## DSUAA 2023-2025

## **Building Bridges**

## Connecting Past, Present, and Future Generations



## Ralonda Ivy Smith '95 Recording Secretary

Ralonda graduated from Delaware State University in 1995. While at DSU, she was a Resident Assistant, member of the Approaching Storm Marching Band, and worked in the Early Childhood Laboratory School. Ralonda was inducted into the Kappa Delta Pi (KDP) International Honor Society in Education, serving as its Vice President and President the following year. In 1994, Ralonda became a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated. Additionally, she was elected Ms. Jenkins Hall for the Homecoming Court.

Following graduation, Ralonda moved to the Ewing, New Jersey to teach third grade later moving to the city of Trenton, NJ where she became the "teacher next door" living, interacting and positively impacting the lives of the students she taught. During her teaching career, Ralonda taught in public, charter, and parochial schools.

Ralonda earned her master's in business administration in 2005, from the University of Phoenix, Philadelphia/Bensalem Campus. In 2009, she began working in the non-profit sector, but continued to address the needs of children in the area. As the Vice President of Programs with Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Mercer County, she bridged the gap between students and the surrounding community by "matching" mentors and mentees. During her tenor with BBBS, through her efforts and knowledge of the school system and businesses in the region, children were introduced to and paired with mentors from companies such as Bloomberg (robotics program) and Princeton National Rowing Association (peer-based mentoring for middle school students).

In 2014, after training in New York and Philadelphia, Ralonda followed her passion for acting and voice overs and moved to California to pursue a new career in the entertainment industry. Her current goals are to voice children's programming, narrate children's literature and expand her professional resume with film, television, and print productions. Ralonda currently resides in Los Angeles, CA, which is part of the Far Western/International Region of DSUAA. She is seeking nomination for the Chairman/(Chairperson) of the Nominating Committee.