

Deanna Michelle Stokes, Ed.D.

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DAVIDSON-DAVIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Thomasville, NC Nov. 1, 2023-Present

Director, Small Business Center

- Manage the resources of the Small Business Center to promote growth, expansion, innovation, increased productivity, and economic development in small businesses and prospective businesses in Davidson and Davie Counties
- Establish and maintain relationships with community leaders and chamber of commerce presidents
- Provide counseling, seminars, and events for small business owners
- Coordinate with the NC State Small Business Center Network in monitoring progress, for accountability, and reporting
- Represent the college at community events to promote the Small Business Center and the College
- Establishing an annual Young (19 and under) Entrepreneurs Summit {YES}
- Encourage small business use of the Davie Education Center
- Manage use of state funding

LUTHER SEMINARY, St. Paul, MN 2020-2023

Director of The Seeds Project for FAITH + LEAD 2022-2023

- Provide strategic oversight to the Seeds Project and fellowship learning community in collaboration with Seeds Project team members and the VP of Innovation, with an eye toward multiplication of impact and long-term sustainability
- Manage the day-to-day operations of the Seeds Project, including designing trainings, tending the recruitment and retention of participants, overseeing the project budget, and working with team contributors
- Shepherd the development of the Seeds platform to scale for impact in reaching ministry entrepreneurs
- Manage a \$392K budget with 8 direct reports
- Plan and implement design thinking spirit-led retreats
- Cultivate and maintain an environment of ongoing experimentation, adaptation, and learning, with regular assessment and feedback loops on project goals, impact, and participant experience
- Serve as soul care coordinator for a small group from cohort one of the MDivX pilot Faith+Lead learning community
- Contribute to the design and development of Faith+Lead Academy module courses and resources
- Serve as a member of the Innovation Leadership Team
- Created and administered surveys in Qualtrics
- Plan and implement design thinking spirit-led retreats
- Secured a \$75,000 grant from a source outside the Seminary
- Podcast host for the Faith+Lead Pivot Podcast
- Serve as a member of the Lilly Preaching Grant team (a \$1,000,000 grant from the Lilly Foundation)

Project Manager for Spiritual Needs Assessment Tool 2022-2023

- Develop a spiritual needs assessment tool
- Work closely with Director of Institutional Effectiveness and VP of Innovation as well as outside consultants
- Assessment tool is to be administered across a broad audience of everyday disciples and leaders

The Seeds Fellowship Coach/Mentor, Co-Curriculum Developer 2020-2021 (Consultant/Contractor)

- Contractor & Team member of the 2021 Seeds Project Fellowship, a 12-month fellowship accelerator of two cohorts of 24 total innovators relating, accelerating, and sharing the difference Jesus makes in everyday

life

- The fellowship was designed to use the design thinking process
- Provide input and advice on the overall direction of the project
- Develop and provide mentoring/coaching to fellowship participants
- Co-Curriculum Developer
- Project Management: Visionary, Director, Organizer, and Co-Host for the June Webinar entitled ROOTED: Innovators Planting Seeds for the Harvest (a virtual Church Planting Webinar)
- Creator and teacher for a Bias and Burnout course on the Faith + Lead platform
- Plan and implement design thinking spirit-led retreats

STOKES CONSULTING, LLC, Thomasville, NC 2019-Present

Owner and Lead Consultant for a firm focused on leadership development, cultural intelligence and other training options for athletic coaches, athletic departments, churches, denominations, businesses, and educational institutions.

- Areas of focus include Cultural Intelligence, Emotional Intelligence, Burnout, Transformational Leadership, and Unconscious Bias
- Work closely with diverse multicultural/multiethnic teams and organizations
- Conduct Webinars/Workshops
- Life Coaching
- Clients include universities in the US, Cuba, and Peru, seminaries, private businesses, denominations, other ministries, and organizations

THOMASVILLE CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION, Thomasville, NC, 2018-2021

Board Member

- Provided every student with the opportunity to receive a sound basic education
- Provided leadership and direction through the formulation of goals and objectives, especially in defining and setting high academic standards for student success
- Created policies that established standards, accountability and evaluation of essential operations of the school system
- Helped ensure legal compliance of board and school system functions
- Performed judicial functions by conducting hearings as appropriate or as required by law regarding decisions of school system personnel or the board
- Advised, counseled and evaluated the Superintendent
- Considered & adopted the approximate \$28 million budget recommended by the superintendent for presentation to the county commissioners
- Advocated for the school system, employees and especially for students in all interactions with other governmental entities and the public

FRESH EXPRESSIONS US, Richmond, VA 2018-2021

Trainer 2018-2021

Director of Cultural Intelligence 2020-2021

Director of Future Church Convocation (FCC): Energizing Mission through the Lens of the Black Church 2021

- Developed Cultural Intelligence training and resources
- Helped facilitate Pioneer Learning Communities
- Recruit others and help deploy resources
- Network with leaders, churches, and denominations
- Participate in overall development of a more multiethnic/multicultural effort for Fresh Expressions
- Project Management: Visionary, Director, Organizer, and Host of the FCC

SUNSET CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, Miami, FL 2014-2015

Interim Principal

- Member of executive leadership staff for school and church
- Inherited a school with a \$300,000 + deficit; helped manage a \$1.3 Million budget
- Successfully implemented strategies/policies to improve overall administrative operations and increased communication with parents

- Passionately and successfully ministered to faculty, students, and staff to empower them to be all that God created them to be
- Inherited a faculty of only 33% certified teachers and increased that number to 100% certified teachers
- Successful fundraising campaign
- Integrated parents in student learning and activities throughout the year
- Also served on teaching/preaching team of the church

DEE STOKES MINISTRIES, INC., Orlando, FL 2009-Present

Founder, President/CEO

- Non-profit, cross-cultural global ministry involved in preaching, teaching, training, missions and discipleship.
- Work closely with diverse multicultural/multiethnic teams and organizations
- Ministered in the U.S., Cuba, Peru, Colombia, Scotland, Philippines, and Cayman Islands
- Established personal pastoral ministry to collegiate sport coaches
- Organize and manage all aspects of the ministry including website, fundraising, finances, contract negotiations, board/advisor selections, board meetings, all ministry paperwork, storage of documents, and office equipment and supplies

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

RELIANT MISSION 2022-2023

Board Member

- Make strategic decisions that advance Reliant's vision to empower its ministry partners & mobilize missionaries globally
- Carry out fiduciary responsibilities in an objective, unselfish, honest, trustworthy, and efficient manner
- Carry out fiduciary responsibilities that lead to a sustainable future by adopting sound, ethical, and legal governance and financial management policies for an approximately \$50 million budget
- Support and supervise the President & CEO

NC EAST DISTRICT OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCH 2021-2023

Director of Multicultural Ministry

- Serve as a resource for district pastors and administrators
- Ex-officio member of the District Board of Administration
- Provide support and resources for district pastors concerning culture and multiculturalism

CHRIST WESLEYAN CHURCH 2020-2023

Assistant Pastor/Teaching and Preaching

- Member of the teaching/preaching team
- Consultant/Advisor for Lead Pastor
- Other ministry duties as assigned

EMMANUEL WESLEYAN CHURCH, Roanoke, VA Oct. 2019-Feb. 2020

Teaching Team Member

- Preached on the preaching schedule rotation for a few months before the Senior Pastor resigned and transitioned to another district

UNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Thomasville, NC 2017-2019

Senior Pastor 2018-2019

- Engaged weekly in worship planning and Biblical preaching/teaching
- Engaged in all aspects of administration and developed systems and procedures for practical implementation
- Facilitated sale of parsonage
- Facilitated the partnership with the United Methodist Foundation to invest church funds for future use

Connections and Formation Pastor 2017-2018

- Established Unity Leadership Institute and taught classes on Spiritual Formation, Revelation, Praying Scripture, Hearing God's Voice, and How to Study the Bible

- Spiritual Formation Coordinator to ensure congregants and community engage in forming a deeper relationship with Christ
- Wrote and received grants for community missional engagement
- Engaged in leadership development and all aspects of administration
- Established Unity Community: A collaborative effort with organizations in the city to share space in the Unity UMC building and empower citizens
- Established 4th Tuesdays: A fresh expression of church within the city to empower citizens, bring the kingdom of God to life in the city, and BE community

LIGHT OF THE WORLD CHRISTIAN TABERNACLE, Stockbridge, GA 2015-2017

Ministry Advisor

- Engaged in preaching and teaching
- Had pastoral oversight for several ministry leaders
- Participated in the prison ministry
- Assisted with assimilation and intake
- Provided preaching coverage for multi-site locations
- Ministry leader for media/television ministry to include:
- Scheduling and working with volunteers
- Coordinated TV broadcast schedule
- Communicated regularly with TV broadcast editor on what to air on the weekly telecast
- Uploaded, organized, and filed preached messages into database
- Co-directed video shoots

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, Belhaven University, School of Business Online Sports Administration and Leadership Graduate Programs **2016-Present**

- **School of Education Dissertation Committee Member**

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, Ohio University, Online Graduate Coaching Education (COED) Program in the Patton College of Education Department of Recreation and Sport Pedagogy **2012-2017**

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, Bridges Christian College, Online **2014**

FACULTY, Faith Assembly of God/Faith Christian Academy, Orlando, FL **2011-2013**

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, College of Education, Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL **2010-2011**

LECTURER, Department of Human Performance and Sport Sciences, Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, NC **Summer 2006-Spring 2009**

LECTURER, Department of Health and Physical Education, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC **Spring 2006**

UNIVERSITY COACHING EXPERIENCE

Head or Assistant Women's Basketball Coach from **1993-2011** for University of Alabama-Birmingham, Murray State University, Texas A&M University, University of Nebraska, East Carolina University, Winthrop University, Winston-Salem State University, and Southeastern University

- 2001 World University Games gold medal team Assistant Coach (China)

COMMUNITY SERVICE/ INSTITUTION COMMITTEES/BOARDS PAST & PRESENT

2020 Leadership Davidson County (NC) Participant

Board of Directors, UNC Charlotte Alumni Association

Board of Directors, Thomasville Novant Health Hospital Foundation

Member, Thomasville City Schools Board of Education

Member, Rotary of Thomasville, NC

Board of Directors, Triad Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Board of Directors, Family Services of Davidson County

Member, Thomasville Multicultural Committee

Member, NHCLC Faith and Education Coalition Leadership Advisory Council

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Quality Enhancement Plan Marketing Committee,

Southeastern University
New Faculty Committee, Southeastern University
Habitat for Humanity volunteer & donor
Board of Directors, Piedmont Chamber Singers, Winston Salem
Student-Athlete Academic Committee, Winston-Salem State University
Member, Shades Mountain Sunrise Rotary, Birmingham, AL
Board of Directors, Greenville, NC Noon Rotary
Member, Greenville, NC Noon Rotary, Paul Harris Fellow
Board of Directors, Students and Athletes for Christ
East Carolina University Committee on the status of women-appointed by the Chancellor

EDUCATION

- Ed.D. Doctor of Education, Educational Leadership
Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA
Dissertation: *Exploring the relationship between cultural intelligence, transformational leadership, and burnout in doctorate of education students.*
- Ed.S. Education Specialist, Educational Leadership
(Graduate with Distinction)
Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA
- MBTF Master of Biblical and Theological Foundations
Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY
- MPA Master of Public Administration
DeVry University, Oakbrook, IL
- B.A. Bachelor of Arts, Sociology
University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, NC

CERTIFICATIONS

- Certificate, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Workplace
University of South Florida
- Cultural Intelligence Certified Facilitator
Cultural Intelligence Center
- Certificate, Theology and Ministry
Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ
- CQ Your Bias: Use Cultural Intelligence to Manage Bias Workshop
Cultural Intelligence Center
- Developing CQ: Working Effectively Across Cultures Workshop
Cultural Intelligence Center

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

- Stokes, D. (2022). *Cultural Competence Workbook: The key to loving one's neighbor*. DSM Kingdom Publishers.
- Stokes, D. M. (2017). *Break the box: A message of hope and inspiration (volume one)*. DSM Kingdom Publishers.
- Stokes, D.M. (2017). *Break the box: A message of hope and inspiration (volume two)*. DSM Kingdom Publishers.
- Stokes, D.M., & Rockinson-Szapkiw, A. (2014). *Cultural intelligence, transformational leadership, &*

burnout: The 21st Century leader's playbook for understanding the relationship between CQ, TL, and Burnout. Lap Lambert.

Stokes, D.M. (2014). *21st Century Leadership*. Publisher: Author.

Stokes, D.M. (2010). *Experiencing GRACE: One woman's yearlong journey with God after the death of her mother.* 220 Publishing.

Stokes, D.M. (2009). "Sideline MVP." *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Inside Basketball.* Chicken Soup for the Soul.