



David Thompson
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David Thompson is serving a one-year administrative appointment with the Office of Research and Economic Development as Special Assistant Vice President. In this role, he provides a faculty perspective as ORED works to improve support for faculty research development and enhance Mississippi State's competitive grants success.

Currently, he is developing approaches to improve teamwork and coordination, including facilitating multi-investigator proposals and research teams. He is also developing and implementing strategies that promote enhanced communication between ORED and research units, including identifying potential large-scale, funding opportunities.

Dr. Thompson holds the rank of professor in the Department of Aerospace Engineering. He is the inaugural holder of the Airbus Helicopters, Inc. Professorship in Aerospace Engineering.

Prior to joining the aerospace engineering faculty, he was a member of the research faculty at the MSU NSF Engineering Research Center. His previous related experience includes a faculty appointment at the University of Texas at Arlington and, prior to that, industrial experience at the General Dynamics/Ft. Worth Division (now Lockheed Martin). He was selected as a Royal Academy of Engineering Distinguished Visiting Fellow for 2014-15.

Dr. Thompson earned a doctorate in aerospace engineering from Iowa State University, and holds a master's degree and bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering from Mississippi State University.