

**Joan M. Lakoski, Ph.D.**, is Director of Investigator Development at the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute (WVCTSI) and Adjunct Professor at the WVU School of Pharmacy. Dr. Lakoski received her doctoral degree from the University of Iowa, completed postdoctoral training at the Yale University School of Medicine, and held faculty positions at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Penn State College of Medicine and the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. She served as the Vice President of Research and Graduate Education and Chief Science Officer at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy prior to joining the WVCTSI in 2017. Dr. Lakoski has long-standing interests in the professional development and education of the next generation of biomedical investigators, including individuals developing clinical and translational research programs. Her background as a basic science researcher in pharmacology and neuroscience, which includes 30 years of continuous support from the National Institutes of Health and appointment in a variety of senior administrative leadership roles, provides her with a wealth of experience and knowledge of the challenges facing early career stage investigators as they advance their academic careers. Dr. Lakoski is a frequently invited speaker on the topics of grant writing and mentoring – and she is delighted to empower the career success of creative individuals who will improve the nation’s health.