**Sharisse Turner Bio**

Sharisse, a native North Floridian, began her career in postsecondary education at Chipola College, as a learning center specialist and English instructor before transferring to Tallahassee Community College in Tallahassee, Florida, where she has dedicated herself for over 35 years to serving underrepresented, under-served student populations. A former TCC developmental writing and reading instructor, Sharisse enjoyed the challenges of the classroom and engagement with her students, many of whom she has remained in contact with years later. Sharisse currently serves as the dean of Transitional Studies in which she oversees the summer bridge program for first generation and low-income students, peer mentoring programs as well as developmental education courses in reading, writing, math, and specialized courses for non-native speakers of English. Additionally, Sharisse leads many equity initiatives on campus. A passionate leader and advocate for academically underprepared students and developmental education for many years, Sharisse is past-president and current treasurer of the Florida Developmental Education Association (now the Florida Association of Student Success) as well as an active member of the National Organization for Student Success and the College Reading and Learning Association. She has presented at several conference on topics ranging from college readiness to equity.

Sharisse has an AA degree from Chipola College, a bachelor’s degree from the University of West Florida and two master’s degrees: one from Tallahassee Christian College and Training Center; the other from Walden University. She is currently a doctoral student at Baylor University. Sharisse and her husband, Derald, have three daughters, a son and six grandchildren.