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aspen institute leadership development index

MEET THE IMPACT FELLOWS

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YOUTH IMPACT FELLOWS



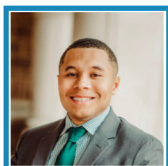
JASMINE S. ADAMS (SHE/HER/HERS)

Jasmine S. Adams is a student with a passion for social change, financial literacy, and equal access to opportunity. Adams has been a Member, Facilitator, and Co-Designer of the inaugural Youth Leadership Programs department at the Aspen Institute. As part of this new area of work, she enjoys finding innovative ways to engage youth in today's key issues and challenges, including infusing youths' perspectives into the Institute's domestic and global policy work. Over the past seven years, Adams has built her portfolio as an independent contractor, content creator, and change agent all while pursuing her dream of becoming a Doctor of Nursing Practice.



GABRIEL BEAVER (HE/HIM/HIS)

Gabriel Beaver is the founder, producer, and host of The Bridge Podcast, bridging the gap between who one is and whom one wants to become. Beaver is a third-year student studying Communications and Leadership at Bowling Green State University. He has presented at TEDx Bowling Green State University on redefining success and happiness. He is on a path to becoming an author committed to searching for truth through people's journeys and stories.



BLAKE COMEAUX (HE/HIM/HIS)

Blake Comeaux is a senior at Washington University in St. Louis, majoring in Philosophy on a pre-law track and minoring in the Business of Social Impact and Legal Studies. Blake is an Aspen Young Leaders Fellowship alumnus, WashU varsity football player, president of his Phi Delta Phi pre-law fraternity chapter, a member of WashU's Black Men's Coalition, and a member of WashU's Arts & Sciences Academic Integrity Committee. Comeaux is an Ervin Scholar, McLeod Scholar, Goldman Fellow, Chancellor's Career Fellow, and is currently interning with the Public Defender Agency in Anchorage, Alaska.



KAITLYN DONE (SHE/HER/HERS)

Kaitlyn Done is a rising senior at Spelman College. She is also a member of the inaugural Delta Cohort of the Aspen Young Leaders Fellowship. Done has been named captain of the cheer team, elected class president each year, and appointed to the Superintendent's Youth Leadership Council while at Lake Cormorant. She is also a member of the Class, Prom, and Spirit committees, respectively, Student Council, National Honor Society, and Interact Club.



KAYLA FOSTER (SHE/HER/HERS)

Kayla Foster is a graduate of the University of Maryland with a B.S. in Public Health Science. Foster has a passion for social change, justice and equity initiatives, wellness, and addressing the injustice of the criminal legal system. Foster now works to push forward current initiatives at the Center for Court Innovation's Queens Community Justice Center (QCJC) Jamaica & the Rockaways while supporting the planning and building out of future programs through strategic planning and grant writing. Additionally, she is a current Dalai Lama Fellow as well as a volunteer advocate at MSBI Hospital.



TERRELL GEORGE (HE/HIM/HIS)

Terrell George is a resident of Clarksdale, Mississippi. He is a student with a passion for advocating for community improvement, mental health, and opportunities for the youth. George has been actively involved in the Aspen Young Leaders Fellowship (AYLF) since graduating from the 2019-2020 Delta Cohort. He now serves as a youth facilitator for AYLF, working towards his goal of community development.



BUBUNEY HAVI (SHE/HER/HERS)

Bubuney Havi is an incoming first-year student at James Madison University where she will be majoring in Public Administration with a minor in Public Health. Havi was born in Ghana, and was a 2021 Bezos Scholar. As an alumna of the Bezos Scholars Program, Havi conducted a community change project that brought awareness to English Language Learners at her high school.

YOUTH IMPACT FELLOWS



RUNZHI HU (SHE/HER/HERS)

Runzhi Hu graduated from Rancho High School in 2022 as valedictorian and will be continuing her education at the University of Nevada, Reno. She plans to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Hu was a 2021 Bezos Student Scholar. As the first Bezos Scholar team from the state of Nevada, Runzhi and her Educator Scholar, Susan Potts, constructed a community change project focused on rebuilding and strengthening lost or weakened social connections between students and teachers caused by distance learning during the pandemic.



GUADALUPE JIMENEZ (SHE/HER/HERS)

Guadalupe Jimenez recently graduated from the University of Illinois Chicago with a Bachelors in Kinesiology and a minor in Business Administration. Jimenez aspires to obtain her Masters in Sport's Psychology and to grow as a coach in the fitness industry. Jimenez is passionate about fitness, nutrition, overall health, and business, and hopes to provide a healthy and positive environment for people globally.



KISA JAFRI (SHE/HER/HERS)

Kisa Jafri is a student at Cornell University studying Human Biology, Health and Society with the aim of attending medical school. She has been involved in the Aspen Young Leaders Fellowship's inaugural Chicago Cohort, and in organizations that all have the goal of community advancement such as Planned Parenthood and Ithaca Health Initiative. Her research interests include implicit racial biases in clinical settings—health disparities in vulnerable populations in the United States and abroad.



KEVIN MARTIN (HE/HIM/HIS)

Kevin Martin is from Helena, Arkansas and is a graduate of the Aspen Young Leaders Fellowship. He has a bachelor's in sociology and social justice from Hendrix College and is currently pursuing a Master's in Human Relations with an emphasis on Diversity, Equity, and Social Justice. Kevin now works at KIPP Delta as the director of operations, athletic director, and head basketball coach. He co-founded Helena-West Helena for Change (HWH4C), and is a founding member of his city's racial equity taskforce. Kevin is passionate about creating sustainable change in the Delta through youth-centered leadership programs, creating access to resources in marginalized communities, and coalition building within and around the region.



KE'AISA PITTMAN (SHE/HER/HERS)

Ke'Aisa Pittman is from Charleston, Mississippi. Pittman is currently pursuing a Masters in Business Administration at Jackson State University. She also holds a B.B.A. in Business Administration and Management from Jackson State University, where she graduated from the WEB DuBois Harvey Honors College. She is also a Graduate Fellow of the Aspen Young Leaders Fellowship Delta Cohort 2 in 2020.



NICHOLAS PRESLEY (HE/HIM/HIS)

Nicholas Presley is an alumnus of the Historical Tougaloo College, where he majored in Sociology and Biology, graduating cum laude. He is passionate about change and improving the community and advocating for women's rights, mental health, sexual and reproductive health, and LGBTQIA+ rights. Presley is a member of AAUW, NAACP, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He currently serves as an advisory member for the All of Us Research Program and a youth facilitator for the Aspen Young Leaders Fellowship.



JUAN ZARCO (HE/HIM/HIS)

Juan Zarco is a student at the University of Illinois at Chicago studying Computer Engineering. He is also an Aspen Young Leaders Fellowship fellow from Chicago Cohort 1 and a youth program facilitator with Youth Technology Corps. Juan enjoys learning about new technologies and as a response teach others what he has learned, so the cycle continues and other worlds open.

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NOHA AL-KHALQI

Noha Al-Khalqi is a social entrepreneur dedicated to mobilizing and empowering youth to create social change. As Managing Director at Millennium Campus Network (MCN), Al-Khalqi is responsible for building and implementing operational strategies and programmatic partnership building at MCN to ensure program growth, consistency and quality globally. Al-Khalqi received both her Master of Public Administration (MPA) and Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degrees from Ohio University, where she focused on social entrepreneurship and youth empowerment.



PAMELA ALVARADO (SHE/HER/ELLA)

Pamela (Pam) Alvarado serves as the Director of the Payne Center for Leadership Development (PCLD) at Gonzaga University. She grew up in Wenatchee, Washington, and also calls the Mexico/US border home. Alvarado loved college so much that she decided to pursue her career in higher education. Upon completion of her bachelor's degree from Central Washington University, she moved to Chicago, Illinois, to pursue her master's in Higher Education at Loyola University Chicago. Alvarado loves reading, spending time with loved ones, listening to podcasts, and long walks. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. at Colorado State University.



ANNE ARSENEAU (SHE/HER/HERS)

Anne Arsenneau has called Williamsburg and the College of William & Mary her home since 1997. In her role, she serves as the Director of Student Leadership Development which means she spends her days supporting students in the practice field of leadership. Arsenneau gets especially excited about supporting experiences where undergraduate students learn more about themselves, how to work with others, and how to create positive change for the initiatives and causes they care about. Arsenneau has deep experience working with student government, student organizations, fraternity & sorority life, and hazing prevention. Her undergraduate degree and master's degree are from W&M, and she has previously worked at DePauw University and LeaderShape, Inc.



CAMERON C. BEATTY, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Cameron C. Beatty is an assistant professor in the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies Department at Florida State University. Dr. Beatty teaches courses in the undergraduate leadership studies program and the higher education graduate program, as well as conducts research with the Leadership Learning Research Center. Dr. Beatty's research foci includes exploring the intersections of gender and race in leadership education, socially just leadership learning, and addressing the experiences of Black and Latinx students with racial battle fatigue. Dr. Beatty recently co-authored two books for the Information Age Publishing series, Contemporary Perspectives on Leadership Learning.



LESLEY-ANN BROWN-HENDERSON, PH.D. (SHE/HER)

Dr. Lesley-Ann Brown-Henderson is the inaugural Assistant Vice President (AVP) for Inclusion and Chief of Staff for Student Affairs at Northwestern University. Dr. Brown-Henderson supervises the Executive Director of Campus Inclusion and Community (CIC) and leads the division's racial equity and social justice strategies and ensures that there is communication and coordination with the institutional DEI approach. Dr. Brown-Henderson earned her bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Miami, master's degrees in Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education and Counseling Psychology, and her doctorate in Counseling Psychology from Texas A&M University.



ANDY CHAN

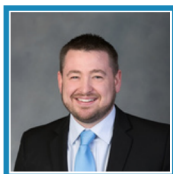
Andy Chan is the Vice President for Innovation and Career Development at Wake Forest University (WFU). He oversees the award-winning Office of Personal and Career Development (OPCD) and Mentoring Resource Center for students and alumni, WFU Pre-College programs, and the WFU Board of Trustees Innovation Committee. Chan's career mission is to transform traditional career services into a mission-critical component of the college experience. Chan is most known for his TEDx talk, "Career Services Must Die", however he also coaches and mentors executives and students of all ages and backgrounds, serves as a professor of the practice at WFU and Stanford's Graduate School of Business and a strategic advisor to various organizations. Chan earned his MBA and undergraduate degrees at Stanford University.

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KRYSTAL N. CLARK (SHE/HER/HERS)

Krystal N. Clark, M.Ed. is from Portsmouth, VA and serves as the Director of Employee Learning & Engagement in Human Resources at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. She previously worked at Duke University and Vanderbilt University in Fraternity & Sorority Life and Student Leadership Development. At Vanderbilt, she launched and served as the Director of the Office of Student Leadership Development from 2013-2020. She attended the University of Maryland, College Park to earn her M.Ed. in College Student Personnel and is an alumna of the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, VA where she earned her B.A. in Sociology/Psychology. In 2020, she founded Equip To Thrive, LLC which offers compassionate personal and professional development experiences for 'talented and imperfect' people.



JACOB E. CLEMENS, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Jacob E. Clemens is the Senior Director of the C. Raymond Marvin Center for Student Leadership and Civic Engagement at Bowling Green State University. He has worked with student leadership at BGSU in various roles since 2009. In addition to his current role, Clemens is the Program Coordinator for the Leadership Minor in the College of Education and Human Development and is an adjunct instructor in the Higher Education and Student Affairs graduate program. Clemens received a BA in Professional and Organizational Communication from Ohio Northern University and has a M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration and Student Affairs from Kent State University. He completed his Ph.D. from Bowling Green State University in Higher Education Administration in 2014.



ROSALIND CONERLY, ED.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Rosalind "Roz" Conerly is a scholar practitioner based in the San Francisco Bay Area with over 15 years of experience in roles focused on creating strategy to affirm and highlight the nuanced experiences of BIPOC individuals within an organization to contribute toward culture shift. She has held roles in cultural centers and organizations focused on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives and has taught courses focused on DEI and career exploration. She is currently the Associate Dean & Karr Family Director of the Black Community Services Center within the Centers for Equity, Community and Leadership and is the Founder and Managing Director of RDC Consulting, LLC, a boutique consulting firm that specializes in strategic planning, DEI and lifestyle consulting.



BEN CORREIA-HARKER, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Ben Correia-Harker is an incoming Clinical Assistant Professor, Student Affairs and Higher Education at Marquette University and Co-Principal Investigator of the Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership. Regarding research interests, he studies young adult leadership development, with a particular emphasis on how contexts and social identities influence leadership mindsets. Ben has held various roles in higher education (e.g., residence life, student union management, leadership curricular programs) and an assessment and research position in a higher education-adjacent non-profit. He received a B.A. in religious studies from the College of Idaho, an M.S.Ed. in student affairs administration from Indiana University, and a Ph.D. in higher education from Loyola University Chicago.



FAROUK DEY, PH.D.

As the founding Vice Provost for Integrative Learning and Life Design at Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Farouk Dey leads a division of 15 departments that bridge curricular and experiential learning with personal ambitions and mentoring for undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and alumni. Named one of LinkedIn's Top Ten Voices in Education and recipient of several national and university awards, Dr. Dey is recognized for his writings, talks, and transformational leadership in career and life design, workforce development, and the future of work. He holds a PhD and EdS in Educational Leadership, MBA and MEd in Counseling Psychology, and BBA in Finance.



KAREN DONE (SHE/HER/HERS)

Karen Done works with the Aspen Young Leaders Fellowship Delta program as a community liaison and advocate. She is the Director of Student Engagement/ student services at Coahoma Community College which is located in the Mississippi Delta. She is a strong advocate for the growth and development of the human and natural resources of the Delta. Done is also a member of the chamber of commerce in Clarksdale. She is married to Dr. Kenneth Done, Sr. and is the mother of two Kenneth and Kaitlyn Done, who was an a member of the inaugural AYLF cohort in the Delta. Done is a graduate of Amherst College and the University of Mississippi.

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ANTONIO DURAN, PH.D. (HE/HIM/ÉL)

Dr. Antonio Duran is an incoming Assistant Professor in the Higher & Postsecondary Education program at Arizona State University. Originally from Phoenix, Arizona, Antonio attended New York University for his bachelor's degree and was an AnBryce Scholar, a first-generation college student scholars' program. After his time at NYU, he attended Miami University for his master's degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education. Here he discovered his passion for research aimed to better the lives of minoritized individuals in postsecondary education. He received his Ph.D. in Higher Education and Student Affairs from The Ohio State University. Now, his scholarship involves understanding how historical and contemporary legacies of oppression influence college student development, experiences, leadership, and success.



KATIE FITZGERALD (SHE/HER/HERS)

Katie Fitzgerald is the managing director and founding member of the Aspen Challenge and leads the core team and an annual budget of over \$2million to serve students and educators. Prior to the Aspen Challenge, she was a with the Seminars Department and the Aspen Ideas Festival Scholars Program at the Aspen Institute. Katie has a BA from Northern Michigan University. Katie has lived in the Roaring Fork Valley for 18 years, is a Chicago Native, and an avid Bears and Cubs fan. Katie resides in Basalt with her two daughters, Maggie, 14, and Lily, 12. Katie also serves on the board of Girls on the Run, is active with Basalt Education Foundation, and is an active member in Parent Education Group for Basalt Public Schools.



DERRICK M. FLEMING, JR. (HE/THEY)

Derrick Marcell Fleming, Jr., also known as "Derrick The Gent" has a passion for youth, collective impact, and systems change. As a former White House Staff Member under the Obama Administration, he now serves as the Managing Director of Strategic Engagement for Chicago Scholars; Derrick oversees corporate, college, community, and civic/government partnerships and engagement, and strategic initiatives. Fleming, Jr. is also a social entrepreneur (The JUST BE campaign) and serves in various national and local community/education leadership capacities. With over 10 years of experience in the nonprofit and government sectors focusing on education, social impact, youth development, and mentorship; 8+ years of project management, coaching, and training experience; and 6+ years of program and people management experience.



KRISTINA GARCIA (SHE/HER/HERS)

Kristina Garcia comes from a large, close-knit family with roots in Texas, Cuba, and Spain. She is a Chicagoland local who was a commuter student for the entirety of her collegiate experience. Kristina began her higher education career as a student affairs professional and is passionate about working with first-generation college students and supporting the leadership development of women of color within higher education. Garcia currently serves as Dean of Communications and Behavioral Sciences at Elgin Community College in Elgin, Illinois. Her research passions include Latinx college student leadership development, commuter student sense of belonging, cultural values clashing, and campus racial climate.



CHERYL GREEN (SHE/HER/HERS)

Cheryl Green is the Director of the Aspen Young Leaders Fellowship (AYLF). Green recently served as the Associate Director for Learning Strategy for AYLF, where she ensured the design and implementation of culturally responsive programming. Cheryl has served as a teacher, principal, and district leader in multiple school districts. After 10 years living and working as an educator in Mississippi, Cheryl moved to Memphis, Tennessee, and took on multiple roles with New Leaders, Inc. and later Insight Education Group. Since 2015, Cheryl has used her expertise in organizational development to lead her own consulting practice. Cheryl has a B.S. in Secondary Education from Alabama A&M University, an M.Ed. from Delta State University, and is certified in the field of Human Systems Dynamics.



LINDSAY HASTINGS, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Lindsay Hastings serves as the Clifton Professor in Mentoring Research and the Research Director of NHRI Leadership Mentoring at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. Hastings is a three-time graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (B.S. Secondary Math Education, 2004; M.S. Leadership Education, 2007; Ph.D. Education Leadership in Higher Education, 2012). She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in leadership theory and leadership development, and her research centers around advancing scholar and practitioner knowledge in leadership mentoring, community leadership development, and youth leadership. Hastings' research examining generativity in college student leaders as a result of engaging in a mentoring relationship received the Dr. Ron Joelke Research Award.

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LEONETTE HENDERSON (SHE/HER/HERS)

Leonette Henderson is from Clarksdale, MS and has spent over 15 years in higher education, education reform, secondary education, and nonprofit work. Her passion continues to be in promoting a worthy cause, purpose, or movement in education, educational leadership, the humanities, or historic preservation/restoration projects with a fervent desire to propel economic and social justice. As a documentarian, she believes in shared stories that recreate narratives for individuals, communities, regions, and countries, giving light to their truth and healing. Henderson has a Masters in Philanthropy and Development from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota and is a proud HBCU alum with a BA in History from Tuskegee University.



BETH HOAG, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Beth Hoag is the Director for Assessment and Planning in Student Affairs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her primary responsibilities include coordinating division-wide assessment efforts, strategic planning, and administering campus-wide survey projects. Dr. Hoag obtained her B.S. and M.A. from Bradley University, and her Ph.D. in higher education administration from Bowling Green State University. She has over 15 years of experience in student affairs focusing on student engagement & leadership, assessing co-curricular experiences, and collaboration between student affairs and academic affairs.



COURTNEY HOLDER (SHE/HER/HERS)

Courtney Holder serves as an Assistant Director supporting Leadership & Community Service-Learning at the University of Maryland. Previously, she directed the undergraduate Leadership Studies Minor and served as Associate Director in the Office of Community-Engaged Leadership at Appalachian State University. From 2017- 2022, Courtney served as a director, and then Chair of the Board for Break Away- a national nonprofit that promotes lifelong community engagement and active citizenship. She holds a Master of Science degree in College Student Personnel and a Bachelor of Arts in Communication, both from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.



AJA C. HOLMES, PH.D. (SHE/HER/SIS)

Dr. Aja C. Holmes is the Assistant Dean of Students, Director of Community Living at University of San Francisco. She did her undergraduate and masters at Illinois State University and her doctorate at Iowa State University. Dr. Holmes has been in the field of student affairs for over 20 years. Her functional area is Housing and Residential Life with an expertise in supervision skill development among student affairs professional. Dr. Holmes is a founding member and past editorial board member of the Journal of Critical Thought and Praxis (JCTP) and currently on the editorial board for the Journal Committed to Social Change on Race and Ethnicity. She is on the governing board of American College Student Educators International (ACPA).



RYAN C. HOLMES, ED.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Ryan C. Holmes is Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students at the University of Miami (FL). Dr. Holmes presents and has publications in the areas of social justice, bias, student conduct, diversity/equity/inclusion, and entitlement. Dr. Holmes is a past president of the Association for Student Conduct Administration. He completed a Master of Arts degree in Counseling and Personnel Services from the University of Maryland-College Park, a second master's degree (MA) in Bilingual/Bicultural Studies from La Salle University, and completed his doctorate (EdD) in Educational Leadership and Administration at the University of Texas at El Paso. He also holds a BME from Loyola University – New Orleans in Music Education.



SHARRA HYNES, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Sharra Hynes acts as the Associate Vice President and Dean of Students in the Division of Student Life at Baylor University. Dr. Hynes oversees the "student-facing" departments of Campus Living and Learning, New Student Programs, Student Activities, and Student Conduct. Dr. Hynes has executive experience in many of the areas she will be overseeing as well as Assessment, Program Planning, Fiscal Management, and Leadership. Dr. Hynes comes to Baylor from the University of Central Oklahoma, and has served in professional roles at Texas A & M University, Houghton College, and George Fox University. She earned her undergraduate degree from Houghton College, her master's degree from Alfred University, and her Doctor of Philosophy from Texas A & M University.

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RAMSEY JABAJI (HE/HIM/HIS)

Ramsey Jabaji directs the Office of Global Engineering Leadership and is a lecturer in the A. James Clark School of Engineering at the University of Maryland. He oversees Clark abroad programs, the Clark in Madrid study center, Minor in Global Engineering Leadership, and ClarkLEAD undergraduate onboarding initiatives. He has instructed coursework in leadership at UMD and Georgetown University in locations such as Australia, China, France, The Netherlands, Qatar, Spain, and the United Arab Emirates. Jabaji holds a bachelor's in Sociology and Environmental Studies from Franklin & Marshall College and a master's in Counseling & Personnel Services from the University of Maryland. He is a former board member of the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education.



ADRIANA JACKSON (SHE/HER/HERS)

Adriana Jackson is the Project Manager for the Bezos Scholars Program, a year-long leadership development program that amplifies youth voice and action by supporting scholars as they produce real-world projects aimed at positive change. Jackson's previous professional experiences include working at higher education institutions and non-profits focused on college access and education advocacy across the United States. She has a Bachelor's degree in Teaching & Entrepreneurship and a Masters of Education in Student Development Administration from Seattle University.



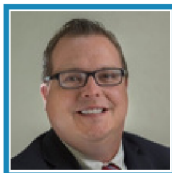
MATT JOHNSON, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Matt Johnson is a professor of educational leadership at Central Michigan University. He is a research associate for the Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership (MSL) and an author of several journal articles, book chapters, and monographs on leadership, democratic engagement, and social justice. Prior to his appointment at Central Michigan University, Johnson served as a visiting assistant professor at Miami University, and before that, he taught Navy and Marine company officers for the US Naval Academy as part of the Navy LEAD program at the University of Maryland. Johnson completed his Ph.D. at the University of Maryland in college student personnel.



MARKERA JONES (SHE/HER/HERS)

Markera Jones is a doctoral candidate in Clinical Community Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She currently works as a doctoral Psychology Intern at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Psychological and Counseling Services. Her research interests include social networking sites, mindfulness, collective care, and the psychology of liberation. Specifically, she has studied the relationship between digital communities and emotional wellbeing. She has developed a virtual, mindfulness-based intervention adapted to be culturally responsive to African Americans. Other interests are in teaching, collective care, community-based social change processes, digital spaces for health and wellness, and program evaluation.



MARK KENYON, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Mark Kenyon serves as the Director for the Office of Career Services and Internships at UMass Boston. Prior to joining the UMass Boston community, Mark was the Director of the Office of Internships and Career Development at Emmanuel College. He also served in multiple positions at the University Career Center at the University of Maryland, College Park and in the Career Planning Services Office at Brown University. In addition, Mark was the former Chair and Directorate member in the Commission for Career Development with ACPA. Mark completed his Ph.D. in Higher Education at Boston College. He received a Master of Science, Human Development and Family Studies with a Concentration in College Student Personnel and a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Political Science from the University of Rhode Island.



MARK KUEPPERS (HE/HIM/HIS)

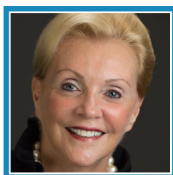
Mark Kueppers serves as the Director of the Center for Leadership & Involvement at the University of Wisconsin – Madison. Kueppers completed his MA in Leadership Studies at the University of San Diego (2006) following his BA in Broadcast Journalism from Arizona State University (2000). Originally from Minneapolis, Minnesota, Mark is a life-long learner who also consults organizations in the Midwest on leadership and change management. Across a 20-year career in Student Affairs, he has held roles spanning across the field. Mark is committed to weaving leadership development research into curricular and co-curricular programming, as evidenced by on-going support of the Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership and other research initiatives. He is married, has two young children, enjoys cooking (and eating) and loves to travel.

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MICHELLE KUSEL, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Michelle Kusel earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Marquette University in Industrial Engineering Management and a M.Ed. in Higher Education from Loyola University Chicago. She completed her Ph.D. at Loyola University Chicago studying the influence of Social Media on Leadership. While pursuing her Ph.D., Kusel coordinated the Undergraduate Leadership Studies Minor and served as an adjunct professor in the minor for seven semesters. Currently, Kusel serves as the Curriculum & Instruction Manager for Uncharted Learning, a not for profit start-up. Her focus is on curriculum dedicated to high school programs, as well as support for teachers that instruct in this space.



HELEN LAFFERTY, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Helen Lafferty received her bachelors and masters degrees from Youngstown State University and her doctoral degree from the University of Pittsburgh. She has completed three post-doctoral studies at the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard University and The National University of Ireland-Galway. She teaches graduate courses at Villanova University in The Philosophy of Education, Leadership and Administration in Higher Education and The Theory and Purpose of the University. She has been a faculty member and administrator at Villanova for over four decades and was appointed the first University Vice President, a position she held for 16 years.



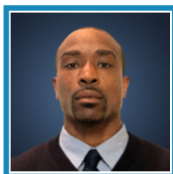
BERNIE LIANG (HE/HIM/HIS)

Bernie Liang is the Senior Director of Student Engagement at Seattle University, where he oversees the areas of Student Involvement, and Student Success and Outreach. He's served a variety of roles within ACPA and also has affiliations with the Social Justice Training Institute and LeaderShape. In 2012, he was honored to co-author a chapter on Multiracial and Multiethnic APIA professionals in higher education, published in the text Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Higher Education: Research and Perspectives on Identity, Leadership, and Success. Throughout his 20+ years in student affairs, he has dedicated his leadership to creating inclusive environments that encourage deep interrogation of our systemic inequities in higher education. At home, Bernie is proud to be a loving husband to Ryan Hamachek, and a father to their child, Eli Liang-Hamachek.



JANA LITHGOW, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Jana Lithgow is the Executive Director of Undergraduate Programs for the Fisher College of Business at The Ohio State University. Previously, she worked as the Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs and Honors Programs for the Gies College of Business at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and she held various roles at Emmanuel College (MA), Loyola University Chicago, Illinois Wesleyan University, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. Dr. Lithgow earned a BSBA from the University of Missouri, an M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration and an M.S. in Human Resources from Loyola University Chicago, and a Ph.D. in Education Policy, Organization and Leadership from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She resides in Columbus, Ohio, with her partner and son.



PHILLIP LOCKHART, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Phillip Lockhart is from Turrell, Arkansas. He is the father of two (Phillip Jr. and Robyn Lockhart), and the husband of Rashaun Lockhart. After graduation from Jackson State University in 2008, Lockhart serves as an educator for at-risk students. He currently holds seven academic degrees and plans to obtain as much knowledge as needed to ensure every child he encounters has the opportunity to live a life of choice. He is a firm believer of multiple forms of leadership; however, he holds transformational and servant leadership the closest to his every day approach. He believes that all individuals can be successful and feel it is his role to be the bridge to said success.



NICOLE LONG, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Nicole Long is the Assistant Vice President, Student Experience and Belonging in the Division of Student Life at the University of Delaware. Her career includes work in institutional research and assessment offices, as well as 18 years of progressive leadership in student affairs administration. She currently serves as an advisory board member for the Council for the Advancement of Standards and as a peer evaluator with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education national accreditation organization. She holds a bachelor of arts in mathematics from DePauw University, master of education in college student personnel from Ohio University, and doctor of philosophy in counseling and personnel services and graduate certificate in measurement, statistics, and evaluation from the University of Maryland, College Park.

IMPACT FELLOWS



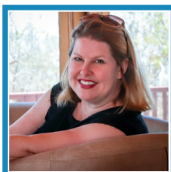
JENNIFER MONTANA, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Jennifer Montana recently joined the MIT Leadership Center to assess leadership program effectiveness and impact. Her assessment work ranges from a narrower focus on student competencies to a broader understanding of outcomes former students generate beyond the borders of a given organization. As a theorist, she seeks to contribute to the Center's exploration of assessment as part of a larger conceptualization of leadership development. Her current work enables her to continue to focus on leadership development and economic, social, and intellectual mobility—two themes that span her career, whether as an academic researcher, social entrepreneur, or regional economic advisor. She was trained as an academic and holds an MA in international relations, comparative politics and political theory and a PhD in political theory from Harvard University.



ELIZABETH NESSNER (SHE/HER/HERS)

Elizabeth Nessner joined the Civic Leadership Foundation as CEO after serving as an Assistant Principal at Mark Sheridan Math & Science Academy, then Principal at Robert Healy Elementary. Nessner holds 24 years of education experience, including 12 years in leadership roles. She holds degrees in education from Saint Mary's College of Notre Dame, University of Portland, Concordia University, and Northeastern University, many of which focused on adolescent behavior and youth development. Her varied experience and multiple perspectives allow her to lead CLF to grow and meet the needs of underserved youth across Chicagoland and beyond.



JULIE E. OWEN, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Julie E. Owen is Associate Professor of Leadership Studies at the School of Integrative Studies, George Mason University, where she coordinates the leadership studies major and minor and is affiliate faculty with Women and Gender Studies and the Higher Education Program. Her most recent book is *We are the Leaders We've Been Waiting For: Women and Leadership Development in College* (Stylus, 2020). Owen identifies as a white, currently-able, middle-class, cisgender woman working in the academy. She is committed to using her voice to advocate for positive social change leading to more equitable leadership for all, and to consider how identities and social power shape practice. Her research explores the intersections of leadership identity and women's adult development, as well as the scholarship of liberatory leadership teaching and learning.



EUGENE T. PARKER III, PH.D.

Eugene (Gene) T. Parker III is an associate professor of higher education administration in the department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at the University of Kansas. He is interested in matters of diversity, equity and inclusion as it relates to college students and organizations. His research has focused on the impact of collegiate experiences on academic and psychosocial student outcomes, such as academic and cognitive outcomes, leadership and moral development. His research also focuses on organizational leadership, diversity leadership and leadership-centered theoretical perspectives. Dr. Parker received his B.A. from the University of Iowa, his MBA from the University of Illinois at Chicago and his Ph.D. in Higher Education from the University of Iowa.



DARREN PIERRE, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Darren Pierre is a lecturer in the Office of Global Engineering Leadership in the A. James Clark School of Engineering at the University of Maryland-College Park. Dr. Pierre is a thought-leader within higher education, authoring a book, book chapters, journal articles, and presenting at numerous conferences on topics centered on leadership, identity development, and student engagement. In 2020, he led a team in writing one of the nine strategic priorities developed to inform the 2020-2025 National Leadership Education Research Agenda (NLERA). Dr. Pierre earned his Ph.D. in College Student Affairs Administration from the University of Georgia.



MELISSA L. ROCCO, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Melissa L. Rocco serves as Director for Leadership Studies and Affiliate Assistant Professor in the Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education Policy program at the University of Maryland. Dr. Rocco's scholarship and teaching focus on leadership identity development, transformative and liberatory pedagogy, and leadership educator preparation. As a leadership educator, academic administrator, and consultant, Dr. Rocco has designed and facilitated hundreds of leadership courses and programs for professionals and students across the globe. Prior to her academic career, Dr. Rocco led organizational change initiatives with Deloitte Consulting. She holds a Ph.D. in Student Development and Leadership Studies from the University of Maryland, and an M.A. in Education and B.S. in Business Administration from The Ohio State University.

IMPACT FELLOWS



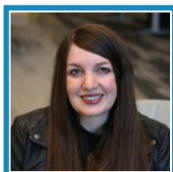
DAVID ROSCH, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. David Rosch serves as an Associate Professor in the Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications Program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He also currently serves as the Editor of the Journal of Campus Activities Practice and Scholarship and co-editor of the book series Contemporary Issues in Leadership Development published by Information Age Press. Additionally, Dr. Rosch serves as a research consultant to the Collegiate Leadership Competition. In 2016, he was awarded the inaugural Distinguished Scholar Award from the Association of Leadership Educators. Dave earned a PhD in Higher Education from Syracuse University, an MS in Student Affairs from Colorado State University, and a BS in Psychology from Binghamton University.



ALLY SCHIPMA (SHE/HER/HERS)

Ally Schipma currently serves as a Manager of Residential Life Conduct at Washington University in St. Louis. As a Chicago local, Schipma graduated with her Masters in Higher Education from Loyola University Chicago and has been working in student affairs since. Her professional experience includes working in residence life as a Residential College Director, serving as an Adjunct Professor teaching course content related to civic engagement and civic leadership. She has a passion for restorative justice in accountability measures, social and racial justice, and leadership development theory. Outside of work, Schipma enjoys cooking, hiking, and spending time with her dog, Walter and her bunny, Gus!



KRISTA M. SORIA, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Krista M. Soria is an assistant professor of leadership and counseling at the University of Idaho. She is a critical quantitative researcher who examines how higher education institutions can create a more supportive campus climate for students from diverse backgrounds, whether programs are equitably accessible and beneficial to all students, and how we can create structural conditions to support students' development and success. Dr. Soria has published over 70 journal articles, edited five books, and authored a book on social class in higher education. She co-edited a New Directions for Student Leadership volume on evidence-based practices in leadership education and is a principal investigator on several grants.



GAYLE SPENCER, PH.D.

Dr. Gayle Spencer is the Director of the Illinois Leadership Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She also serves as an instructor in the College of Engineering teaching "Emotional Intelligence Skills" and "Leading Sustainable Change." Previously, she served as an Associate Dean of Student Life and adjunct faculty member for the Staley School of Leadership Studies at Kansas State University. Spencer served as the Chair of the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) Board of Directors and was a member of the Board of Directors from 1999-2004. Spencer is currently representing NACA on the Council for Advancement of Standards (CAS) in Higher Education National Board of Representatives, and is the President-elect of CAS.



JOSEPH TESTANI (HE/HIM/HIS)

Joseph Testani has over 20 years of experience in higher education, career education and workforce development. He focuses specifically on systemic and organizational change to increase access and equity for students and alumni. In partnership with employers and corporations, Testani develops new pathways for career growth and advancement impacting generations of underrepresented students by providing economic mobility. Whether at an institutional, regional, or national level, his work remains centered around the learner / student — as their success will ultimately be our collective success.



OLIVIA TORO (SHE/HER/HERS)

Olivia Toro serves as Senior Program Associate for the Aspen Challenge, providing support to the program's participating educators and students. Prior to joining Aspen Challenge, she taught science for 10 years to middle schoolers in Brooklyn, New York and Washington, DC. Olivia earned her B.A. from Swarthmore College with majors in political science and psychology. She holds an M.A. in social service administration from The University of Chicago and an M.A. in teaching from the Relay Graduate School of Education.

IMPACT FELLOWS



NATASHA T. TURMAN, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Natasha T. Turman is Director for the Women in Science and Engineering Residence Program at the University of Michigan. With 14 years of experience, she has held many roles, and currently serves as co-chair for NASPA's Women in Student Affairs Knowledge Community. She promotes equity and inclusive learning, teaching, and research in STEM education through her work with the SEISMIC Collaborative. She is an active researcher with several publications and over 15 national and international conference presentations. Dr. Turman completed her Ph.D. in Higher Education from Loyola University Chicago in 2017. She holds a M.S. Ed. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from Old Dominion University and a B.S. in Chemistry from Spelman College.



VERNON A. WALL (HE/HIM/HIS)

Vernon A. Wall has accumulated over 30+ years of professional Student Affairs experience at Iowa State University, the University of Georgia, UNC-Charlotte, and UNC-Chapel Hill and has experience in Greek life, new student orientation, student activities, leadership development, global education, and university housing. Vernon currently lives in Washington, DC, and is the Director for Business Development at LeaderShape, Inc. Vernon is also President and Founder of One Better World, LLC – a consulting firm specializing in engaging others in courageous social justice and equity conversations. He is also a founding faculty member of the Social Justice Training Institute.



PAULA C. YATES

A measured blend of corporate cadence, agency marketing and academia – Yates has spent the past 10 years absorbing the political landscape and its intersection with education and business. Connecting communities, classrooms, and corporations, she identifies critical business and social impact drivers that encourage equity, build valuable alliances, fuel stakeholder engagement, and thoughtful deployment of resources. From producing speaker series for school districts, to organizing corporate coat drives for 20,000 students – Yates is recognized for her keen ability to strategically connect partners and creative brand tactics. She defines her 'professional ministry' as being the engineer of corporate and community partnerships executed while uplifting human capital, generating financial resources and being socially responsible.



KATHLEEN ZIMMERMAN-OSTER, PH.D.

Dr. Kathleen Zimmerman-Oster is a professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Detroit Mercy. She also serves as the director of the Industrial/Organizational Psychology Master of Arts Program and Director of Research, Evaluation, and Leadership Development for the Institute for Leadership and Service (ILS) at Detroit Mercy. Dr. Zimmerman-Oster earned her Master of Arts and doctorate in Social and Industrial/Organizational Psychology from Wayne State University. Her current research is in the areas of assessment and evaluation of leadership development programs; youth prevention programs; the assessment of leadership potential and its relationship to emotional intelligence and executive coaching; as well as community engagement, coalition building, servant leadership and service learning.

SENIOR IMPACT FELLOWS



JAVAUNE ADAMS-GASTON, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston is the President of Norfolk State University. As President, she is committed to ensuring that Norfolk State University fulfills its mission as an HBCU for the modern world, a university grounded by its heritage, focused on the future, and deeply committed to student success. Her vision is opportunity, access, affordability, growth, sustainability, and student excellence. A strong advocate for collaboration and developing strategic partnerships with local, regional, and state and national stakeholders, Dr. Adams-Gaston is committed to cultivating strong connections. Under President Adams-Gaston's leadership, Norfolk State University has successfully achieved the status of a U.S. News and World Report, Top 20 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) designation for three consecutive years. A nationally recognized higher education leader, President Adams-Gaston is an invited speaker nationally and internationally.



MICHAEL D. ANTHONY, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Michael D. Anthony currently serves as the 16th President of Prairie State College in Chicago Heights, IL. As a first generation African American male from Charlotte, NC, he was educated in public schools through college, and has developed a strong commitment to access, affordability, and equity work. He has 18 years of experience in higher education and previously served as the Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at Rochester Community and Technical College in Rochester, MN. He was the inaugural Chief Diversity Officer at Oakton Community College and inaugural Director of the Cultural Center at the University of Louisville, where he served in the office of the provost. Dr. Anthony's Ph.D. is in Educational Leadership and Organizational Development from the University of Louisville. He is published in the area of African American male success in college, leadership pedagogy, and decision making. He currently lives in Matteson, IL.



WILLIE L. BANKS, JR., PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

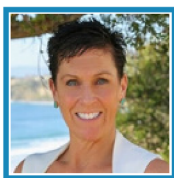
Dr. Willie L. Banks, Jr. currently serves as the Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs at the University of California, Irvine, a position he has held since July, 2019. In his position, Dr. Banks is charged with providing oversight and direction to the Division of Student Affairs, which is comprised of clusters addressing the whole development of UCI students. These clusters include Auxiliary Services, Student Life & Leadership, and Wellness, Health & Counseling Services. The division employs over 800 fulltime staff and 2,000 student employees. The division is dedicated to transforming the lives of the more than 38,000 students attending UCI. Dr. Banks previously worked at Indiana State University, Cleveland State University, and the University of Georgia in a variety of Student Affairs positions. Dr. Banks received his undergraduate degree from Mercer University in Macon, GA and his Master's and Ph.D. in College Student Affairs Administration from the University of Georgia.



SCOTT BROWN, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Interim Dean of the College Dr. Scott Brown is the senior officer responsible for academic and co-curricular life at Dartmouth College. He oversees the division of Student Affairs, including Student Support Services, Health and Wellness, Community Life and Inclusivity, Student Life, and Residential Life and the House Communities. Prior to joining Dartmouth, Dr. Brown served as Interim Associate Vice President and Dean of Students at Northern Arizona University, Vice President and Dean of Students at The College of Wooster, Associate Vice President and Dean of Students at Colgate University, Director of the Daniel L. Jones Career Development Center at Mount Holyoke College, and as an Area Director in Residential Life at Dartmouth. A first-generation college student, Dr. Brown received his undergraduate degree from the University of California, Irvine, his master's degree in education from Indiana University, and his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland.

SENIOR IMPACT FELLOWS



TERI BUMP (SHE/HER/HERS)

Teri Bump is the Vice President of University Relations and Student Affairs for American Campus Communities, the first publicly traded student housing REIT. Bump presents nationally on university trends and issues. Bump is a past ACUHO-I and ACPA Foundation Board trustee and currently serves on the NACAS Education Foundation Board. She has also written for the ACUHO-I Talking Stick, NACAS Journal, the NASPA Leadership Exchange and participated in the "21st Century Project". In 2007 she was awarded the ACUHO-I Corporate Friend Award for service to the association and received the Business Partner of the Year Award for American Campus at the 2007 national NACAS conference and the 2010 ACPA Business Partner of the Year Award. Prior to joining American Campus Communities in 1991, Teri served at various institutions in student affairs. Teri received her bachelor's degree in Sociology from SUNY Oswego and her master's in College Student Development from Alfred University.



JOHN C. HERNANDEZ, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. John C. Hernandez was appointed President of Irvine Valley College (IVC) in July 2020. Previously he served as President of Santiago Canyon College (SCC) from July 2016 to 2020. From 2005 to 2016, he served as SCC Vice President for Student Services. Dr. Hernandez earned his Ph.D. in college student personnel administration from the University of Maryland in College Park; a master's degree in counseling with an emphasis in student development in higher education from Cal State Long Beach; a bachelor's degree in sociology from Cal State Fullerton; and an Associate in Arts degree at Fullerton College. As a first-generation immigrant and a product of the California community college system, Hernandez began his educational journey as an Extended Opportunity Programs and Services student at Fullerton College.



LUOLUO HONG, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

The eldest daughter of Taiwanese immigrants, Dr. Luoluo (pronounced "lō-lō") Hong is the inaugural Vice President for Student Engagement & Well-Being at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Prior to this role, Dr. Hong served the California State University system for seven years. She was also Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and served at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Dr. Hong is the faculty coordinator for the American College Personnel Association's Aspiring SSAO Institute and is a member of the Women's Network Executive Council for the American Council on Education. She now serves on the Board of Trustees for the California Historical Society. Dr. Hong holds a BA in Psychology from Amherst College, a Master's in Public Health from Yale University, and a PhD in Educational Leadership & Research from LSU in Baton Rouge.



KEITH HUMPHREY, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Keith Humphrey joined Cal Poly in December 2012 as Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA). He leads one of the largest divisions on campus overseeing more than 30 departments and 500 staff. Dr. Humphrey has served the California State University as co-Chair of the Student Affairs Council and co-Chair of the Student Mental Health Services Advisory Committee. He received the CSU Wang Family Excellence Award in 2022, awarded annually to only one staff member across CSU's 23 campuses. Prior to joining Cal Poly, Dr. Humphrey was the assistant vice president and dean of students at the University of Arizona. He also served as the assistant professor of practice and coordinator of the master's program in higher education at the university's Center for the Study of Higher Education. Dr. Humphrey served the higher education community as President of ACPA-College Student Educators International from 2012-2013.



ROBERT D. KELLY, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

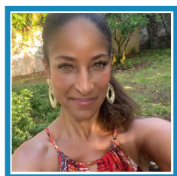
Dr. Robert D. Kelly became the 21st President of the University of Portland on July 1, 2022. He is the first layperson and first person of color to lead UP, a Roman Catholic institution founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1901. Prior to joining UP, Dr. Kelly served as Vice President, Special Assistant to the President, and Clinical Professor at Loyola University Maryland. In this role, he was responsible for mission and identity, intercollegiate athletics, student development, emergency management, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and more. He has held senior administrative and teaching positions at Loyola University Chicago, Seattle University, and Union College, among other institutions. He holds a PhD in Philosophy, Education Policy, Planning and Administration from the University of Maryland; a master's degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration from the University of Vermont; and a bachelor's degree in Arts and Political Science from Loyola University Maryland.

SENIOR IMPACT FELLOWS



RENIQUE KERSH, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Renique Kersh is the Vice President for Student Affairs at Simmons University in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Kersh is an outstanding leader with over 20 years in higher education and a strong commitment to putting students at the center of important institutional decisions. Her experience both in academic and student affairs provides her with a broad understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing students and has positioned her well to lead institutional efforts to improve retention, enhance the student experience and foster equity minded approaches to this critical work. Dr. Kersh is a proud alumna of the HERS Institute and the Colleges of the Fenway Leadership Academy. Dr. Kersh earned her B.A. in Communications from Oakland University, her M.Ed. in College Student Personnel from the University of Maryland and her Ph.D. in Community Health from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.



DONNA LEE (SHE/HER/HERS)

A local New Yorker, Donna received her B.A. from the University of Tampa and her M.Ed. in Counseling from Boston University. She served in the U.S. Army for 9 years, earning the rank of Captain. She discovered her passion for higher education and her vocation as a Student Affairs professional when she accepted a position at Rollins College in 1996. In 2008, her journey took her to Agnes Scott College, where she served for 7 years as the VP for Student Life & Dean of Students. She later served for 6 years as the VP for Student Affairs at Macalester College and had the privilege to serve as the president of ACPA. She has since returned to Rollins College as the VP for Student Affairs. A proud mother, Lee receives daily inspiration from her son, Jonathan, who continually reminds her of the importance of reflection, integrity, and authenticity.



KARNELL MCCONNELL-BLACK, ED.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Karnell McConnell-Black is the vice president for student life at Reed College in Portland, OR. He has 14+ years of experience in higher education. Karnell has a bachelor's degree in communication, a master's in education, and a doctorate in education. He has served in a variety of professional roles including coordinator of orientation and first-year programs at Loyola University Chicago; director of student involvement, leadership, and orientation; and vice president of student affairs and dean of students at Westminster College. He also serves as the current past president for the Association of Orientation, Transition, and Retention in Higher Education (NODA) and the chair of the NASPA 2023 Western Regional Conference. Dr. McConnell-Black holds a bachelor of arts in communication and a master of arts in higher education administration from Loyola University as well as a doctorate of education in educational leadership and policy from the University of Utah.



DAVID MCKINNEY (HE/HIM/HIS)

David McKinney is executive director of Youth Leadership Programs at the Aspen Institute. McKinney has more than twenty-five years of experience working in the US social sector to advance equity and opportunity for young people, families, and marginalized communities. Prior to joining Aspen Institute, McKinney served as executive vice president of public affairs with The New Teacher Project, where he oversaw philanthropy, communications, and business development, and led broad public engagement efforts to implement better experiences for students in K-12 schools in some 350 communities across the nation. McKinney was honored with an Aspen Institute Fellowship for emerging nonprofit leaders in 2010 and selected by Independent Sector as an American Express NGen Fellow in 2009. McKinney holds a bachelor's degree in education policy from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and began his career as a community organizer in his hometown of Milwaukee.



SALVADOR B. MENA, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Born in Harlem, New York, and raised by a single parent in the South Bronx, Dr. Salvador Mena graduated from the New York City public school system and was the first in his family to attend college. Leaving the Bronx to attend college in Maine proved to be a transformative experience that inspired him to pursue a career in higher education and affirmed his commitment to inclusion and social justice issues. Dr. Mena began his career in education by serving as a Student Advisor with Job Corps. Over the last 25 years, Dr. Mena has served college students in various student affairs roles at public and private institutions. Dr. Mena has held positions at the College of Staten Island of the City University of New York, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Maryland-College Park, Goucher College, Brown University, Illinois State University, and the University of Maine. He currently serves as the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Rutgers University-New Brunswick, overseeing a comprehensive Division of Student Affairs and serving a student body of over 40,000 students.

SENIOR IMPACT FELLOWS



CLAUDIA MERCADO, ED.D. (NAME PREFERRED)

Dr. Claudia Mercado is a scholar practitioner who serves as the Associate Provost for Student Affairs at Harper College, a community college in Palatine, IL, and was awarded the Community College Professional Award by NASPA in 2022. Dr. Mercado's work is in addressing student basic needs, increasing student completion, reducing equity gaps and increasing students' sense of belonging through intentional engagement. In 2019, Dr. Mercado was named an Aspen President Fellow, developing leadership competencies to lead community colleges. Dr. Mercado teaches in Chicago at Northeastern Illinois Universities Goodwin College of Education, Higher Education Administration program. Dr. Mercado has been involved in numerous national, state and regional presentations, is active with NASPA and is a contributing author in various books. Dr. Mercado earned a MS and Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Kansas and a BA in English from Missouri State University.



KENECHUKWU (K.C.) MMEJE (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. K.C. Mmaje (pronounced MAY-jay) serves as Vice President for Student Affairs at SMU. In his current role, Dr. Mmaje provides strategic leadership for areas that directly impact a student's success and sense of belonging on campus. Driven by an earnest desire to provide an exceptional experience for all SMU students, Dr. Mmaje pioneered the development and implementation of Student Affairs' strategic plan, Cultivating Courageous Change – a guiding ethos outlining the division's commitment to fostering a dynamic, vibrant and inclusive campus that supports continued student development and learning. Dr. Mmaje received his bachelor's degree in sociology and Black studies from the University of California-Santa Barbara, his master's degree in higher education student affairs administration from the University of Vermont and his doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Southern California.



PATTY PERILLO, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Patty Perillo has served as the Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA) and Affiliate Faculty member at the University of Maryland (UMD) since January 2020. Prior to her work at UMD, she served as the VPSA at Virginia Tech for seven years. She has also worked at the University of Delaware (UD), State University of New York (Plattsburgh and Albany campuses) and Davidson College. Her work has always focused on student success, learning, academic and student affairs partnerships, and justice – always committed to creating the conditions for students and staff to thrive. She obtained her doctoral degree in Public and Community Health from the UMD. Her master's degree, College Counseling and Student Affairs, and bachelor's degree, Psychology, are from the UD. She has received many honors including ACPA's Esther Lloyd Jones Professional Service Award, ACPA's Diamond Honoree Award, and inductions into Phi Kappa Phi and ODK.



DUSTY PORTER, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Dusty Porter is the Vice President of Student Affairs at Tulane and has been in that role for the past eight years. He is responsible for Housing and Residence Life, Campus Health, the Goldman Center for Student Accessibility, Campus Life, the Carolyn Barber-Pierre Center for Intercultural Life, Campus Recreation, and the Dean of Student's office. Dr. Porter holds a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from Emory University, a Master of Education in higher education and student affairs from the University of Vermont and a doctorate in college student personnel management from the University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Porter was recognized as a Pillar of the Profession by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators. Before assuming his role at Tulane, Dr. Porter served for eight years as vice president of student affairs at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), in Baltimore, Maryland.



KENT PORTERFIELD, ED.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Since 2020, Dr. Kent Porterfield has served as Vice Provost for Student Affairs at Gonzaga University. His career in higher education spans just over three decades. He previously served as Vice President for Student Development at Saint Louis University from 2006-2020 and as Vice President for Student Affairs at Northwest Missouri State University from 1997-2006. He is a past President of the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) and was also a past two-term President of the Missouri College Personnel Association. He has an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis from the University of Missouri – Columbia, and undergraduate and graduate degrees from Northwest Missouri State University. Kent and Nicole celebrated 30 years of marriage in June 2022. They have two daughters. Claire is a law student at Washington University in St. Louis and Grace is in her senior year at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas studying Psychology.

SENIOR IMPACT FELLOWS



JOSÉ-LUIS RIERA, PH.D. (HE/EL)

José-Luis Riera has over 20 years of experience in student affairs and higher education. Since November 2018, as vice president for student life at the University of Delaware, he leads innovative, effective and inclusive co-curricular programs and support services with an aim to enable degree completion and post-graduate success for all students. Riera double majored in music and biology at Muhlenberg College, earned a master's degree in student affairs from Colorado State University and a PhD in college student personnel from the University of Maryland-College Park. He has made numerous presentations at national conferences, is an active contributor to the advancement of higher education and student affairs, and is a member of APLU, ACPA and NASPA. He is the author/coauthor of several articles in professional journals and book chapters. His scholarly interests include student leadership development, higher education leadership innovation, and spirituality within higher education.



THOMAS SEGAR, PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Tom Segar is the Vice President for Student Affairs at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He has over 25 years of professional higher education experience with more than 10 years as a vice president. Dr. Segar taught graduate courses in student leadership development, administrative leadership, and the higher education college student for 10 years. He is a past project manager for the Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership. He is as a co-Lead Facilitator for the LeaderShape Institute, and an alumnus of the Social Justice Training Institute. Dr. Segar holds a B.S. in psychology, with a minor in African American studies, from the University of Maryland, an M.S. in Counseling with a specialization in Student Personnel from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, and a Ph.D. in College Student Personnel Administration with a concentration in teaching and social justice from the University of Maryland.



FRANK SHUSHOK, JR., PH.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Frank Shushok, Jr. is President of Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia. Dr. Shushok has 30 years of work experience in higher education, including 13 years at Virginia Tech in posts that included associate vice president for Student Affairs and a tenured associate professor of Agricultural Leadership & Community Education at Virginia Tech. In 2017, Dr. Shushok was named a Fellow of the American Council on Education and took up residency at Wake Forest University. Dr. Shushok holds a B.S. in history from Baylor University, an M.A. in higher education and student affairs administration from The Ohio State University, and a Ph.D. in higher education policy, planning and analysis from the University of Maryland, College Park.



WILL SIMPKINS, ED.D. (HE/HIM/HIS)

Dr. Will Simpkins is the Vice President for Student Affairs at Metropolitan State University of Denver where he leads student engagement and wellness initiatives, enrollment management, and the Classroom to Career Hub (C2). Dr. Simpkins's previous experiences in higher education span both public and private institutions in New York City as well as serving on the faculty of the Higher Education program at Montclair State University. Simpkins served as co-chair of the Education and Workforce Committee and on the Legislative Policy Council of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, two terms on Manhattan's Community Board 9, and as national co-chair of the Gender and Sexuality Knowledge Community of NASPA. Simpkins holds a doctorate in Higher Education Administration from New York University, an M.Ed. from the University of Maryland, and a B.A. from Virginia Tech.



J. MALCOLM SMITH (HE/HIM/HIS)

J. Malcolm Smith serves as Vice President for Student Development & Dean of Students at Kalamazoo College. He joined Kalamazoo College in 2021. Prior to his appointment at Kalamazoo he served at Salve Regina beginning in 2013 as dean of students and associate vice president before being named vice president in 2019. Smith has worked at a variety of institutions including John Carroll University, Ohio University and University of Illinois at Chicago. He brings extensive experience in multiple student development areas. He has presented on the national and regional level for the National Association for Student Personnel Administration, the Association of Title IX Administrators, and the Association for Student Conduct Administration. In 2006, Smith received the Annuitt Coepts Award for Emerging Professionals from the American College Personnel Association. He holds a B.A. in elementary education and a M.Ed. in college student personnel, both from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio.

SENIOR IMPACT FELLOWS



JOANNE VOGEL, PH.D.

Joanne Vogel is the Vice President of Student Services at Arizona State University where she leads several areas contributing to student support and success including career and professional development services, health and counseling, housing and residential life, fitness and wellness, student conduct, fraternity and sorority life, new student experiences and family programs. Prior to ASU, Vogel filled various administrative and faculty roles at SMU, the University of Central Florida, Stetson University, the Devereux Foundation, and Rollins College. She has also served as an executive leadership coach. Vogel earned her AB in history and political science from Duke University, MS in mental health counseling from Stetson University and PhD in counselor education and supervision from the University of Central Florida.



LORI S. WHITE, PH.D. (SHE/HER/HERS)

Dr. Lori S. White is the 21st President of DePauw University. She is the first female and the first person of color to serve as the President of DePauw. Dr. White has spent over 40 years working in higher education. Prior to her arrival at DePauw she held various student affairs leadership roles, most recently as the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Washington University in St. Louis. Active nationally in several higher education organizations including the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) serving as the Board chair in 2016-17. Dr. White, along with five other Liberal Arts College Presidents, founded LACRELA-the Liberal Arts Colleges Racial Equity Alliance. She also served on the Bipartisan Policy Center Academic Leaders Task Force on Campus Free Expression. Born and raised in San Francisco, CA, Dr. White earned her undergraduate degree from the University of California, Berkeley and a Ph.D. from Stanford University.



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