the School of Medicine, where I began in the Dean's Office with Dr. Joel Felner, on the Grady campus. I then transferred to the Department of Radiation Oncology at the Edward C. Loughlin Radiation-Oncology Center on the same campus and began my career in Research Administration. During that nine-year period, I served on the Emory Employee Council, ending my service as council President, the first person to serve from a satellite campus. I transitioned to the Clifton Campus within the same department, and eventually moved to the Department of Medicine in the Infectious Diseases Division. After a two-year departure to work at Yale's School of Medicine in Therapeutic Radiology, I returned to Emory to work in research administration in the Winship Cancer Center. In 2013, I joined one of two pilot Research Administration Services units, where I am currently working.

What are some of your favorite memories of your time at Emory?

They are too numerous to name. However, my most vivid are of my work in the Dean's Office, where I interacted with the M3 and M4 medical students, as well as the international students completing externships at Emory. There began many lifelong friendships. My office was often referred to as 'Romper Room' (for those of a certain age :)) because we had so much fun, working and engaging in peals of laughter. My time in Radiation Oncology was also very special, where the friendships, comraderies and social events bonded us even closer. I also cherish my lifelong friends made while serving on the Employee Council. A group of us, affectionally called the EATers, meet regularly to stay in touch, even though half of us have retired! My time here has allowed me to grow professionally as well, including speaking at professional conferences, leadership opportunities, obtaining my master's degree, and continuing education certificates.

What are some of the most significant changes you have witnessed over the course of your career?

Research Administration has grown incredibly during my career. I recall having to type grant applications on a typewriter and learning what that mysterious thing called a PC and word processing was. I have a fond memory of learning what Delta Dash was and racing to the Atlanta airport to deliver an NIH grant application! Another funny memory is riding along the narrow road up to Denali National Park while on vacation in Alaska, trying to get a cell phone signal and assist a PI in Radiation Oncology with his grant application! Now, everything has progressed to electronic submissions-- it really has been a head spinning progression!

Anything else you would like to share?

I've been intentional about taking advantage of everything this academic employment had to offer, from our great benefits to our annual celebrations to the cultural experiences. I've worked in many areas of society: county, city, state, and federal government, as well as private industry. I can honestly say that my career at Emory has been the most rewarding hands down!