

**Dr. DeLaine Priest**  
**Associate Vice President, Student Success Initiatives**  
**University of Central Florida**

With over 25 years of experience in Higher Education, Dr. Priest serves as the Associate Vice President of Student Success Initiatives within the Division of Student Success and Well-Being. In this role, Dr. Priest provides leadership and vision to the following offices and units: the Office of Academic Advocacy, Academic Services for Student-Athletes, Academic Success Coaching, the Advisor Training and Development Team, First Year Experience, the Student Academic Resource Center, and the University Testing Center. She also provides oversight for the coordination of academic success coaching (academic advising) at the university level through partnerships with the colleges and campus stakeholders.

Prior to this appointment, Dr. Priest served as the Associate Vice President, Student Success within the Division of Student Development and Enrollment Services. In that role, Dr. Priest supervised over 140 staff and 200 students and provided oversight for numerous departments, including Advising, Transition Services, Veteran's Services, Accessibility Services, Career Services, Registrar's Office, and Learning Support Services. In addition, Dr. Priest was the Principal Investigator of eight Department of Education TRiO grants totaling over 8 million dollars that provide opportunities and resources for low income and first-generation students.

Dr. Priest is an unwavering champion for student success, retention, and completion. Under Dr. Priest's leadership and strong collaboration with campus partners, UCF's retention and four-year graduation rates are at an all-time high, at 93 percent and 55 percent respectively. UCF graduates the third highest number of minorities in the nation, and one in four students is the first in their family to attend college. Dr. Priest's areas of interest include student persistence, academic advising, leadership development, mentoring, continuous quality improvement, program development, and diversity and inclusion.

Under her leadership, UCF has received several national awards. Dr. Priest is a member of the President's Advisory Staff Council, the CSRDE organization's Advisory Board, executive member of the ACE Women's Network of Florida, and liaison and program owner for the Education Advisory Board (EAB) analytics platform. Dr. Priest was honored as one of the top 35 women in higher education by *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* magazine.

Dr. Priest obtained her bachelor's degree in Business Administration and master's degree in Counselor Education from the University of Alabama, Birmingham. She received her Doctorate in Organizational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL.