

Dr. Sahley is a professor in the department of biological sciences at Purdue University.

Dr. Sahley currently is lead Co-PI for the Purdue ADVANCE initiative. She is Director for the ADVANCE-Purdue Center for Faculty Success and Special Advisor to the Provost for Gender Equity. The ADVANCE –Purdue initiative has three goals; 1) to increase the number of women of color on the STEM/SBS tenure track faculty, 2) increase the retention and success of all women STEM/SBS tenure track faculty and 3) engaging the majority in the institutional transformation.

Dr. Sahley also is Co-PI on the recently awarded NSF Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) AGEP Professional Advancement Initiative grant to bring more underrepresented minority postdoctoral scholars into faculty positions. The initiative is a collaboration between the University of Illinois and Purdue to partner with other members of the CIC which include Indiana University, University of Iowa, University of Michigan, Michigan State University, University of Minnesota, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Northwestern University, Ohio State University, Penn State University, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. A major part of the CIC AGEP PAI initiative is working with search committees on all the participating CIC campuses to acquaint them with the literature on how unconscious bias and misperceptions of excellence can be factors in the decision-making process that can negatively impact underrepresented minorities and women.

Professor Sahley has been active as a scholar for more than 25 years. In that time, she has contributed more than 70 articles, reviews, and book chapters to the literature in the areas of the behavioral and cellular analysis of learning and memory. She is currently a Co-PI on the Purdue Woodrow Wilson Fellowship project, STEM Goes Rural, providing leadership for the development and implementation of a MS program to recruit, train, and retain highly qualified STEM graduates as teachers in rural secondary schools.