

Shakeer A. Abdullah, Ph.D.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Administration of Higher Education
Auburn University
Auburn, Alabama [REDACTED]
*Topic: An Investigation of the Academic,
Personal, Professional Experiences and
Multicultural Competence of Diversity Staff in
Higher Education*

**M.A. Higher Education and Student
Affairs**
The Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio [REDACTED]

B.A. Management
Wittenberg University
Springfield, Ohio [REDACTED]

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The University of Minnesota

December 2013- Present

Assistant Vice President for Equity and Diversity

The University of Minnesota Established in 1851 in the Twin Cities (Minneapolis and St. Paul) is the state of Minnesota's flagship, Land-Grant University. Among the 4,000 faculty members, are members of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine, plus the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, among other bodies. There are 32,300 undergraduate students study on the Twin Cities campus. 16,700 graduate and professional students, 6,100 international students, from 142 countries, 2,500 students study abroad—3rd most among U.S. universities. The University of Minnesota ranks among the top 10 nationally in number of graduate Fulbright Scholars and over 400,000 alumni.

The Assistant Vice President (AVP) reports to, supports, and advises the Vice President for Equity and Diversity. The AVP supervises three (3) centers, including the Gender and Sexuality Center for Queer and Trans Life, The Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence, and the Women's Center, and two (2) Program Directors with responsibility for a combined budget of more \$2 million dollars and more than 20 staff. In addition to these units, the AVP is responsible for Fundraising and Development for the Office for Equity and Diversity (OED) and leading Community Outreach efforts for the department.

The AVP works to engage all of the U of M System campuses in the work of implementing the University's Equity and Diversity Vision Framework. Provides leadership and oversight for the planning and designing of programs, services and initiatives that support student access and success and work to meet the needs of various communities—internally and externally. Participate in long-term planning of the office, policy development, and determining new strategies and initiatives to move the office's and University's equity and diversity agenda forward.

Selected Achievements:

- Secured more than \$1.3 million in funding for OED Units and scholarships. Initiated facilities improvements in all of the Centers that report to me, including establishing a new Women's Center. Reimagined and

implemented a new theoretical model for the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence. Led the University initiatives for Men of color, including creating and hiring staff for the new Community Outreach, Retention and Engagement (CORE) position. Created the Multicultural Connections admissions program for young men of color. Hosted the inaugural Minnesota Men Of Color Think Tank, Presented at National Conferences, Managed the educational programming for the controversial Minnesota Vikings versus Washington NFL football game.

Institutional Service

- Office for Equity and Diversity liaison to the University of Minnesota Foundation Corporate Relations team, Office of Admissions Executive Advisory group, Multicultural Outreach Executive Team, Global Programs Services liaison

Community Service

- New Lens Urban Mentoring Society, Minnesota Educational Equity Partnership, YMCA Mission Impact Council, Columbia Heights Youth Football, United Way Volunteer Committee, Masjid An-Nur Board of Trustees, Office of Black Male Achievement Advisory Board, State of Minnesota Employment Practices Committee, Twin Cities Diversity Roundtable

Columbus State University

August 2012- August 2013

Adjunct Professor of Counseling, Foundations and Leadership

Columbus State University (CSU) offers nationally distinctive programs in the arts, education, business, nursing and more. Columbus State provides a creative, deeply personal and relevant college experience. Serving the Southeast while attracting students from around the world, CSU thrives on community partnerships to deliver excellence for students who want to achieve personal and professional success in an increasingly global environment. CSU is part of the University System of Georgia, enrolling more than 8,200 students in a wide variety of degree programs, from online degrees to a doctorate in education. Since 1958, CSU has educated students who have gone on to become leaders at the local, state and national level. Currently, the university offers 46 undergraduate and 42 graduate degrees.

Graduate Level Courses Taught:

Qualitative Research Methods

The History of Higher Education

Auburn University

July 2008 – November 2013

Director, Multicultural Center
Africana Studies Affiliate Faculty

Auburn University was established in 1856 as the East Alabama Male College, 20 years after the city of Auburn's founding. In 1872, under the Morrill Act, the school became the first land-grant college in the South and was renamed the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama. In 1899 the name again was changed, to the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Finally, in 1960 the name of the school was changed to Auburn University, a title more in keeping with its location, and expressing the varied academic programs and larger curriculum of a major university.

Today, Auburn is one of the few universities to carry the torch as a land, sea and space grant university. Our fall 2014 semester enrollment was 25,912. Our students can choose from more than 140 degree options in 13 schools and colleges at the undergraduate, graduate and professional levels.

Auburn University has developed into one of the largest universities in the South, remaining in the educational forefront with its traditional blend of arts and applied science, and changing with the needs of today while living with a respect for the traditions and spirit that are Auburn.

Selected Achievements

Served as the opening director of redesigned center focused on supporting all students as they explore multiple aspects of diversity. The Director supervised professional and student staff, managed Center facilities and operations while planning and facilitating campus programs. This position oversaw a budget of more \$100,000 and advised and funds twelve active student organizations. I actively assessed office programs and Center operations and participate in community outreach. Conference planning was also required of this position.

Major accomplishments:

- Increased individual Center contacts from 1,000 people in year One to more than 10,000 in year four.
- Responsible for securing grant funding of \$15,000 for center initiatives
- Created and facilitated leadership programs for student organizations
- Created campus wide Safe Zone GLBT training programs
- Created, taught, and advised a learning community for students of color

Africana Studies Affiliate Faculty

Lectured on topics related to the African Diaspora and diversity in higher education.

Institutional Service

Guest Lecturer for the Preparing Future Faculty Seminar *Preparing for Diversity in the Classroom* 2013, Guest Lecturer for Rehabilitation Counseling Course (Alabama State University) *Diversity and Disabilities* 2011, Co-Instructor- Education Foundations 3000; *Diversity of Learners and Settings* 2010, Instructor- University 1050 *Success Strategies for the Auburn Experience* 2009-2010, Guest Lecturer in UNIV 1000, UNIV 1050, English Composition, Counseling Special Populations, Introduction to Theater, Gender Communication 2008- 2013, Harold A. Franklin Society Men of Color Organization Advisor, Advisor to Harold A. Franklin Learning Community, Office of Student Affairs Diversity Programs Assessment Team, LEADERshape leadership conference Cluster Facilitator, LEADERshape leadership conference guest leader, Health, Wellness and Safety Committee member, iLead student Leadership conference facilitator and planner, Residence Life Transition Team- Academic Partners Committee Chair, Bias Response Team member, Division of Student Affairs Professional Development Committee, Division of Student Affairs Strategic Planning Committee, A&P Committee service on the Facilities Committee, Vice Provost for Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs review committee, Women's Resource Center Advisory Board, University Search committee service

Community Service

Alpha Phi Alpha, Delta Iota Lambda chapter, One Columbus Youth Summit Program Facilitator, Project Rebound Hip-Hop Summit panelist, Carver High School Job Fair Volunteer, Beyond The Game Sports Volunteer, Columbus Youth Football Volunteer, Columbus Youth Soccer Volunteer

Capital University Law School

July 2006 - June 2008

Director, Student Affairs and Multicultural Affairs

A comprehensive, independent university founded in 1830 and rooted in the Lutheran tradition, Capital is the oldest institution in Central Ohio. Its student body of about 3,600 students engages in active learning and hands-on experiences in and out of the classroom, high-impact experiences that optimize learning and prepare them with the skills and confidence to become purposeful leaders in their communities and in their fields.

Selected Achievements

I coordinated the exam proctoring process, was responsible for hiring and evaluating exam proctors, and supported Students covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act. In this position I also managed a departmental budget of more than \$100,000 and advised and funded student organizations. In addition to the operations responsibilities, I

recruited students to the law school and served on admissions committee and created pipeline programs to attract students of color. As the Director, I was responsible for counseling enrolled and prospective students created programs that contributed to the retention of students of color and developed community service programs while planning and facilitating campus programs.

Major Accomplishments:

- Created new policy for students with disabilities
- Revised the accommodated exam process
- Hosted a Continuing Legal Education course

Institutional Service

Served on the Commencement Committee, Hosted Men and Women of Color Retreats, Guest Lecturer in the Trinity Lutheran Seminary World Religions Course 2006, Service as a Human Dignity Resource Associate for Capital University, Served on the Dr. Martin Luther King Days of Learning planning committee, Facilitated Alumni continuing education program

Community Service

Student in the City Interfaith Community Service Board, Named to the 2007 Who's Who in Black Columbus list, African American Leadership Institute Fellow, Graduate of the State Senator Ray Miller Institute for Change and Leadership, Member of the United Way's Cultural Competency Standards Committee, Member of the Board of Rebuilding Together Central Ohio, Advisory Board Member of the Eldon Ward YMCA, Columbus, Ohio

The Ohio State University

July 2004- July 2006

Program Coordinator, New Diversity Initiatives

The Ohio State University's main Columbus campus is one of America's largest and most comprehensive. More than 58,000 students select from 15 colleges, 200 undergraduate majors, and 250 master's, doctoral, and professional degree programs attend. As Ohio's best and one of the nation's top-20 public universities, Ohio State is further recognized by a top-rated academic medical center and a premier cancer hospital and research center. The university's total research expenditures, 2013-2014, topped \$982.5 million. The university's innovative prowess attains world-class status, particularly in critical areas such as cancer, infectious disease, advanced materials, and ag-bio products that feed and fuel the world. An additional 6,500 students attend Ohio State's regional campuses in Lima, Mansfield, Marion, and Newark, and the Agricultural Technical Institute in Wooster. Founded as a federal land-grant institution in 1870, the university has awarded 698,482* (*as of August 2014) degrees since 1878. Its legacy extends to more than 500,000 living alumni.

Selected Achievements

In this position, I planned and coordinated initiatives that supported emerging communities of students who had not yet reached a critical mass on campus. As the Coordinator, I facilitated a co-curricular transcript program as a part of the Nationwide Diversity Leadership Transcript Program (DLTP). I managed budgets for New Diversity Initiatives and DLTP totaling more than \$85,000.00. I designed and developed programs related to various cultural domains and delivered cultural and leadership presentations across campus while collaborating with faculty, staff, academic departments and administrative offices.

Major Accomplishments:

- Oversaw \$280,000 grant renewal of Nationwide Diversity Leadership Transcript Program
- Created university interfaith initiative
- Hosted a Global Nomads Conference
- Co-Hosted an Afghan Women Leaders Conference
- Created and supported a Multiracial Student Organization

Institutional Service

Served on the Ohio Union Council, United Black World Month Advisor, Guest Lecturer Education Policy and Leadership 887 Diversity in Higher Education, Education Policy and Leadership Seminar in Higher Education, and Sociology 101, College of Pharmacy Cultural Competency, Member of the Student Affairs Diversity Training Committee 2005-6, Member of the 2005-2006 Outstanding Student Organization Selection Committee, Member of the 2004-2005 Outstanding Graduate and Professional Student Award Selection Committee, Advised Alpha Psi Lambda Coeducational Latino interest Fraternity, Sexual Violence Education and Support workshop facilitation

Community Service

Graduate of United Way Project Diversity Board Training Program, Member of American Red Cross, Central Ohio Region Diversity Task Force

Wittenberg University

January 2000- August 2002

Admissions Counselor

A Lutheran-affiliated liberal arts college in Southwest Ohio, Wittenberg enjoys a national reputation for excellent academic standards and is widely known for its friendly and welcoming atmosphere. In addition to offering course work in the humanities, arts and sciences, Wittenberg also offers distinct academic programming in non-traditional areas in most liberal arts colleges, including business and teacher education certification. Students who attend Wittenberg tend to rank in the top quarter of their high school class, and many are fully engaged leaders, who are involved with everything from student government to athletics. It's no surprise that Wittenberg has more than 120 active clubs to cultivate all interests, as well as 23 varsity sports that compete at the highest levels in NCAA Division III.

Selected Achievements

I recruited high school students from the Midwestern and Eastern United States and supported students of color through the admissions and enrollment process. I created regional and on-campus programs for prospective students, parents, and high school guidance counselors. This position worked with faculty and enrolled students to create opportunities for direct contact with prospective students. I also planned on-campus entertainment activities for prospective students and communicated with prospective students on a continual basis.

Major Accomplishments:

Recruited the largest class of African American class to Wittenberg at the time.

Institutional Service

Supported the Concerned Black Students organization, Served on President's Diversity Committee, Graduate Advisor Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Xi Chi Chapter (2000-02)

Community Service

Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Rho Lambda Chapter

International Educational Experience

Auburn University Abroad, Lumbadzi, Malawi
University of Cairo, Cairo, Egypt
Lancaster University, Lancaster, England

June 2012
March 2004
Summer 2003

Publications

Abdullah, S. A., Llanes, J.R., Henry, D. (2015) White Disadvantage: The Effects of Racial Isolation on White Pre-Service Teachers. In the *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies in Education* Vol 3, No 2.

Abdullah, S. A. (2012). *Baptism by Fire; An Investigation of the Experiences and Multicultural Competence of Diversity Staff in Higher Education*. LAP Lambert Academic Publishing.

Abdullah, S. (2011). The implications of Muslim beliefs, practices, and traditions on university teaching and learning. In J. E. Groccia, M. A. T. Alsudairi (Al-Sudairy), & W. F. Buskist (Eds.), *Handbook of College and University Teaching; A Global Perspective*. Sage Publications.

Memberships

NASPA Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education
 ABCC Association of Black Cultural Centers Vice President
 ACPA College Student Educators International
 Wittenberg University Alumni Board
 NASAP National Association of Student Affairs Professionals

Conference Presentations and Panels

Presented *'What to Do When (So Called) Allies Attack: Turning Counter-Productive Battles Into Campus-Wide Progress'* at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity (NCORE) in Washington, DC May 28, 2015
 Presented *Get it How You Live: A Black Male Living and Learning Community as a Tool for Persistence, Retention, Leadership, and Graduation* at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity (NCORE) in Indianapolis, Indiana May 28, 2014
 Presented *Introducing Muslim Student Development Theory: A New Approach to Understanding Muslim Students in American Higher Education* at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity (NCORE) in New Orleans, Louisiana June 1, 2013
 Presented *Implication of Muslim Beliefs, Practices, and Traditions and their Impact on Teaching and Learning* at the Global Perspectives on College and University Teaching Symposium in Auburn, Alabama April 9, 2013
 Presented *Transferable Skills: Overcoming Professional Stereotypes* at the NASPA Conference in Orlando, Florida March 18, 2013
 Presented *Professional Development for Diversity Staff* at the Alabama Association of Higher Education Diversity Officers in Auburn, Alabama November 5, 2012
 Presented *Even in the age of Obama, Being Black (or Latino or Asian) Is Not Enough* at the ABCC Conference at Purdue University October 26, 2012
 Presented at the Biggio Center Cross Cultural Perspectives on Teaching and Learning Symposium on *Muslim Beliefs, Practices, and Traditions* 2011
 NASAP Mid-Year Conference; Presented *Creating and Hosting Men of Color Conferences and Retreats: A Practitioner's Guide* Atlanta, Georgia
 Panelist for AU Counseling Psychology Conference featuring Janet Helms 2009
 AU Women's Leadership Conference Presenter 2009, 2010, 2011
 Women's Leadership Kickoff Event Presentation *Getting Involved on Campus* 2010
 Presented *Modern Activism* at the Capital University Martin Luther King Day of Learning program January 21, 2008 Columbus, Ohio
 Facilitated the Bell Resource Center on the African American 2007 and 2006 Male Early Arrival Program at The Ohio State University
 2007 Presented a workshop on *Educating African American Males* at Westmoor Middle School, Columbus, Ohio
 Served on the Houston Law Conference Panel *Law School Diversity 101: How to Cope with the Harsh Realities of Prejudice in the Law School Environment and Make the Most of the Diversity You Bring* in Houston, Texas
 John Mercer Langston African American Pre-Law Conference Law School Admissions Panelist
 Presented at the 13th, 12th, and 11th National Conference on Diversity, Race, & Learning topics included *Combating the "I Got Mine" Mentality: Passing the Educational Torch Through Generations, "Going Above and Beyond": Exploring Personal & Professional Narratives of Institutional Agents, and Racial Theme Parties*
 Presented *The Game of Oppression* at the 2007 ACPA/NASPA Joint Meeting Pre-conference in Orlando, Florida

Presented *The Game of Oppression* at the Alliance For Graduate Education in Mississippi 2007 Symposium
 Presented workshops on Somali Etiquette to the Franklin County Child Development Council and United Cerebral Palsy Association
 Featured Presenter at Wittenberg University's Black Knowledge Conference 2007
 Presented a session on College Opportunities at the Harambee Christian School in 2007
 Presented *The Challenge of Leadership* at the 2006 Black and Latino Student Leadership Conference at Ohio Wesleyan University
 Served as 2006 Guest Principal for a Day at Broadleigh Elementary School, Columbus, Ohio
 2006 Graduation Speaker at Clinton Middle School, Columbus, Ohio
 Otterbein College Lecture: *Where Are the Brothers At? Black Male Leadership Needed* 2006
 Presented "Diversity: Communicating Beyond our Differences" at the Norman Amaker Public Interest Law Retreat, February 2005
 Designed and facilitated *The Roadmap to Success* Black Male Leadership Retreat, 2003, 2004, and 2005

Invited speaking engagements

White Disadvantage at Minneapolis Community and Technical College, June 16, 2015
Multicultural Competence in Higher Education presented to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System
Creating a Multiculturally Competent Community in Higher Education: Going Beyond Our Campus Borders at the Higher Education Recruitment Consortium Spring 2014 Joint Membership Meeting
The Multicultural Myth at the Inaugural YMCA Regional EMLE Conference 2014
 US Department of Agriculture Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Speaker May 9, 2012
 Columbus, GA LINKS, Inc. STEMology Keynote Speaker 2012
 Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society Reception Keynote Speaker 2012

AWARDS

Minnesota Educational Equity Partnership 'All My Relations' Award Recipient	2015
Canton McKinley Senior High School Educational Trail Blazer Award recipient	2013
John Mercer Langston Bar Association Outstanding Contribution Award	2007
Outstanding Graduate Student at The Ohio State University	2004
Broadwell Chinn Scholarship	1995 - 1999

LANGUAGES

English- fluent
 Spanish- speak, read, and write with basic competence