

Taiyani N. Davis, EdD.

~~6547 West North Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53220~~
~~414-743-0024 taiyani.davis@gmail.com~~

An experienced educator passionate about diversity and inclusion efforts in higher education, committed to clear and effective communication in multiple contexts with diverse populations, adept in creating unique approaches to supporting students of color, and positive and courageous about work to attain educational equity.

Taiyani began her path in education in 2017 when she became an Educational Assistant at a K-8 school in Milwaukee where she worked with students on emotional well-being and development, assisted in a kindergarten classroom, and was a substitute in middle school classrooms.

In 2019, Taiyani began her journey as a Manager at a Boys & Girls Club site in Milwaukee, WI. Taiyani's ability to lead, mentor, and be a changemaker has provided opportunities to implement new programming.

Her attention to detail has been utilized in her work as an Admissions Advisor in the UW Systems. She has had the opportunity to plan community events, build relationships with schools in the Waukesha-Milwaukee-Racine communities, and meeting with students and their families as they are exploring higher education at a public institution in Wisconsin.

Taiyani's work specializes in guiding students of color to college but also in the retention of students of color in higher education.

Taiyani serves as a member of Wisconsin Association for College Admission Counseling (WACAC). Taiyani is also a part of the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC).

Taiyani holds a B.A. in Communication Arts from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has earned a M.S in Administrative Leadership with a concentration in Adult, Continuing and Higher Education Administration at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Taiyani also has her EdD in Higher Education Leadership from Alverno College.

She lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with her children Karter, Kaiden and Kai, and her spouse, Khalil Davis, Esq. The children keep them busy with travelling, sports, and their day-to-day.

EMPOWERING EDUCATOR

Inspires colleagues and students to be the drivers of their own learning. Innovates and creates ways to understand educational practice.

DYNAMIC COMMUNICATOR

Conceptually clear speaker, writer, and presenter. Effective and efficient at listening, connecting, and responding in real time.

DIVERSITY & EQUITY CHAMPION

Using education, training and experiences to improve the experience of students, staff and faculty in higher education spaces.

POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Committed to and comfortable in culturally and linguistically diverse environments. Brings good humor and warmth to diverse groups and teams.

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADER

Understands and analyzes the effectiveness of higher education and governmental systems to assist with students gaining equity in the graduation race.

COLLEGIAL COLLABORATOR

Deeply committed to harnessing individual and group talents. Adept in forming, convening, and facilitating teams of higher education staff and faculty,

valuing and integrating multiple perspectives to produce high quality outcomes. Experienced in virtual and distance collaboration structures. Inspires teams to work well and with focus.

ENERGETIC PROBLEM SOLVER

Inclusive and decisive problem-solver. Brings quickness of purpose and a mindful ability to focus individuals and groups on common work. Identifies key leverage points for change and orients groups to accomplish goals.

Taiyani Davis, EdD

~~6644 West Herbert Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53226-4174 | 414-362-1111 | taiyandavis@gmail.com~~

Education

Alverno College — *Ed.D., Higher Education Leadership, 2023*

Dissertation: *Unlocking the Path to Success: Exploring Vincent Tinto's Theory of Student Persistence for Historically Underrepresented Students in Higher Education*

Advisor: Dr. Colleen Hegranes

University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee — *M.S., Administrative Leadership: Adult, Continuing, and Higher Education Administration, 2020*

University of Wisconsin–Madison — *B.A., Communication Arts, 2018*

Experience

DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE AND CAREER PROGRAMMING (2024-PRESENT), HMONG AMERICAN PEACE ACADEMY, MILWAUKEE, WI

Led and managed a department delivering comprehensive college and career advising, including financial aid counseling, scholarship support, and successful college matriculation for graduating seniors. Designed and refined systems and data trackers to streamline data collection and inform continuous improvement, aligned with HAPA's strategic plan and mission. Cultivated new partnerships while maintaining strong relationships with existing partners to expand program impact. Consistently met or exceeded departmental data goals, driving program growth and student success. Provided ongoing professional development and leadership for department staff throughout the academic year.

REGIONAL MULTICULTURAL ADMISSIONS ADVISOR (2021-2024), UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE, LA CROSSE, WI

Tracked data in my territory in order to improve recruitment numbers and adjust recruitment plans. Served as a liaison to prospective students and their families, answering admissions questions, and explaining other related processes; alongside conducting recruitment activities, such as high school visits, college fairs and community events. Worked collaboratively with other admissions advisors and campus partners to support enrollment goals. Implementing new and creative events that encourage interest in the campus. Revised diversity and inclusion efforts and policies based on Wisconsin's rulings behind D&I.

ADMISSIONS ADVISOR (2021-2022), UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE, MILWAUKEE, WI

Tracked data in my territory in order to improve recruitment numbers and adjust recruitment plans. Served as a liaison to prospective students and their families, answering admissions questions, and explaining other related processes; alongside conducting recruitment activities, such as high school visits, college fairs and community events. Worked collaboratively with other admissions advisors and campus partners to support enrollment goals.

CLUB MANAGER (2019-2021), BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER MILWAUKEE, MILWAUKEE, WI

Increased student enrollment by 30% with the use of different recruitment tools. Expanded staffing by 50%. Built effective relationships within the organization and formed several community partnerships. Held events for students to increase their interest in higher education, mental health and finances.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT (2018-2019), MILWAUKEE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES ACADEMY, MILWAUKEE, WI

Designed and followed a complete teaching plan. Taught Reading, Math and Social Studies along with person, social and emotional skills to small and large groups. Welcomed students of all cultural backgrounds and abilities. Met with students in small and large groups to discuss wellness and conduct wellness activities.