A perfect storm

Brittany Jones (M.T.’16) combines two loves: history and teaching.

When she was a student at Richmond Public School, Jones met Dr. Daniel B. Glickman, the School’s incoming principal, who administered a program for students who placed high on college entrance exams. After earning her master’s degree in history and American literature at VCU, she began her teaching career right out of college.

Even from a young age, Jones herself was a history buff. As a child, she dreamed of being a battery professor, so it’s not surprising that she chose to major in history as an undergraduate student. Jones decided that she wanted her master’s degree to change majors from history and American literature at VCU to make more impact, get a job at a local school, teaching students at heart.

“She’s who I wanted to work with and she’s the one that encouraged me to move to the most effective and meaningful classes as a teacher and more interested in becoming a teacher, in making my classroom and having my own set of words,” says Jones.

One of her master’s degree’s requirements was to teach a course for middle school students, Dr. Glickman asked Jones if she would be interested in teaching a program for students who showed promise in history.

Today, Jones teaches World History at J.B. Erwin High School in Richmond, the same school she attended as a student. While she teaches high school students as part-timers, she also teaches AP students in Richmond Teacher Residency program. University of Richmond coordinator positions were open at that time.

A nice email Jones received from Dr. Glickman: “There was one spot open in a history teacher in the Richmond Teacher Residency Program. Dr. Jones, I should definitely apply.”

She landed the supplemental program that started her initial education on teaching, but Jones was soon after accepted into the Richmond Teacher Residency program because it opened an entire new world to her.

It was a perfect storm. Thanks to Dr. Harlem, everything fell into place.”

While teaching, Jones aided her former principal, who mentored her, that she decided to pursue her master’s degree chasing dreams in American and African American history at VCU.

Enjoying giving students to a larger world is no good. Jones says, “I have been able to help these students be one day leaders, to be one of them, and their future path. ◊

VCU Cognition and Learning Lab students develop broad skill sets

The VCU Cognition and Learning lab is a place where psychology and education doctoral students can think about their future research. It’s the lab that is available because we are able to engage in research work through interdisciplinary teams of researchers and students. ◊

The two faculty mentors are assistant professor of psychology in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership and assistant professor in the Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology. "We are interested in developing students as researchers in education, psychology, and VCU, pre-doctoral and masters. ◊

VCU’s Cognition and Learning Laboratory operates and faculty and students from diverse back- grounds, who hold a wide array of research questions, and the goals of the program is that members bring to the project their unique viewpoints on research and high-quality work. ◊

Jones was accepted into the program.

“It was a perfect storm,” thanks to Dr. Harlem, everything fell into place.”

While teaching, Jones helped her former principal, who mentored her, that she decided to pursue her master’s degree chasing dreams in American and African American history at VCU.

Enjoying giving students to a larger world is no good. Jones says, “I have been able to help these students be one day leaders, to be one of them, and their future path.”

Dear vcusd alumni what do you think about your MoMentum? Leave your thoughts, and your name at schooldining@vcu.edu and get a basket of VCU baked treats

All students who eat the lab’s bowls will have a 20 percent off, coming from writing forum to giving posters presentations. These skills will develop to become better researchers. They will continue their future path of greatness.
Solutions that transform — Make It Real Campaign for VCU School of Education

Last year was an exciting one for the VCU School of Education, in a record number of donors provided a financial foundation for the school’s future.

“We’re just getting started,” the school’s dean, Dr. Andrew Daire, said. “Reaching our Make It Real campaign goal two and a half years ahead of schedule tells us that our alumni and friends are truly invested in the school and our success. They believe in the impact we can make in our communities.”

The school has seen a sharp increase in both contributions and contributions over the last two years. A key factor driving these donations has been the Make It Real Campaign for VCU—the largest university-wide campaign in VCU’s history, which publicly launched in September 2016 and runs through June 30, 2020. After a record-setting fundraising year in 2016, the school has seen a year’s total in 2018, with a few months still to go. By the end of the 2017-2018 school year, alumni and friends had donated $7.5M to the Make It Real Campaign, exceeding our goal $8M. Last year was an exciting year for the VCU School of Education, as a record number of donors provided a financial foundation for the school’s future.

The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) Holmes Scholarship Program supports underrepresented doctoral students from diverse backgrounds who are pursuing careers in education. By supporting students early in their careers, the Holmes Scholars Program offers mentoring, professional development and peer support.

The recent inductees also attended the 70th annual meeting of the AACTE in Baltimore this March, where educators from across the country came together for discussions, to share research and practices, and to connect with current researchers in her field. She also presented on effective practices to attract and retain minority pre-service teachers at the 2018 Scholarship and Awards Ceremony.

Six VCU SOE students have been named Holmes Scholars. The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) Holmes Scholarship Program supports underrepresented doctoral students from diverse backgrounds who are pursuing careers in education. By supporting students early in their careers, the Holmes Scholars Program offers mentoring, professional development and peer support.

Six doctoral students in the School of Education’s Ph.D. in educational policy are now Holmes Scholars. The honorees and their respective concentrations are:

- Melissa Cuba: Curriculum, culture, and change
- Brandi C. Calvert: Curriculum, culture, and change
- Ronald Caballero: Urban services leadership
- Kendra Cabler: Urban services leadership
- Tonya Gokita: Urban services leadership
- Cassandra Willis: Special education and disability policy

The Holmes Scholars Program offers mentorship, professional development and peer support. The recent inductees also attended the 70th annual meeting of the AACTE in Baltimore this March, where educators from across the country came together for discussions, to share research and practices, and to connect with current researchers in her field. She also presented on effective practices to attract and retain minority pre-service teachers at the 2018 Scholarship and Awards Ceremony.

Did you know we have doctoral, master’s and certificate programs online? If you are interested in furthering your education on your own time, visit soe.vcu.edu/programs/online-programs or email soeinfo@vcu.edu.

Our progress in the Make It Real Campaign

We are grateful to our donors and to all who will participate in the very important campaign over the next two years. Please contact Ed Kardos, senior director of development for the VCU School of Education at soeinfo@vcu.edu or phone 804-828-2826 to discuss how you may be more engaged with the School of Education and the Make It Real Campaign.

Six VCU SOE students named Holmes Scholars

Six VCU SOE students have been named Holmes Scholars. The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) Holmes Scholarship Program supports underrepresented doctoral students from diverse backgrounds who are pursuing careers in education. By supporting students early in their careers, the Holmes Scholars Program offers mentorship, professional development and peer support.

The recent inductees also attended the 70th annual meeting of the AACTE in Baltimore this March, where educators from across the country came together for discussions, to share research and practices, and to connect with current researchers in her field. She also presented on effective practices to attract and retain minority pre-service teachers at the 2018 Scholarship and Awards Ceremony.

“I was honored to participate in a rich and culturally relevant experience that is intended and committed to supporting its students in inclusive programs,” VCU School of Education student Melissa Cuba said. “It served to further extend diverse perspectives in higher education and academic research.”

“I am grateful to be part of a scholarship that is open to students of diverse backgrounds who are pursuing careers in education,” VCU School of Education student Cassandra Willis said.

Six doctoral students in the School of Education’s Ph.D. in educational policy have been named Holmes Scholars. The honorees and their respective concentrations are:

- Melissa Cuba: Curriculum, culture, and change
- Brandi C. Calvert: Curriculum, culture, and change
- Ronald Caballero: Urban services leadership
- Kendra Cabler: Urban services leadership
- Tonya Gokita: Urban services leadership
- Cassandra Willis: Special education and disability policy

The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) Holmes Scholarship Program supports underrepresented doctoral students from diverse backgrounds who are pursuing careers in education. By supporting students early in their careers, the Holmes Scholars Program offers mentorship, professional development and peer support.

The recent inductees also attended the 70th annual meeting of the AACTE in Baltimore this March, where educators from across the country came together for discussions, to share research and practices, and to connect with current researchers in her field. She also presented on effective practices to attract and retain minority pre-service teachers at the 2018 Scholarship and Awards Ceremony.

“I was honored to participate in a rich and culturally relevant experience that is intended and committed to supporting its students in inclusive programs,” VCU School of Education student Melissa Cuba said. “It served to further extend diverse perspectives in higher education and academic research.”

“I am grateful to be part of a scholarship that is open to students of diverse backgrounds who are pursuing careers in education,” VCU School of Education student Cassandra Willis said.

Six doctoral students in the School of Education’s Ph.D. in educational policy have been named Holmes Scholars. The honorees and their respective concentrations are:

- Melissa Cuba: Curriculum, culture, and change
- Brandi C. Calvert: Curriculum, culture, and change
- Ronald Caballero: Urban services leadership
- Kendra Cabler: Urban services leadership
- Tonya Gokita: Urban services leadership
- Cassandra Willis: Special education and disability policy

The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) Holmes Scholarship Program supports underrepresented doctoral students from diverse backgrounds who are pursuing careers in education. By supporting students early in their careers, the Holmes Scholars Program offers mentorship, professional development and peer support.

The recent inductees also attended the 70th annual meeting of the AACTE in Baltimore this March, where educators from across the country came together for discussions, to share research and practices, and to connect with current researchers in her field. She also presented on effective practices to attract and retain minority pre-service teachers at the 2018 Scholarship and Awards Ceremony.

“I was honored to participate in a rich and culturally relevant experience that is intended and committed to supporting its students in inclusive programs,” VCU School of Education student Melissa Cuba said. “It served to further extend diverse perspectives in higher education and academic research.”

“I am grateful to be part of a scholarship that is open to students of diverse backgrounds who are pursuing careers in education,” VCU School of Education student Cassandra Willis said.

Six doctoral students in the School of Education’s Ph.D. in educational policy have been named Holmes Scholars. The honorees and their respective concentrations are:

- Melissa Cuba: Curriculum, culture, and change
- Brandi C. Calvert: Curriculum, culture, and change
- Ronald Caballero: Urban services leadership
- Kendra Cabler: Urban services leadership
- Tonya Gokita: Urban services leadership
- Cassandra Willis: Special education and disability policy