WEPAN Women of Color Summit: Leveraging, Learning, and Leading

Speaker Bio

Shani Barrax Moore
Senior Director of Diversity and Inclusion at Vizient Inc.

Shani Barrax Moore (she/her/hers) is a strategic diversity and inclusion practitioner with 25 years of experience in training and development, strategic planning and change leadership, and inclusive programming and recruitment initiatives.

After a career in public relations and marketing she began specializing in dialogue-based awareness programs and integrating inclusion initiatives into organizational branding strategy. A trained mediator, Cornell Certified Diversity Practitioner/Advanced Practitioner and Intercultural Development Inventory Qualified Administrator, Shani recently joined Vizient as the Sr. Director of Diversity and Inclusion after serving as the Assistant Vice President of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access and Director of Diversity and Inclusion at the University of North Texas (UNT) in Denton. At UNT she has overseen the campus cultural centers, leads a learning and development team, executes planning and delivery of the Equity and Diversity Conference, and develops strategic partnerships for the University. At both UNT and Tarrant County College District, her previous institution where she served as the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, she led an institution-wide campus inclusion climate survey and strategic planning process leading to institutional diversity and inclusion infrastructure.

Shani served as both an editor and contributor to the NAIS publication Diversity Work in Independent Schools: The Practice and the Practitioner, and currently serves on the editorial board for Diversity IS, a national independent school magazine. Her most recent publications include “Mediating Realities: From Compliance to Intentional Inclusion” in Quantum Realities: Educational Truth Telling in an Era of Alternative Facts (2017) and “Multiculturalism, Diversity, Social Justice and Inclusion: Evidence-Based Practice in Student Affairs” in Multicultural and Diversity Issues in Student Affairs Practice: A Professional Competency-Based Approach (2019).

Shani also leads The Aurora Change Agency, a consulting group that develops individual and organizational capacity for entities to practice intentional inclusion and compliance, innovate and facilitate equitable programs and practices, and develop strategies for creating organizations where all its members and those they serve can be authentically engaged. A native of Raleigh, North Carolina, she received her bachelor’s degree with a concentration in public relations from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a minor in French, and her Masters of Business Administration from Strayer University with a concentration in marketing and human resources. A member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated, Shani is the mom of two teenage daughters. She was most recently a candidate for City Council in Carrollton, TX and is pursuing a doctoral degree in higher education administration.

Shani has been featured as part of INSIGHT Into Diversity Magazine’s Women of Color Need Courageous Allies In the Academy Series, Wonder Women in Business podcast, and as a keynote speaker, facilitator, and presenter at conferences, thought leadership think tanks, and multiple organizations.

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