



Ahkinyala Cobb-Abdullah

Interim Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences
Virginia Union University

Dr. Ahkinyala Cobb-Abdullah currently serves as the Interim Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Virginia Union University. She continues to serve as the Director for the Center for STEM Diversity and as an Associate Professor of Environmental Science and Ecology. She is an advocate for student success. Dr. Cobb-Abdullah works collaboratively across the university to provide opportunities for VUU students. She also mentors students in undergraduate research. In addition to her role as Interim Dean, she finds time to host a career seminar series. Dr. Cobb-Abdullah currently serves as PI and director for the Department of Natural Sciences Community Culture Research Scholarship Program, providing financial and academic support to VUU students

Dr. Cobb-Abdullah earned a Bachelor of Science in biology from Tuskegee University. She is a two-time graduate of Florida A&M University, having earned a Master of Molecular Biology and Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Biomolecular Sciences.

Dr. Cobb-Abdullah is a Higher Education Leadership Fellow and a member of STEM Women of Color. She currently serves on the advisory boards of SEM Link and the board of the American Council on Education's Virginia Women's Network.

Dr. Cobb-Abdullah and her spouse are the parents of two adult children, Mikaili and Sefiyetu.