

## Andrew Williams



*Andrew has over 25 years of experience in higher education as a teacher, mentor, academic advisor, and administrative leader. Recruited to play basketball, Andrew matriculated to Earlham College where his experiences and exposure to Quaker values sparked his sociological imagination and passion for social justice. Andrew eventually left the basketball team in protest over Earlham's investments in corporations doing business in South Africa and joined leaders of the campus divestment movement. For Andrew, this was the beginning of a deep and sustained exploration of African and African Diaspora cultures and politics, engaged scholarship, and political activism.*

*Andrew completed an M.A. in cultural anthropology at the University of Michigan during one of the high points of student activism around racism, diversity, and equity in higher education. His graduate research projects focused on issues of ethnicity, racism, nationalism, as well as environmental sustainability in the Caribbean and Latin America. After graduate school, Andrew went on to serve as instructor of anthropology at DePauw University. While at DePauw, Andrew served as director of the Black Studies program, advisory board member of the Great Lakes College Association's Border Studies Program, faculty leader for a community-based learning program in Nicaragua, and faculty mentor for DePauw Posse 2 scholars. Andrew left DePauw to become the founding Director of the Posse Foundation's Chicago office. In this position Andrew established successful partnerships with a range of top 50 colleges and universities in the Midwest, the Chicago Public Schools, and corporations, as well as a diversity of community-based organizations.*

*More recently, Andrew has served as Director of Multicultural Affairs at Carleton College, Director of Development and Communication for Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, Assistant Director of the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence at the University of Minnesota, and Director of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion within the University of Minnesota's College of Liberal Arts. Andrew currently serves as the Executive Director of the Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs (HECUA). Throughout his career, Andrew has worked to balance and link research, teaching, and political engagement on issues of race, educational equity, international development, human rights, learning abroad, placed-based learning, and social justice.*