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GRANT READINESS ARCHITECT™

# Dr. Allen Lewis, PhD

*Grant Readiness Architect™*

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Executive Biography & Curriculum Vitae

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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Dr. Allen Lewis, PhD, is Grant Readiness Architect™, bringing more than three decades of academic, research, and institutional leadership experience to the question of grant readiness. His career spans academic leadership roles — including dean, department chair, and department head positions — alongside direct involvement in more than \$18 million in federal grant funding and a body of published work spanning more than 80 publications and book chapters.

He is a nationally Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) and has spent much of his career building research capacity at institutions across the country, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other Minority-Serving Institutions. As Grant Readiness Architect™, he works with institutional leaders to examine the organizational conditions behind grant competitiveness, using the GRANTS Architecture™ he developed from three decades of firsthand academic leadership experience.

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***Three decades of academic, research, and institutional leadership experience.***

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## EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION

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### EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Education (Leadership and Health Services Research) — Virginia Commonwealth University
- M.S., Rehabilitation Counseling — Virginia Commonwealth University
- B.A., Rhetoric and Communication Studies, and African-American and African Studies — University of Virginia

### CERTIFICATION

- Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC), Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification — national certification, current

## ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

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*Dr. Lewis has led academic units at research-intensive universities, a comprehensive regional university, and an academic medical center — the same range of institutional types represented among the leaders he now advises.*

- Dean, School of Health Professions — SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University
- Department Head and Associate Professor — James Madison University, Department of Health Sciences
- Associate Professor (tenured) and Graduate Faculty — University of Pittsburgh, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology
- Visiting Associate Professor — Gallaudet University, Department of Counseling
- Department Chair, Vice Chair, and Associate Professor (tenured); Director, Survey and Evaluation Research Lab — Virginia Commonwealth University, Department of Rehabilitation Counseling

Prior to his academic career, Dr. Lewis served in behavioral health and public-agency leadership roles, including program consulting and evaluation direction within state mental health systems.

## RESEARCH AND GRANT LEADERSHIP

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Dr. Lewis has been involved in more than \$18 million in federal grant funding across research, training, and capacity-building initiatives, serving in roles ranging from principal investigator to program evaluator and co-investigator.

- Principal Investigator, a federally funded research capacity-building initiative focused on developing minority disability researchers
- Long-standing advisor and technical-assistance provider for national research capacity-building initiatives supporting Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other Minority-Serving Institutions
- As Dean at SUNY Downstate, led growth in faculty research productivity and expansion of the school's academic programmatic portfolio

## **PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

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- Author of more than 80 publications and book chapters in peer-reviewed journals
- Delivered more than 150 invited and peer-reviewed presentations at national and international conferences

### **SELECTED KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS**

- Featured Keynote Speaker, The 3rd Annual Meeting of the Downstate Global Neuroscience Initiative, on “Health Equity in the Precision Medicine Era of Global Neuroscience” (2025)
- Keynote Speaker, New York City Bar Association Continuing Legal Education Session, on “Providing Equal Access to Medical Care to Individuals with Disabilities, Even in the Time of COVID-19,” New York, NY (via Zoom) (2020)
- Invited Keynote Presenter, South Carolina State University College of Graduate and Professional Studies Research Symposium, on “Setting Priorities: Improving Scholarly Excellence,” Orangeburg, SC (2016)
- Invited Keynote Presenter, Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association Professional Development Institute, on “Skills Vocational Rehabilitation Professionals Need for Success in the 21st Century” (2013)
- Featured Keynote Speaker, International Symposium on Work Injury Prevention and Rehabilitation, Guangzhou, China (2010)
- Invited Closing Keynote Speaker, International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals Annual Conference (2008)
- Invited Keynote Speaker, Region 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) Education Forum, on “New Skills Vocational Rehabilitation Professionals Will Need for the Future,” part of “Emerging Changes, Challenges, Trends in Rehabilitation Counseling” (2008)

## RECOGNITION AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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- Editor, Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling
- Editorial board service across multiple peer-reviewed journals in rehabilitation and health services
- Bobbie Atkins Research Award, National Association of Multicultural Rehabilitation Concerns
- Campus Diversity Champion recognition, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University
- Grace E. Harris Leadership Scholar, Virginia Commonwealth University

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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### ADVISORY FOCUS

Dr. Lewis's academic and research leadership experience directly informs the six dimensions of the GRANTS Architecture™:

- Institutional governance and research leadership
- Research infrastructure and operations
- Strategic alignment of research portfolios
- Grant operations and sponsor relationship management
- Research culture and faculty development
- Data infrastructure and evaluation capacity

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***Grant writing is the last 10%. Organizational readiness is the first 90%. How ready is your institution?***

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**Start the Lewis Readiness Index™**

*No cost. Confidential. No obligation. About 30 minutes.*