

President's Biography - Jermaine F. Williams, Ed.D.

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams became President of Montgomery College on February 28, 2022.

Previously, he served as Nassau Community College's 7th President from 2019 to 2022. He has several years of progressively responsible experience working towards improving access, retention, graduation, and other measures of student success. His career has focused on ameliorating social inequities and inequalities by strategically creating programs and policies that support historically underrepresented and/or marginalized groups. He has several years of experience creating, managing, and enhancing systemic and systematic institutional and state-wide programs and initiatives that have yielded positive student outcomes.

Dr. Williams is a collaborative leader strategically focused on supporting the mission and spirit of community colleges and the concept of higher education as a public good. His professional and personal passion is to employ an equity minded approach to enhancing access, completion, and post-completion success. He has researched, published, provided keynote addresses, and presented nationally and internationally on topics such as: access, equity, and achievement. Dr. Williams has taught at two-year and four-year institutions of higher education for more than eight years. Currently, he is a faculty member in Northeastern University's Graduate School of Education.

He previously served as Vice President of Student Affairs at North Shore Community College. Prior to that, he was the Assistant Vice President for Access, Transition, and Success at Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU), a Hispanic Serving Institution in Chicago. He also held the role of Assistant Dean of Academic Development at NEIU. Prior to NEIU, Dr. Williams worked at Community College of Philadelphia, a Predominantly Black Institution, leading several of their Achieving the Dream strategies as Director of Student Success Initiatives. He also held roles at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA and St. John's University in Queens, NY.

Dr. Williams received his Artium Baccalaureus in Anthropology and Sociology from Lafayette College, a Master of Arts in Sociology from St. John's University, a Master of Education in Educational Administration with a Higher Education Specialization and a Doctorate of Education in Educational Administration with a Higher Education Specialization from Temple University. He also holds certificates from Harvard University's Graduate School of Education for completion of the Seminar for New Presidents and Management Development Program.

Dr. Williams was selected for the 2018-2019 Aspen Presidential Fellowship for Community College Excellence, a rigorous, ten-month executive leadership program for aspiring community college presidents led by the Aspen Institute. He has served as a member of non-profit Boards and worked closely with Workforce Investment Boards.

Currently, he is on the Board of Directors for United Way of Long Island and a member of the Shirley Chisholm Center for Equity Studies Advisory Board. Ranked in Long Island Business News' Power 25 in Education, Dr. Williams is dedicated to forging partnerships that will help advance equitable educational opportunities throughout the regions