

Dr. Rondall Allen has over 20 years of leadership experience in higher education, having served in a variety of administrative roles (e.g., Assistant/Associate Dean, Dean, and Vice President for Strategic Initiatives) at Xavier University of Louisiana (XULA), South University, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES). Currently, he serves as the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at UMES.

Under his leadership at UMES, more than two dozen academic credentials received state approval, including 10 new academic programs, 8 online programs, and 9 certificates. Among these, he led the approval process for a new Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program—an initiative that will expand educational access and address critical workforce needs in veterinary medicine. It will be the first program in the state of Maryland and the first at a public HBCU. The program is pending approval by the accrediting body.

Dr. Allen has been a steadfast champion of academic quality, having oversaw the university's regional accreditation process with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) and 8 successful accreditation visits for academic programs across multiple disciplines. He is also a MSCHE Peer Evaluator.

His strategic approach to institutional growth has led to significant capital and programmatic investments. Working in collaboration with consultants and state politicians, he helped secure \$90 million for a new pharmacy and health professions building. In addition, he obtained \$1.3 million to support the launch of a Physician Assistant program, \$900,000 in state funding for an animal research facility, and \$260,000 in scholarship support from Johnson & Johnson Health Care Systems, Inc.

As an advocate for student success, Dr. Allen implemented a summer program at XULA that reduced the percentage of non-passing grades for first-year pharmacy students from 19% to 8%. He also collaborated with campus stakeholders at UMES to launch a student success strategic plan last fall that achieved a 90% fall to spring persistence rate for first-time full-time students.

Recognizing the importance of succession planning and leadership development, Dr. Allen also created two signature initiatives: the Provost Faculty Fellows Program and the Assistant Department Chair Leadership Program—both designed to cultivate emerging faculty leaders and prepare them for future administrative roles.

In his commitment to the local and regional community in Maryland, he initiated a partnership with the university and the regional hospital to use drone technology to deliver medications to patients who reside on Smith Island. He was also appointed by the Governor to the Board of Trustees for the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE). During his tenure, UMES pharmacy students collaborated with MHBE to assist with reducing the percentage of uninsured residents on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

His leadership style is widely recognized as visionary, supportive, and collaborative. He believes in the power of shared governance and inclusive decision-making to drive transformative outcomes.

Dr. Allen received his BS in Pharmacy from Florida A&M University and his Doctor of Pharmacy from XULA. He completed the Millennium Leadership Institute (American Association of State Colleges and Universities) and the Institute for Management and Leadership Education (Harvard). He is married to Adrienne Allen, and they have two children, Jordyn (18) and Jonathan (15).