Kristen Penczek joined Maryland Public Television’s management team in 2015 as managing director of the station’s Special Events & Community Engagement Department.

In this role, Ms. Penczek is responsible for a number of initiatives including developing and overseeing fundraising-related special events; growing relationships with community partners through outreach activities; assisting with creative concept and logistical planning of internal events; and fostering deeper relationships with Maryland Public Television viewers through a variety of community engagement functions and programs. In addition to these annual functions, Ms. Penczek and her team are gearing up for a variety of activities and events in celebration of MPT’s 50th anniversary in 2019.

Before joining MPT, Ms. Penczek was interim executive director of the Baltimore-based International Dyslexia Association (IDA), an organization she originally joined in 2008 as director of conferences. Prior to her six years of service at IDA, she worked as graphic designer and events specialist for the American Lung Association of the Atlantic Coast, Inc., based in Hunt Valley, Maryland. Still earlier she was assistant director of career services at Gardner-Webb University in North Carolina.

An alumna of Salisbury University where she earned a bachelor’s degree with a political science major, Ms. Penczek also holds a master’s degree in sports science and pedagogy from Gardner-Webb University.

She resides in Hampstead, Maryland, with her husband and three children.