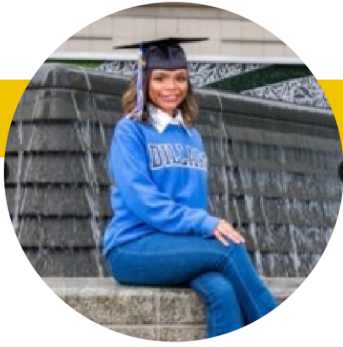




**WESTERN
MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY**



**A Collaboration of Empowering
Scholars to Make a Difference**



DILLARD

UNIVERSITY

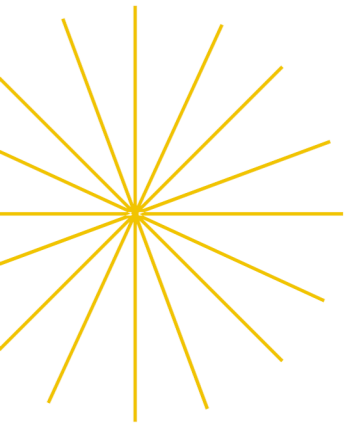


Table of
CONTENTS

Introduction
Brandi Fontenot
Alannia Mosley-Jeneford
Cheyla Alphonse
Ebony Shorts
Danee Gibbs
Deja Holland
Maime Butler
Esther Alene Mathews
Michaela Bradley
Jasmine Patterson
Merrilyn Yeboah
Letetsia Fox
Carmelita Foster
Charles Chatman, Jr.
With Gratitude

INTRODUCTION

Western Michigan University and Dillard University began building collegial interactions in the fall of 2006. As the relationship developed it was clear that Dillard University (DU) and Western Michigan University (WMU) embodied the same values when it came to student success. In the fall of 2015, a partnership was formalized between the two institutions. The primary focus of this partnership is to bring together a community of scholars to advance their educational opportunities, contribute to the academy, encourage faculty engagement, and improve the health and well-being of underserved communities.

The DU and WMU 3/2 collaboration was designed to give students an opportunity to complete a bachelor's degree at DU and complete a master's degree in counseling psychology from WMU within a five-year time frame. Program participants will complete 114 credits in three years at DU prior to entering the Summer Session at WMU. At the completion of 6 credit hours during the Summer I and Summer II sessions, credit will be reversed back to DU to fulfill undergraduate degree requirements. The remaining two years will be completed at WMU to meet requirements for the master's degree in counseling psychology. Students also have the opportunity get a limited license.

The DU and WMU 4+1 collaboration give students an opportunity to complete a bachelor's and a master's degree in Blindness and Low Vision Studies within a five-year time frame (4 years at DU and 1 year at WMU). Participants enrolled at DU will meet all undergraduate degree requirements while dual enrolled.



These students can take 3-6 credit hours at WMU during their senior year at DU. The remaining year will be completed at WMU to meet requirements for a master's degree in Blindness and Low Vision Studies.

WMU has awarded nearly \$2.4 million in fellowships to Dillard graduates at both the masters and doctoral level. Additionally, WMU provides support services and professional development for all graduate students. We believe it is not enough to get students admitted, we are concerned about degree completion and job placement.

WMU is committed to this partnership. We see value in the academic excellence of Dillard students and hope to expand this relationship in even more disciplines.

BRANDI FONTENOT, PH.D.

2019, WMU, PhD Applied Behavior Analysis

2016, WMU, MA Psychology

2014, Dillard University, BA Psychology



About

Dr. Brandi Fontenot serves as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for youth with disabilities at Michigan Rehabilitation Services in Kalamazoo, MI. Her experiences include working with various types of cultures, building professional partnerships with schools. She has skills in mentorship, adult literacy, curriculum development, and advocacy for underserved populations, as well as a wide range of transferable skills.

Her primary research interest concerns the educational needs and services for economically disadvantaged families. The ultimate goal of her research is to understand the environmental factors that affect academic performance for children and youth from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. She wishes to further expand her research by investigating the effects of an interdisciplinary approach on developing practical, cost-efficient, and easily implemented educational programs for teachers working with underrepresented populations.

ALANNIA MOSLEY-JENNEFORD, PH.D., LPC-S, NCC



2021, University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee, PhD,

Educational Psychology

2015, WMU, MA Psychology

2013, Dillard University, BA Psychology

Alannia Mosley-Jenneford is a licensed professional counselor in the state of Wisconsin and a clinical supervisor for therapists in training in Louisiana. Her clinical interests include psychological assessment and mental health and/or substance use diagnoses among adults and adolescents. Her research interests include help-seeking attitudes among minorities, racial identity, cultural competence, and perceived discrimination.

Alannia's clinical training has been in outpatient mental health, inpatient mental health, substance use residential treatment, crisis stabilization, consultation, and supervision of counselors in training. She has provided psychotherapy services to children and adults with mental health and substance use diagnoses. Alannia is currently completing her postdoctoral training through the state of Louisiana with the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities.

CHEYLA ALPHONSE

“ Thank you, Dillard University,
for the preparation to conquer
all of these endeavors ”



Cheyla Alphonse serves as Vice President of Program Operations for a non-profit agency, Future4Teens. In this capacity she develops policies and procedures for all program operations including hiring, training and supervising interns and staff. She also coordinates programs through collaborations with other community organizations for youth in various areas of the country.

While attending WMU, Cheyla won several prestigious awards, including the King/Chavez/Parks Future Faculty Fellowship and the Outstanding Graduate Student of the Year Award. Cheyla credits Dillard University for her preparation to conquer all of these endeavors.

2009, WMU, MA Counseling Psychology

2007, Dillard University, BA Psychology



EBONY SHORTS, LSW

2017, WMU, MSW

2015, Dillard University, BA Social Work

About

Ebony Shorts is a Licensed Social Worker (LSW) who practices as a substance use counselor in Indianapolis, IN. Ebony studied sociology at Dillard University and studied abroad through the *Semester at Sea* program during which she traveled to 18 foreign countries and conducted intensive research on the impact of societal traditions on the nuclear family.

Ebony graduated from Dillard with a Bachelor of Arts in 2015. She transitioned to Western Michigan University and earned her Master's in Social Worker (MSW) in 2017. She continues her professional career working with individuals and families in need.

DANEE GIBBS

2022, Trinity Washington University, MA Special Education

2017, WMU, MA Counseling Psychology

2016, Dillard University, BA Psychology

About

Danee Gibbs began the WMU/DU 3/2 program in Counseling Psychology in 2015. She went on to earn her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Dillard University in May 2016 and her Master's in Counseling Psychology from WMU in December 2017.



While at WMU she worked at Lakeside Academy as a youth counselor where she instantly made an impact on the children. Upon graduation from WMU she earned another master's degree in special education and became a teacher at Howard University Middle School of Math and Science where she continues to make an impact on children's lives.

DEJA M. HOLLAND



Deja Holland earned a BA in Psychology from Dillard University in 2020. After graduating from Dillard she returned home to Michigan where she is currently earning a MA in the Counseling Psychology program at WMU. She entered her third year and expects to graduate in the summer of 2023.

In-progress, WMU, MA Counseling Psychology
2020, Dillard University, BA Psychology

“Dillard and WMU have steered me on the right track to obtain my license and being a competent counselor/psychologist in the next few years!”

MAIME BUTLER, PH.D.

“DU prepared me more than I could have imagined”



Dr. Maime Butler attributes her much of her success to Dillard professors Dr. Lana Chambliss and Dr. Eartha Lee Johnson who helped Maime enhance her research skills and represent herself as a professional, along with providing the opportunity to travel abroad.

At WMU, Maime served as a graduate assistant and taught Holistic Healthcare classes. As a result of her hard work, Maime received the department-level Graduate Teaching Effectiveness award. Her research interest is race-based trauma and stress; racial, gender, and sexual identity; Queer, Trans, and Gender expansive issues; Trauma; Mood-related and anxiety disorders; Holistic practices; Nonreligious spirituality; First generation college students; Training; Outreach, and Workshop facilitation.

Currently, Maime serves as a Staff Therapist/Liaison to the Black and African American Student Community at Purdue University.

2022, WMU, PhD, Counseling Psychology

2013, WMU, MA Counseling Psychology

2010, Dillard University

ESTHER ALENE MATHEWS

2008, WMU, MBA

2007, Dillard University, BS Economics, Finance

Esther Alene Mathews attended WMU as a Thurgood Marshall Fellowship recipient. While at WMU, she secured yet another internship at Ameriprise Financial and graduated with a Master's in Business Administration. She worked for National City Bank and PNC Bank when a job transfer took her to Pittsburgh, PA. While working for the bank she was asked to teach Sunday School at her church. She was later ordained as the head children's minister at Oasis Ministries, Incorporated, and started her own twenty-four hour daycare called Ms. Esther's Tiny World Academy.



Esther went to Kenya and Uganda several times for mission work with a non-profit organization called Bridge of Hope Global where she is head of the children's programs in both countries.

She is currently back in the business field where she is Office Manager at a restaurant, balancing the accounting books and conducting paperwork for all human resources needs.

On a personal note, Esther is also in the process of adopting a little girl from Uganda that she met in 2019, and she looks forward to going back overseas to help with more missionary work.

MICHAELA BRADLEY



2016, WMU, MA Counseling Psychology
2013, Dillard University, BA Psychology

Michaela believes Dillard's Department of Psychology helped to prepare her for the PhD journey due to the amount of time spent training students on how to research information and write scholarly critiques and reviews of literature, which has made the transition to graduate school very smooth.

Michaela had several people that have helped along the way to get to this level of success. She had wonderful advisors at DU that were accessible not only for her undergraduate experience but in the transition into graduate school as well. Michaela took advantage of an opportunity to visit WMU and during that time, she was able to gain many more mentors who were current graduate students in her field of interest.

“I hope to return to Dillard as a professor to give back to the community that gave me so much!”

JASMINE PATTERSON

In-progress/dual enrolled DU & WMU 3/2 Program
BA Psychology/MA Counseling Psychology

About

Jasmine Patterson is currently dual enrolled in the DU/WMU 3/2 Program in Counseling Psychology, which will allow her to obtain her bachelor and master's degree in counseling psychology in just five-years.

Jasmine believes Dillard helped to prepare her for intense graduate studies. She plans to enroll in a doctoral program after finishing the 3/2 program.



MERRILYN YEBOAH (NÉE AKPAPUNA)

Merrilyn Yeboah (née Akpapuna) is a doctoral candidate in the Industrial/Organizational Behavior Management program at WMU. She has worked as an instructor of record at WMU and Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, MI. She has also worked as an HR Performance Management Consultant in different industries including healthcare, manufacturing, and retail. In addition, as part of her professional experience, she has been able to secure research grants, publish articles and present in conferences around the world.



Merrilyn's research interests include developing effective ways to motivate creativity in the workplace, implementing sustainable systems and practices in organizations, and leadership development. She has a passion for identifying and solving organizational problems, refining organizational systems to increase efficiency and reduce waste, and increasing employee satisfaction. Since most people spend more than one-third of their lives at work, she has chosen to effect change in the workplace in an effort to better people's lives.

In-progress, WMU, PhD Industrial/Organizational Behavior Management
2020, WMU, MA Psychology
2014, Dillard University, BA Psychology

LETETSIA A. FOX

In-progress, WMU, PhD, Counseling Psychology
2017, WMU, MA, Counseling Psychology
2016, Dillard University, BA Psychology



Letetsia Fox completed the DU/WMU 3/2 program in counseling psychology earning her bachelor and master's degrees. Upon graduating in 2017 with her master's degree, she received her Master's Temporary Limited License (TLLP) from the State of Michigan and began working in private practice.

In August 2018, Letetsia began the WMU Counseling Psychology PhD program. Her primary interests involve working with college students, and she currently serves as a Graduate Assistant in the Counseling Services Department at the Sindecuse Health Center at WMU. Additionally, Letetsia has worked as a supervisor of undergraduate students at WMU and as a Doctoral Intern in the Counseling Center at Kalamazoo College. Letetsia hopes to continue her work with college students at a University Counseling Center for her APA accredited pre-doctoral internship.

CARMELITA S. FOSTER, PH.D.

2018, WMU, PhD Clinical Psychology

2012, Northwestern State University, MS Clinical Psychology

2010, Dillard University, BA Psychology

TRAINING

Carmelita Foster completed both her internship and fellowship in Integrated Behavioral Health at Nemours/ A.I. duPont Hospital for Children, in Wilmington, Delaware.

CAREER

Carmelita is a psychologist with the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Adjunct Instructor at the University of Delaware.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Dr. Foster's interests include the efficacy and cultural adaptations of evidence-based treatments, integrated behavioral health, and intergroup contact. Dr. Foster is an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and she serves as co-chair of the Social Justice subcommittee for the Together for West Philadelphia nonprofit organization.



CHARLES CHATMAN, J.R.



2019, WMU, MA Counseling Psychology

2016, Dillard University, BA Psychology

About

Charles Chatman, Jr. is a native of Jackson, TN. He attended WMU with the Thurgood Marshall Fellowship. Since graduating in 2019 with his master's degree he now works for a non-profit organization as a Mobile Crisis Counselor.

“WMU provided a lens that helped me become more aware of the challenges of minority groups other than myself as an African American male.”

WITH GRATITUDE



**A special thanks to the DU and WMU faculty and staff who helped to
make this partnership possible:**

Dr. Lana Chambliss, DU

Associate Professor of Psychology

Dr. Sean Gibbs, DU

Assistant Professor of Psychology

Dr. Eartha Lee Johnson, DU

*Associate Professor of Psychology and Dean of Faculty and Student
Academic Services*

Dr. Christine Byrd-Jacobs, WMU

Graduate Dean and Professor, Department of Biological Sciences

Tony Dennis, WMU

Director of Graduate Student Recruitment and Retention

Dr. James Leja, WMU

Professor, Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies (Emeritus)

Dr. Susan Stapleton, WMU

Professor, Department of Chemistry and Biological Sciences (Emeritus)

Members of the WMU Department of Counseling Education and
Counseling Psychology, especially:

Dr. Mary Z. Anderson

Dr. Samuel Beasley

Dr. Lonnie Duncan (Deceased)

Dr. Beverly Vandiver



**WESTERN
MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY**



Western Michigan University
Graduate College
1903 W Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5242
269-387-8212 | wmich.edu/grad