



**Erin Lynch, Ph.D., Ed.D., CRA**  
*President at QEM NETWORK*

Erin Lynch, PhD, Ed.D., CRA is a nationally recognized leader in higher education research enterprise development whose work advances HBCU research capacity, strategic planning, program evaluation, and funding acquisition. With a career spanning K to 12 education through senior university administration, she is known for transforming institutional vision into measurable growth in research competitiveness, infrastructure, and innovation ecosystems.

Dr. Lynch serves as President of the QEM Network in Washington, D.C., where she leads national strategy to strengthen research and innovation across minority serving institutions. As Principal Investigator and Co Principal Investigator, she has led and supported major federal and foundation funded initiatives totaling 28 million dollars in research awards, including 18.8 million dollars as PI or Co PI. Under her leadership, QEM has expanded its national footprint, increased revenue and staffing capacity, strengthened federal partnerships, and aligned its research agenda with emerging policy priorities. A signature achievement of her presidency is the creation of WeHBSeeU TV, a digital media network dedicated to HBCU research and innovation storytelling that elevates the visibility of HBCU scholarship and strengthens public understanding of STEM research through national digital distribution.

Previously, Dr. Lynch served as Associate Provost of Scholarship, Research, and Innovation and Chief Research Officer at Winston Salem State University, where she also held appointments as Dean of the Graduate School and Willie Brasher Endowed Professor of Education. She oversaw a 200 million dollar sponsored programs portfolio that included 11 research centers and more than 90 active awards. During her tenure, research funding increased by 270 percent in two fiscal years, institutional overhead returns grew by more than 122 percent, and contracting timelines were reduced from weeks to fewer than five days. She strengthened research infrastructure, modernized policy frameworks, and enhanced faculty development systems that supported collaborative and community engaged scholarship.

Across her career, Dr. Lynch has acquired 69.7 million dollars in research and sponsored funding and has developed over 1.026 billion dollars in competitive proposals spanning federal agencies, foundations, and state and local partners. An accomplished scholar and national thought leader, she writes and speaks extensively on equity, research investment, innovation strategy, and leadership within the HBCU ecosystem, with scholarship appearing in outlets such as Cell, Peabody Journal of Education, and Issues in Science and Technology. She serves as a national advisor and grant reviewer for multiple National Science Foundation directorates and United States Department of Education programs. Dr. Lynch brings a strategic yet practical perspective grounded in execution. She challenges institutions to align mission with measurable outcomes, to build sustainable research infrastructure, and to position innovation as a driver of economic mobility and national competitiveness.