

## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION**

### **Karen Plaut**

*Executive Vice President for Research*

*Formerly Senior Associate Dean of Research and Faculty Affairs, Director of Agricultural Research, and the Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture  
Purdue University*

Recognized for unparalleled leadership in the agricultural research arena, Dr. Plaut's impactful contributions have significantly advanced agricultural sciences within the North Central region and beyond.

Dr. Plaut's distinguished career, highlighted by leadership roles such as the Senior Associate Dean of Research and Faculty Affairs, Director of Agricultural Research, and the Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture and currently as the Executive Vice President for Research at Purdue University, reflects a steadfast commitment to elevating the research landscape. Under her guidance, Purdue's research enterprise has thrived, fostering interdisciplinary collaborations and pioneering projects with profound societal implications.

A stalwart advocate for diversity and inclusion, Dr. Plaut's leadership in hiring diverse faculty and promoting gender and ethnic diversity within agricultural science underscores her dedication to fostering an inclusive scientific community. Her instrumental role in founding the Diversity Task Force, now the agInnovation Diversity Catalyst Committee, further demonstrates her commitment to equity and representation.

Dr. Plaut's visionary leadership has propelled significant advancements in agricultural sciences, evident through state-of-the-art facility development, global partnership cultivation, and strategic leadership fostering groundbreaking research and innovation.

Her exemplary service extends beyond Purdue, encompassing active engagement in national and international scientific committees, including the National Academy of Sciences, where she continues to leave an indelible mark on the agricultural sciences field.

Dr. Plaut earned her B.S. degree in Animal Science from the University of Vermont, an M.S. degree in Animal Nutrition from Pennsylvania State University, and a Ph.D. in Animal Science from Cornell University.