Access to Experts

Cheryl Cofield, JD , Director of Culture, Diversity & Inclusion , Georgia Institute of Technology

Cheryl Cofield is the Director of Culture, Diversity & Inclusion for the Georgia Institute of Technology where she oversees cultural transformation and staff diversity and inclusion efforts.

Prior to joining Georgia Tech, she served as the Director of Employment Compliance for Wal-Mart Stores, Inc's Global Home Office where she oversaw equal employment opportunity strategies for more than 2 million employees; and as Director of Equal Opportunity & Equity for Tyson Foods' Corporate World Headquarters where she oversaw Employment Compliance and served as a Diversity/Inclusion Champion. She has also served as Labor and Employment Counsel for the Fulton County Attorney's Office and as the Director of Equal Opportunity for Fulton County Government.

Cheryl began her career as a Civil Rights Attorney with the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights where she formulated litigation strategies, developed national policy and provided legal guidance to federal investigators.

Cheryl is a seasoned Human Resources professional with extensive experience in litigation avoidance; policy administration; program and project management; conflict resolution & peacemaking; and dialogue facilitation & moderation. She is a veteran attorney, certified mediator, certified diversity trainer, certified performance consultant, certified Fierce Conversations facilitator, and national conference presenter and facilitator. Cheryl also presents Rites of Passage seminars on "Male/Female Relations" for 100 Black Men of America chapters.

Cheryl is a graduate of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.'s 2-year Executive Development Program, Dale Carnegie's 12-week Effective Communications & Human Relations Series, the American Institute for Managing Diversity Inc.'s 6-month Diversity Leadership Academy, and was recently accepted into The Conference Board's Diversity & Inclusion Leadership Boot Camp.

Cheryl chairs Georgia Institute of Technology's Staff Diversity Advisory Council and Internal OHR Diversity Steering Committee, and also serves as an advisor for the Ivan Allen College's Africa-Atlanta 2014 Project. She also serves on the Advisory Council for the American Institute for Managing Diversity Inc.; the Board of Directors for the Atlanta Diversity Management Advocacy Group; the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee for the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources; the Advisory Board for the Georgia Diversity Council; and the Board of Admissions for AIMD's Diversity Leadership Academy. She earned a BA in English Literature & Composition from Ohio University and a Doctorate of Jurisprudence from the University of Cincinnati. She enjoys fencing, acting, peer counseling, art collecting and performing magic. She is the proud mother of a daughter, Zoe Ariana.

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