

Biography

Darrin Q. Rankin

Dr. Darrin Q. Rankin is a noted academician, researcher, and administrator in the field of Higher Education. His personal story and journey as an educator have been remarkable. He is a man who has committed his life to empowering others. Those who know him best will tell you that he lives by the motto, "to whom much is given much is required." With a tremendous passion for students, faculty, and staff... Dr. Rankin's passion focuses on educational access and student success.

Throughout his accomplished career- which spans more than two decades, Dr. Rankin has demonstrated a strong commitment to addressing varied needs throughout his community, as well as the educational, personal development and enrollment-related needs of students-which includes assuring access and success for first-generation college students and students traditionally under-represented in higher education.

Dr. Rankin has most recently served as Chancellor and South Regional Vice President with Western Governors University. He led operations across a five state region ranging from Louisiana to New Mexico and led the strategic direction of the online, nonprofit university's Texas Based affiliate with 14,000 students. Rankin served for 11 years as Chief Student Affairs Officer and Vice President of Student Success at Lone-Star College - Kingwood, located in Houston, Texas. The Lone-Star College System is one of the fastest growing Community College systems in the United States and the second largest in Houston, Texas with over 95,000 total students enrolled, including 12,000 enrolled students on the Kingwood Campus respectively.

Dr. Rankin also served Lone Star College – as special advisor and Vice Rector for Academic Affairs and Student Affairs during his tenure with the Lone-Star College System to open a brand-new campus in Fall 2013, which was in Jakarta, Indonesia in partnership with The Putera Sampoerna Foundation.

Prior to LSC-Kingwood, Dr. Rankin served as the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management and Dean of Students at 4-year Catholic Institution, Marygrove College in Detroit. He also served for 3 years as Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs at Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta Georgia and Vice President for Enrollment Management at Dillard University, New Orleans for 11 years respectively.

In 2006, Dr. Rankin made a "surprise" guest presenting appearance on the Montel Williams Show after successfully petitioning for the adolescent child of a mother, who was severely burned and attacked by her husband in a domestic violence situation, to get a full tuition, room, and board scholarship to the college of her choice. An outspoken advocate for inclusion and equality and the less fortunate, Dr. Rankin has served on numerous Boards of Directors for both local and national organizations like Leadership North Houston and The United Way. He brings to his work over two decades of experience leading and evaluating initiatives like Institutional Sensitivity, Diversity, and Intercultural Inclusion. He is an internationally respected and experienced presenter, researcher and academic who practices and advances diversity as a strategic asset to be leveraged to improve organizational outcomes and the human condition.

In May 2011, he received a Commendation from Congressman, Kevin Brady from the eight district of Texas and the United States House Of Representatives for his community service. Dr. Rankin has presented at over 100 conferences and many institutions of higher learning, some international, on matters as relates to Executive Coaching, Diversity Training, Enrollment Management, Student Retention, Student Life, Judicial Affairs Training and more.

He has also received numerous awards for his work with diversity initiatives and his work with African American Males. In his hometown of New Orleans, he created the AAIM (African American Institute For Males), which was initiated in the Summer of 2002. He received awards from two mayors of New Orleans and other city leaders for his work with African American Males. He also successfully launched the AAIM program in Atlanta, Georgia in 2007. Dr. Rankin has also worked with the National Hispanic Institute as a faculty member working with Latin X students on issues as relates to educational access and success. As a Consultant, Professor and Administrator, Dr. Rankin has served numerous institutions of higher learning in several capacities.

Dr. Rankin attended Delgado Community College (Westbank) in New Orleans. He earned, with Dean's honors, a Bachelor of Arts from Loyola University New Orleans, a Master of Science degree in Higher Education Administration with an emphasis on Student Personnel Services from Syracuse University in New York, and a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from Jackson State University. He also studied in 2006 at The Abby in Pontlevoy, France.

Finally, Dr. Rankin is a 2001 alumni of the distinguished Harvard University IEM program, where he was a Bush Hewlett Fellow.

Dr. Rankin is the proud father of three sons, Regis, Ethan and Iain and calls his wife of 24 years Samira not his better half but his better 95%!