

Michelle Jones-Johnson

Michelle Jones-Johnson is an innovative human capital strategist with an outstanding reputation as an agile and visionary organizational champion. She is sought after speaker and contemporary thought leader on issues related to diversity and the future of work. As the vice president for talent and inclusion, and chief diversity officer at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) in Worcester, Massachusetts, she focuses on attracting, developing, and retaining talent that distinguishes WPI in the competitive marketplace, positioning the Institute as “talent rich and talent ready” and poised for the future with a capable and sustainable workforce.

Her career spans more than 25 years of multi-sector leadership in human resource and talent strategy, leadership coaching, talent management, and consulting in a variety of industries—including healthcare, higher education, legal, engineering, architecture, and sales. Michelle is a sought-after speaker and thought leader on issues related to diversity and culture. Her consulting firm, *UnVeiled Leadership*, prepares organizations for the future of work by leveraging people and talent strategies, inclusion, and an engaged culture to remain agile and competitive.

Jones-Johnson holds a master’s degree in business administration from Syracuse University, a master’s in organizational management from the University of Phoenix and a bachelor’s degree in sociology from The University of Michigan. She has earned numerous professional certifications. She serves on local and regional boards and was honored in 2017 with an appointment to the Governor's Task Force on Hate Crimes for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. She holds several professional certifications which include Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR), certified coach and facilitator through the Center for Creative Leadership, Human Capital Institute, Korn Ferry, and Kaiser Leadership. She was selected to be part of the inaugural cohort of the National Inclusive Excellence Academy, a highly selective program by the Center for Strategic Diversity Leadership and Social Innovation in Higher Education.

She is a proud member of The Boston Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, an international, not-for-profit organization comprising more than 12,000 professional Women of Color and is a Delta Sigma Theta Sorority member.

As an executive who has held senior-level positions in both public and private organizations, Jones-Johnson seeks to inspire others to excel to their greatest potential, which has been a theme of her leadership and the focus of her career. A committed mentor and coach, she views life through the lens of opportunity and possibility, believing that these, combined with an attitude of gratitude and joy, can transform both individuals and organizations.