

Dr. Gloria Holmes

Board Member

Dr. Gloria Holmes is a professor emerita at the School of Education at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, CT, where she served as both chair and director of the Master of Arts in Teaching Program. She is an adjunct at the University of South Carolina in the Department of Education. She has taught graduate courses in education and English, and was a middle school English teacher for many years before her work in higher education.

Dr. Holmes is a former board member of United Way of Greater New Haven, and the Friends Center for Children. She is presently a member of the board of directors of The Literacy Center and the Mitchelville Preservation Project, and she is also affiliated with several other New Haven area educational and community groups. She has made presentations nationally and internationally on diversity and multicultural education, and has published articles and book chapters on cultural diversity and the achievement gap.

In 2015, Dr. Holmes was awarded the Torch of Liberty Award from the Connecticut Anti-Defamation League. Her work on service learning and ageism in schools earned her a \$200,000 grant, which she used to create a partnership between several New Haven public schools, Quinnipiac University and a local nursing home. Committed to promoting cultural literacy in schools, she has also worked as a diversity trainer for the Anti-Defamation League and for the Connecticut State Department of Education, and conducted anti-bias workshops for public school teachers and school leaders in Connecticut.

Dr. Holmes has a doctorate in English. Her doctoral dissertation honored the work of novelist, Zora Neale Hurston, the Black Church, and the Blues. Dr. Holmes' monthly column, **Diversity 101**, appeared in the **Hilton Head** and **Bluffton Monthly** magazines. Her book focusing on school leadership and social justice, *Justice in Search of Leaders, A Handbook for Equity-Driven School Leadership*, published in 2018.