

LA ROCHE UNIVERSITY
2025 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI CIRCLE AWARD RECIPIENT



Shantanique Johnson '15

Director of Multicultural Engagement
Gettysburg College

Shantanique Johnson '15 serves as Director of Multicultural Engagement at Gettysburg College. In this role, she leads institution-wide efforts to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion through high-impact, cross-functional initiatives that span student development, alumni engagement, donor relations, and international partnerships.

She oversees 98 annual programs that engage one-third of the student body and directly support enrollment, retention, and graduation outcomes for underrepresented students. Her leadership has resulted in a \$500,000 endowment, a \$100,000 annual program budget, and expanded mentorship networks across more than 10 student organizations. One of her hallmark initiatives—the college's first cultural immersion trip to Senegal—led to research internships for 30 percent of student participants.

Ms. Johnson serves on the college's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Cabinet and multiple policy committees, advises cross-divisional teams, and represents the institution in strategic partnerships aimed at improving access and equity across higher education.

With more than a decade of experience in student affairs, counseling, and equity-focused programming, she has held multiple leadership roles within Gettysburg College's Office of Multicultural Engagement and LGBTQIA+ Life. She has also served as an adjunct professor and doctoral teaching assistant at Shippensburg University, designing and teaching graduate-level courses in counseling, multicultural education, and program evaluation. Her academic and faculty contributions reflect a strong commitment to inclusive pedagogy and student-centered learning.

Earlier in her career, she completed clinical training as a correctional counselor intern with PrimeCare Medical, where she provided case management, crisis intervention, and rehabilitation planning for incarcerated men. She has also held nonprofit leadership roles, including Director of Recruitment and Planning at Rose Pan African Education, where she expanded access initiatives and scholarship programs.

"La Roche taught me resilience and the importance of community—lessons that have shaped my entire career in higher education," she said. "I've modeled my professional practice on the values and experiences I gained at La Roche, remembering what made me feel truly part of a community at a small, open, inclusive liberal arts college."

