



## **Leonda Williams-Keniston, Ph.D.**

Dean, Humanities, Fine Arts and Social Sciences  
Piedmont Virginia Community College

Dr. Leonda Williams-Keniston is dean of Humanities, Fine Arts, and Social Sciences at Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC). She has over 15 years' experience in higher education. As dean, she oversees the largest transfer programs at the college as well as several Continuing and Technical Education Certificate programs.

Prior to her arrival at PVCC, Leonda served as the Director of Assessment at Wor-Wic Community College on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Associate Dean of Math, Natural, and Health Sciences and Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs at John Tyler Community College. Leonda was also an Assistant Professor of sociology for 10 years prior to moving into administration.

Leonda earned her Ph.D. in Community College Leadership at Old Dominion University and has both her master's and bachelor's degree in sociology from Virginia Commonwealth University. She serves on several boards including the Virginia Humanities Festival of the Book Advisory Committee, Piedmont YMCA Childcare Committee, and the Career Technical Education Advisory Board for Charlottesville High School. In addition, she serves as an administrative partner on the Teacher (P-12) Pathway Working Group/Virginia Provosts' Initiative for Integrated Economic Development. Leonda also serves on a host of college and system-wide committees, including the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, the college-wide Planning and Budgeting Committee, and the Virginia Community College System Dean's Course Review Committee. She has presented both locally and at national conferences on topics such as reducing bias in candidate searches, assessing student learning outcomes, and developing an institution-wide culture of assessment.

Leonda and her husband, Les Keniston, have three children, Alexandra (23), Sophia (20), and Malcolm (18).