

# DEKENDRICK G. MURRAY, MSL

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## PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Leadership · Strategic · Budget Management · Grant Writing · Student Engagement · Program Coordination · Youth Development · Oratorical Speaking · College & Career Prep · Academic, Personal, & Professional Counseling · Administrative Skills · Research · Adaptability

## EDUCATION

**Ed.D. Community Care & Counseling** December 2025  
Online, Liberty University

**M.S. Instructional Leadership & Organizational Development** April 2018  
Jacksonville, FL, Jacksonville University  
**Capstone Project:** *TRIO H.E.R.I.T.A.G.E Leadership Institute*

**B.S. Family, Youth & Community Sciences, Minor: Educational Studies** May 2014  
Gainesville, FL, University of Florida  
**Undergraduate Researcher,** TRIO Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program May 2013 – May 2014  
*“The Educational Impacts of Upward Bound on High School Students’ College Entrance Exam Scores and Feelings of College Preparedness: Results from ACT Comparisons.”*

## GRANTS AND GIFTS WRITTEN, AWARDED, AND ADMINISTERED

**First Generation Celebration Grant** FY2023 \$1,000 Annually; \$1,000 Total  
North Carolina Central University – Grant Writer

**LC Industries Assistive Tech Endowment Fund** FY2023/2024 \$200,000 Annually; \$400,000 Total  
North Carolina Central University – Data Contributor, Proposal Editor, & Funds Distributor

**PepsiCo Bottling Ventures Scholarship Fund** FY2023-2033 \$10,000 Annually; \$100,000 Total  
North Carolina Central University – Data Contributor & Funds Distributor

**Graham High TRIO Upward Bound Program** FY2022-2027 \$287,537 Annually; \$1.43 Million Total  
North Carolina Central University – Grant Writer, Director, & Founding Principal Investigator

**Person County TRIO Upward Bound Program** FY2022-2027 \$287,537 Annually; \$1.43 Million Total  
North Carolina Central University – Grant Writer, Director, & Founding Principal Investigator

**TRIO Student Acce[SSS] Program** FY2020-2025 \$261,888 Annually; \$1.3 Million Total  
North Carolina Central University – Director

**TRIO Student Support Services Program** FY2020-2025 \$261,888 Annually; \$1.3 Million Total  
University of Florida – Grant Co-Writer

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC**  
*EDU3005 – Educational Psychology & Human Development, Online* Fall 2023  
*UNIV1100 – First Year Seminar, Face-to-Face* 2022-2023

**University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**  
*SLS 1102 – First Year Florida, Face-to-Face* 2019-2020

**Santa Fe College, Gainesville, FL**  
*Mathematics – Upward Bound Program, Face-to-Face* 2019-2020

**Jacksonville University**, Jacksonville, FL

*JU 101 – First Year Experience, Face-to-Face*

2016

*SAT/ACT Prep – Upward Bound Program, Face-to-Face*

*Financial Literacy Education – Upward Bound Program, Face-to-Face*

2015-2016

**Duval County Public Schools**, Jacksonville, FL

*MATH1&2 – Pre-Algebra, Face-to-Face*

2014-2016

*College Prep – Talent Search Program, Face-to-Face*

2016-2017

## **EXPERIENCE**

### **Executive Director for Student Access & Success, North Carolina Central University** **November 2022 – Present**

- Provide oversight, visionary, thoughtful, and strategic leadership for Student Access and Success Programs, and initiatives for first-generation, low-income, and students with a documented disability.
- Oversee the following Departments/Programmatic Areas: First Generation Student Success, TRIO Student Access (SSS) Program, Student Accessibility Services, Graham High TRIO Upward Bound Program, and Person County TRIO Upward Bound Program
- Chair campus-wide initiatives to support first-generation and/or low-income college students in alignment with NASPA's First Gen Forward Designation and First Scholars Leadership Academy
- Oversee the successful operation of 4 campus locations: SAS Testing & Learning Center, Student Access & Success Center, Upward Bound Programs Center, and Annie Day Shepard Hall Themed Housing Community
- Develop budget and manage expenditures for annual state, grant, foundation, and student activity fee funds totaling \$1.13M annually.
- Facilitate workshops, events, trainings, and socials for student, faculty, and staff engagement.
- Supervise, coach, and empower professional staff members, graduate assistants, student workers, and volunteers.

### **Adjunct Professor, North Carolina Central University** **August 2022 – Present**

- Serve as Adjunct Instructor for UNIV1100 (First Year Seminar- Fall 2022 & Fall 2023) and EDU3005 (Educational Psychology and Human Development-Fall 2023)
- Create and manage syllabus/course content that meets the department and university standards
- Plan and create lectures, in-class discussions, and assignments
- Grade assigned papers, quizzes, and exams.
- Effectively communicate with students.
- Remove barriers for student academic success through implementation of accommodations.

### **Director for Student Accessibility Services, North Carolina Central University** **February 2021 – August 2023**

- Provided leadership and direction campus-wide for student accessibility services- including ensuring the access, retention, and graduation of individuals with learning differences, disabilities, and/or medical conditions.
- Oversaw the development, implementation, assessment and evaluation of accessibility services, including serving as Director for a \$1.3 Million TRIO Student Support Services-Disability Program.
- Oversaw operations for 2 campus locations: SAS Testing & Learning Center and SAS Access & Success Center
- Chaired campus-wide initiatives to support first-generation and/or low-income college students in alignment with NASPA's First Gen Forward Designation
- Supervised 8 professional staff members and 15 student leaders
- Served as a campus consultant for ADA & Section 504, ensuring compliance with university, state, and federal regulations.
- Planned, implemented, and facilitated departmental all staff meetings & one-on-one meetings with direct reports.
- Developed budgets and manage expenditures for annual state, grant, foundation, and student activity fee funds totaling \$536.5K annually.
- Completed Institutional and US DOE Annual Performance Reports
- Served on the Division of Student Affairs Leadership Team (SALT) and various institutional committees (i.e., Student Safety, Behavioral Intervention Team, Career Center, Commencement, Eagle Preview)
- Collaborated with the unit leadership team to recruit, train, and hire departmental staff and student workers.
- Hosted strategic planning retreats and in-service trainings for departmental staff.
- Successfully wrote and direct 2 TRIO Upward Bound Grants for \$2.875 million for FY22-27 to support high school student access in local/regional communities.
- Worked alongside Staff to provide accommodations, coaching, and programming to scholars
- Developed assessment and evaluation tools to measure unit goals and objectives.
- Partnered with campus stakeholders to enhance each student's experience, engagement, and retention.

### **Assistant Director for Academic Support, University of Florida** **June 2018 – February 2021**

- Provide leadership and direction campus-wide for student accessibility services- including ensuring the access, retention, and graduation of individuals with learning differences, disabilities, and/or medical conditions.
- Oversee the development, implementation, assessment and evaluation of accessibility services, including serving as Director for a \$1.3 Million TRIO Student Support Services-Disability Program.
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**Interim Co-Director/Case Manager for TRIO Talent Search, Florida State College at Jacksonville January 2017 – June 2018**

- Serve as Interim Co-Director of Program Development for the TRIO Educational Talent Search Program.
- Co-Lead completion of Annual Performance Report (APR)
- Co-Plan, implement, and facilitate weekly program staff meetings.
- Provide weekly updates to program participants and target school administrative staff
- Plan and implement regional college visits.
- Aid in managing fiscal budget and program expenditures.
- Facilitate recruiting, hiring, and training of program academic tutors.
- Participate in college, state and regional professional development opportunities.
- Serve as a program case manager for the TRIO Educational Talent Search Program.
- Plan and implement program services for approx. 224 program participants at two target high schools.
- Organize, plan and implement local and regional college visits for program participants.
- Counsel approx.125 on secondary completion and post-secondary opportunities educational and workforce opportunities.
- Facilitate bi-weekly one-on-one and group sessions with students to ensure program participant growth.
- Aid program participants in completion of FAFSA, college applications, and scholarships.
- Provide weekly instruction for three classes where students' learn academic, personal, and professional skills.
- Participate in state and regional TRIO supported organizations and conferences

**Program Coordinator for TRIO Upward Bound, Jacksonville University February 2016 – January 2017**

- Served as head counselor for the TRIO Upward Bound Program.
- Coordinated academic programs, class scheduling, and behavior logs for 87 students.
- Maintained records for target high school students in Blumen Database.
- Counseled over 30 students academically and personally during weekly high school visits.
- Coordinated and supervised student's participation in SGA and annual leadership conferences.
- Assisted in training and interviewing of program staff and participants

**Adjunct Professor, Jacksonville University June 2015 – February 2016**

- Served as adjunct instructor for the TRIO Upward Bound Program and co-instructor for First Year Experience
- Created and implemented financial literacy curriculum to ensure student development in finances.
- Increased student test-taking strategies for SAT/ACT and knowledge in higher-level math courses.

**Mathematics Teacher, Duval County Public Schools August 2014 – February 2016**

- Engaged students in learning with interactive lessons using docu-cam, clickers, and a note-taking design
- Facilitated center-based learning stations with laptops & other activities to aid in students development.
- Provide accommodations in alignment with students IEP and 504 plans.
- Surpassed district average by 3-4% with 4 of 6 classes on CGA examination in disadvantaged middle school.
- Awarded Rookie Teacher of the Year 2014-2015 and nominated for Teacher of the Year 2015-2016

**Intern, Kids Count in Alachua, Inc. January 2014 – May 2014**

- Mentored and tutored 35 at-risk youth from low-income neighborhoods of Alachua County.
- Increased student engagement through working hands-on with students on life-skills and character traits.
- Facilitated center-based activities to enhance students' creative ability and academic intellect.

**Mentor, University of Florida Athletic Association September 2012 – December 2013**

- Conducted weekly meetings with 4 student athletes to discuss goals and visions for the future.
- Increased each students' academic, professional, and personal growth through vision board creations.

**Orientation Leader, University of Florida November 2011 – November 2012**

- Assisted in academic advising and transitioning 11,000 first year and transfer students to UF.
- Facilitated 14 small groups including 7 with UF AIM student population (first-generation and/or low SES Scholars)
- Worked 60+ hours a week to make sure student and families had all knowledge needed for a successful college transition.

**Academic Tutor for TRIO Upward Bound, University of Florida June 2011 – June 2011**

- Assisted in helping 10<sup>th</sup> grade students understand math and science concepts for summer courses.
- Facilitated discussions to help students set tangible goals for academic school year.

- Taught 3 mathematics lessons to 20 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students at Finley Elementary School in Gainesville, FL.
- Created mathematics lesson plans to engage students through inclusion of mathematics tools.