

Venus Ricks Bio

Venus L. Ricks is a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion professional for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. She holds a B.A. in Sociology from Susquehanna University and a M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her work is focused on leadership through the lens of civic responsibility, anti-oppression, equity, and justice. She uses a socialization to liberation model in creating equitable spaces for minoritized bodies to thrive. Ms. Ricks' experience crosses several sectors—higher education, workforce development, psychological research, and the nonprofit sector—working with groups and individuals in being anti-oppressive in their homes, workspaces, and communities.

Keynote Synopsis

Venus L. Ricks, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion professional for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, will lead attendees in clarifying the historical, political, and social need for equity work in 21st century leadership and legal practice. Her keynote will explore the differences between equity and equality in the pursuit of justice, as well as the proper actions necessary to remove barriers while adhering to ABA Standards of Professional Practice in the workplace and legal profession.