

Dr. David Clickner's career in education spans over twenty years as a teacher and leader. He is a tireless advocate for student success, the success of the faculty and staff who support them, and the mission of community colleges. He presently serves as Vice President for Strategic Initiatives & Planning at SUNY Schenectady County Community College, where he plays a vital role in shaping the institution's short- and long-term direction, driving innovation, and enhancing student outcomes through data-informed decision making and collaborative leadership. His focus areas include leading the college's strategic planning efforts, enrollment management, student success programming, and fiscal management. Prior to his current role, Dr. Clickner served as Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Clickner has been at the forefront of transformative initiatives that support institutional resilience and growth. He is an expert at building teams of teams, developing trust to build a positive campus culture, and clearing a path for team members to grow, develop experience, and lead. Dr. Clickner's leadership philosophy emphasizes data-informed decision making, curriculum innovation, student-centered planning, and transparent communication. He is committed to fostering inclusive and equitable learning environments to prepare students for lifelong success. Under his leadership, SUNY Schenectady implemented a Guided Pathways model, reframed its Achieving the Dream initiative to open space for faculty and staff to lead the effort, expanded the use of data to inform decision making and facilitate increased discussion and collaboration across campus departments, reengineered the advising process, and increased data democratization. Through these efforts, and with his collaborative leadership of passionate campus teams, SUNY Schenectady was recognized with Achieving the Dream Leader College status and was awarded the nationwide Advising Success Network, Holistic Advising Award.

Dr. Clickner has overseen multiple successful grant applications, collaborated with community organizations, business leaders, and Workforce Development to support economic growth and lead efforts to facilitate academic, student affairs, and workforce partnerships to drive enrollment, increase access to higher education, and serve the community. He has overseen the collaborative, strategic implementation of numerous initiatives to improve student success, most recently the college's Welcome Center. Beyond his administrative and academic work, Dr. Clickner is deeply committed to community engagement. He played a key role in establishing whole class Instant Admission Days between SUNY Schenectady and multiple high schools, a program designed to ease the transition from high school to college and broaden college access for local students.

Dr. Clickner's leadership experience also includes institutional and program accreditation. He is a Middle States Commission on Higher Education Peer Evaluator and has collaborated to lead multiple Middle States accreditation visits as a Site Visit Team Vice Chair. He has spoken nationally on the connection between diversity, equity, and inclusion and strategic planning.

David holds a bachelor's degree in English from Siena College and a master of science and doctorate in reading from the University at Albany (NY). He is the recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Professional Service and the Willie A. Hammett Award for Student Services. He and his wife, Michelle, are proud parents of three grown children and reside in upstate, NY, with their dog, Archie.