

STATEWIDE CONFERENCE

Trustees

*of Massachusetts Public
Higher Education*

Thursday, October 31, 2019
DoubleTree Hotel, Baldwin/Chandler Room
Westborough, MA



MASSACHUSETTS
Department of
Higher Education

Conference Agenda

8 a.m. – 10 a.m. **Conference Registration/Coffee/Networking**

Pre-Meetings

8 a.m. Trustee Liaison Session **Edgewood Room**

9 a.m. State University Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Presidents **Jonathan Room**

9:30 a.m. Community College Trustees and Presidents **Edgewood Room**

Main Conference

10 a.m. **Welcome**

*Matt Noyes, Director of Trustee & Governmental Relations,
MA Department of Higher Education*

10:05 a.m. **Keynote: Equity Ready Boards as Bridge Builders**

*Demetri L. Morgan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Higher Education,
Loyola University Chicago School of Education*

*Raquel M. Rall, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Higher Education,
University of California, Riverside*

11:30 a.m. **Break**

11:40 a.m. **Advancing the Equity Agenda at the Institution and System Level**

Carlos E. Santiago, Ph.D., Commissioner, MA Department of Higher Education

12:15 p.m. **Lunch**

12:45 p.m. **Panel Discussion: Boards of Trustees and Institutional Strategic Plans**

Chris Gabrieli, Chair, MA Board of Higher Education – Moderator

*Patricia Marshall, Ph.D., Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs & Student Success,
MA Department of Higher Education*

Kathy Murphy, Trustee, Salem State University

Yves Salomon-Fernandez, Ph.D., President, Greenfield Community College

1:15 p.m. **Break**

1:30 p.m. **From Data to Information to Knowledge: Using PMRS to Guide Discussion in Performance Improvement**

*Mario Delci, Ph.D., Assistant Commissioner for Evaluation & Policy Analysis,
MA Department of Higher Education*

*Jonathan Keller, Ph.D., Senior Associate Commissioner for Research & Planning,
MA Department of Higher Education*

*Sarah Mealey, Assistant Commissioner for Analytics & Digital Services,
MA Department of Higher Education*

2:30 p.m. **Closing Remarks**

2:35 p.m. **Program Ends**

Keynote: Critical Higher Education Governance Collaborative (CHEGC)



Demetri L. Morgan, Ph.D., is currently an Assistant Professor of Higher Education at the Loyola University Chicago School of Education. Dr. Morgan's broad research interests center on the purpose and responsibilities of higher education in a diverse democracy. Accordingly, Dr. Morgan's governance research agenda seeks to understand and illuminate how higher education governing boards contribute or detract from equity and inclusion efforts aimed at responding to the changing demographics of higher education. He is currently leading a study examining the ways in which governing boards' strategic plans serve competing purposes that simultaneously convey an awareness of systemic challenges for minoritized students while also not committing resources to materially change those conditions. Additionally, Dr. Morgan is working on a project examining the

role of governing boards in institutional responses to socio-political issues such as the Black Lives Matter and #MeToo movements as well as immigration reform for DACA students. Dr. Morgan's research has been published in the *Review of Research in Higher Education*, the *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education*, the *NASPA Journal of Women and Higher Education*, and the *eJournal of Public Affairs*. Additionally, Demetri's work has been shared at national conferences including the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) and the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Dr. Morgan received his Ph.D. in Higher Education from the University of Pennsylvania, his M.S. Ed. in Higher Education and Student Affairs from Indiana University-Bloomington, and his B.A. in Political Science from the University of Florida. For CHEGC, Dr. Morgan works to organize and manage operations to facilitate development and long-term success.



Raquel M. Rall, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Higher Education at the University of California, Riverside. Prior to that appointment, she was a UC Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow and an Assistant Research Professor at the University of Southern California. She has a Ph.D. in urban education policy from the University of Southern California and a dual bachelor's degree in Human Biology and African and African American studies from Stanford University. Her research is centered on higher education leadership and governance. Of particular interest to Rall is research that helps further illuminate and connect aspects of decision-making that are central to concepts of equity, diversity, and inclusion. Rall believes that the governance of higher education has received insufficient study in comparison with its import, power, and influence over all facets of the academy. With her

research, Rall aims to push research on higher education governance from the periphery to the core in order to better understand the decisions and decision-makers who are tasked with de jure control of higher education. Rall has presented her work at national conferences including the Association for the Study of Higher Education, the American Educational Research Association, and the Association of Governing Boards. Her research has been funded by the Spencer Foundation and has been published in the *Journal of Negro Education* and the *Journal of Higher Education Management*. She is active with programs and initiatives centered on equity, diversity, inclusion, and leadership both on and off-campus. For CHEGC, Dr. Rall is charged with identifying, developing and structuring partnerships with entities that support CHEGC's mission, program areas, and key initiatives in order to amplify CHEGC's reach, expertise, influence, and resources.



Felecia Commodore, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Higher Education in the Educational Foundations and Leadership at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. Felecia's research focus areas are leadership, governance, and administrative practices with a particular focus on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority-Serving Institutions. Felecia's research interests also lie in how leadership is exercised, constructed, and viewed in various communities, and the relationship of Black women and leadership. Felecia currently has work relating to this research published in the *Journal of Higher Education* and the *Journal of Negro Education*. She is also a contributor to *HBCULifestyle.com* and *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*. She is co-editor of the book *Opportunities and Challenges of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Graduate Education at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs): A Student Perspective*. She is also

the lead author of the book, *Black College Women: A Guide to Success in Higher Education*. Felecia has a background working as an admissions counselor and academic advisor at Trinity University, Washington, D.C., and the University of Maryland, College Park respectively. Felecia received her Ph.D. in Higher Education from the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education. She also obtained an M.A. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Maryland, College Park, MD, and a B.S. in Marketing with a minor in Sociology from Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA. For CHEGC, Dr. Commodore is responsible for all aspects of the team's research process, including the design and development of new research projects.

Conference Materials

The conference materials will be available on the DHE website following the conference. We will send out a post-conference email with a link to the materials.

Conference Survey

Please take a moment to fill out the conference survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/October2019Trustees>

Stay in the Know

DHE***FORWARD***

We encourage trustees to sign up for our monthly email newsletter providing an update on initiatives, events and current trends within the Massachusetts public higher education system.

Subscribe at www.mass.edu/newsletter

