



DIVERSIFYING THE TEACHER WORKFORCE: HOW TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN TEACHERS OF COLOR

Thursday, April 19, 2018
10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m. ET

Senate Dirksen Office Building
Room 430
Washington, DC

[#TeacherDiversity](#)



NBCDI
National Black Child
Development Institute



SPEAKERS

Desiree Carver-Thomas is a Research and Policy Associate on LPI's Educator Quality Team. She is the author of *Diversifying the teaching profession: How to recruit and retain teachers of color*, the lead author of *Teacher turnover: Why it matters and what we can do about it* and *Addressing California's growing teacher shortage: 2017 update*, and the co-author of *A coming crisis in teaching? Teacher supply, demand, and shortages in the U.S.* Previously, she taught in New York City public schools.

Ameshia Cross is the Director of Policy and External Affairs for the National Black Child Development Institute. Previously, she worked as the Manager of Government Affairs for the Noble Network of Charter Schools in Illinois and as Communications Director for Caldwell Strategic Consulting in Washington, DC. Cross also served as a campaign consultant and Communications Manager for local, state, and national officials in Chicago and as Communications Manager for former Vice President Al Gore. She currently leads Civic Engagement for the Greater Washington Urban League and serves as Senior Advisor to the Vice President of the National Urban League.

Linda Darling-Hammond is President and CEO of the Learning Policy Institute and the Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education Emeritus at Stanford University. She is the former President of the American Educational Research Association and a member of the National Academy of Education and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She has authored more than 500 publications and has conducted extensive research on issues of school reform, equity, and accountability. Among her most recent publications are *Be the Change: Reinventing School for Student Success* and *Empowered Educators: How Leading Nations Design Systems for Teaching Quality*. [@LDH_ed](#)

Ashley Griffin is the Interim Director of P-12 Research at The Education Trust, where she conducts primary and secondary research to inform national, state, and local decision makers and to help practitioners raise achievement and close gaps for students of color and students from low-income families. Previously, she worked as a Research and Evaluation Analyst at the Department of Defense Education Activity and served as the Director of Research and Evaluation at the Capstone Institute at Howard University. Griffin received a B.A. from Georgetown University in Psychology and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Howard University in Developmental Psychology with a concentration in Educational Psychology.

Nia Lesesne is the Education and Appropriations Legislative Aide for Senator Cory Booker of New Jersey. Previously, she worked on the education, appropriations, and health care portfolios for Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland. Lesesne received her B.A. from Wake Forest University and is currently pursuing her J.D. from the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Jennifer Robinson is Faculty and Executive Director of the Center of Pedagogy at Montclair State University in New Jersey, the institutional structure with responsibility for coordinating teacher preparation and the simultaneous renewal of teacher education and the schools. She has been the principal investigator of over 25 grants to recruit and sustain beginning and experienced educators for schools across New Jersey, and since 2009, she has directed a clinically based Urban Teacher Residency to prepare new mathematics, science, and special education teachers for the Newark Public Schools. Her scholarly interests include urban teacher recruitment, teacher diversity, clinical practice, and developing and sustaining school–university partnerships.

Lorén Trull is the Senior Policy Advisor of the Education Policy team at UnidosUS, where she serves as an expert on education policy and advocacy work on a wide range of issues impacting Latinos and English learner students. She previously served as a Program Examiner at the White House Office of Management and Budget and as a Research Associate at the Southern Regional Education Board. A first-generation college student, Trull received a Ph.D. in Public Policy from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a J.D. from the University of North Carolina School of Law.