

MI-ACE Women's Network Conference 2020: Advancing Women in Higher Education

ACE WOMEN'S
Network™
Michigan

RODNEY PATTERSON PLENARY SPEAKER THE LEARNER'S GROUP

Rodney Patterson is one of the nation's most effective and engaging diversity and inclusion facilitators. He served as the chief curriculum designer and lead facilitator for the Learner's Group's successful NCAA advanced diversity education programs. Mr. Patterson's numerous corporate roles include his former position as Corporate Diversity Officer for CoBank and Diversity Resource to Farm Credit System's four largest Banks. Previously, Mr. Patterson served as President of Hales Franciscan High School in Chicago, IL and Director of Inclusion and Talent Management at the executive search firm, Hudson Highland.



Mr. Patterson also held the position of Assistant to the Vice President for Multicultural Development and Director of Racial Ethnic Student Affairs for Michigan State University, where he designed and oversaw the implementation of a comprehensive diversity and inclusion model that successfully served MSU's entire campus enterprise. He served in a similar capacity at the University of Vermont. Mr. Patterson has had the privilege of serving as a consultant and facilitator for training and development for several Fortune 500, 100 and 50 organizations, governmental, non-profit, and social services agencies.

Mr. Patterson has served as a consultant with a broad array of large, multinational corporate clients, which included General Mills, Bank of America and Mercer. Mr. Patterson has also worked with professional sports franchises, the NFL's San Francisco 49ers, and the NBA's Denver Nuggets, on diversity matters. His consulting services with professional sports organizations ranged from working with the team's ownership and executive management to coaches, staff, and the professional athletes themselves. Mr. Patterson serves on the Board of Directors at Madonna University, the Agriculture Futures of America and the Denver Seminary.

Mr. Patterson has been certified as a trainer/facilitator with several major companies including ProGroup, Inc., Advanced Research Management Corporation (ARMC), Stir Fry Seminars, and Carlson Learning Company. In addition to his work in higher education, Mr. Patterson also served as the Assistant to the Mayor of Burlington, Vermont, Vermont's largest city.

Recently, Mr. Patterson republished his book, "Trumping the Race Card: A National Agenda - Moving Beyond Race and Racism."

MI-ACE Women's Network Conference 2020: Advancing Women in Higher Education

ACE WOMEN'S
Network™
Michigan

LISA SUMMEROUR PLENARY SPEAKER THE LEARNER'S GROUP

As Senior Vice President of Consulting Services, Dr. Summerour relies on her skills as a facilitator, presenter and empowerment coach to help leaders establish a consensus across multiple organizational levels; for the purposes of improving employee relationships and fostering an environment that encourages discretionary effort, through effective and sustainable employee engagement strategies.



Dr. Summerour has worked as an adjunct professor teaching online courses in career development and exploration, and business ethics and sustainability, where she was known for creating successful online teaching environments that resulted in student engagement beyond the course structure. She also worked as an experiential learning specialist in career services where she developed and facilitated live, interactive webinars designed to educate students and alumni on career opportunities and interview preparation.

With over 30-years of experience in sales and customer service, Dr. Summerour has a strong focus on what she describes as internal and external client satisfaction. She has presented as a facilitator and motivational speaker, for sales teams of as few as 10 to national conventions hosting nearly 4,000 attendees. Dr. Summerour is a professionally trained life coach with specific training for facilitating groups in both telephone and online individual and group environments. She has completed the Train the Trainer certification, is a certified WholeBrain Practitioner, and certified to conduct Equitable Leadership Assessments (ELA).

Dr. Summerour co-authored "The 4-Tions: Your Guide to Developing Successful Job Search Strategies," which has been distributed to more than 20 countries. Most recently, Dr. Summerour published her, "What Went Well? Journal" The What Went Well? There is a journal for adults and one specifically designed for children. Both journals encourage individuals to be intentional about focusing on the good things that happen to them, around them, and because of them - daily.

Dr. Summerour earned a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Trenton State University, a Master's degree in Management from Indiana Wesleyan University and a second Master's degree in Christian Studies with a focus on Christian Leadership from Grand Canyon University. She earned her Ed.D. in Ethical Leadership from Olivet Nazarene University. Dr. Summerour is on the Board of Trustees at Villa Maria College in Buffalo, NY.

MI-ACE Women's Network Conference 2020:

Advancing Women in Higher Education

ACE WOMEN'S
Network™
Michigan

EBONI ZAMANI-GALLAHER
PLENARY SPEAKER
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Eboni M. Zamani-Gallaher is professor of higher education and community college leadership at the University of Illinois. She is the director of the Office for Community College Research and Leadership.

Zamani-Gallaher previously served as associate head of the Department of Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership and associate dean of the Graduate College at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She currently serves as the executive director of the Council for the Study of Community Colleges. She had taught at Eastern Michigan University for 13 years.

Zamani-Gallaher earned a doctoral degree in higher education administration from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.