

Dr. Towuanna Porter Brannon, College President

Dr. Towuanna Porter Brannon was selected as the ninth president for Thomas Nelson Community College on January 1, 2021. Dr. Brannon's higher education tenure includes over 20-years in leadership, administration, instruction, and providing direct support to students at a diverse array of public and private Colleges and Universities.

Prior to her selection as President, Dr. Brannon served as the Vice President for Student Services at Mitchell Community College in North Carolina. At Mitchell, she coordinated long-range and strategic planning for academic advising, accessibility services, campus life, financial aid, minority male success initiatives, recruitment and enrollment, support services, and veteran's affairs. Her tenure led to increases in both completion rates and new student enrollment and retention; creation of a needs-based scholarship, responding to student financial emergencies; a food pantry, and workforce development program that connected high school graduates to careers in advanced manufacturing. Dr. Brannon began her higher education career as an information technology specialist, helping faculty incorporate technology into the teaching and learning experience. She has also served as an academic advisor, adjunct instructor, Director of Advising, Registrar, and Assistant Dean for Student Affairs.

Over the span of her career, she has been a primary architect in creating policies, programs and systems designed to improve college access, retention, and completion. Dr. Brannon believes that community colleges are uniquely positioned to deliver high-quality programs aligned to meet regional needs, satisfy workforce demands, and help students become all they are called to be. She is an equity-minded problem solver, who is committed to innovation, community transformation, and intellectual and moral policies and practices.

"I am living proof of the power higher education has to transform lives."

Dr. Brannon, a native of New York City, earned her Ed.D. in Executive Leadership, Administration and Policy from Fordham University, a master's degree in Education and a bachelor's degree in Human Services from St. John's University.

