



Karen Nelson

Karen Nelson joined Herzing University as the Vice President of Inclusion and Community Impact in July 2022. She has worked in corporate, governmental, and consulting roles. She came to Herzing University after serving as the Inaugural Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at Rogers Behavioral Health. Prior to Rogers, Mrs. Nelson was the Diversity and Inclusion Leader for the City of Appleton reporting to the city's mayor. She has helped large organizations like Shaw Industries and GE Medical Systems with their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) strategies. In 2017, Mrs. Nelson was named one of Wisconsin's Top 35 Black Leaders. She has contributed to writing publications in Appleton Monthly Magazine and is the author of the final chapter of Dr. Tana Session's anthology 'Black Women: Corporate America's Best Kept Secret'. The secret is out! The book is a guide to unleash your superpower to succeed in business as your unapologetic, authentic self! In 2019 Ms. Nelson was appointed to the Wisconsin's Governor's State Council on Affirmative Action, working with Governor Tony Evers.

In her role with Herzing University, she works with senior leaders, board members and several committees to advance DE&I efforts not only for HU, but the community at large. Mrs. Nelson holds a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Bennett College, an HBCU, in Greensboro, NC and an Executive MBA from the Lubar School of Business at UW-Milwaukee. Mrs. Nelson lives in Milwaukee, WI with her husband, Stanford together they have two adult children: Sable and Stanford II.