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AACTE Recognizes BranchED President with 2023 Edward C. Pomeroy Award for Outstanding Contributions to Teacher Education



Washington, D.C. — The American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (AACTE) announced that it is honoring Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity President/CEO Cassandra P. Herring the 2023 AACTE Edward C. Pomeroy Award for Outstanding Contributions to Teacher Education. Herring will be recognized formally with the award during AACTE’s 75th Annual Meeting Feb. 24-26, 2023, in Indianapolis.

The Pomeroy Award recognizes contributions through either distinguished service to the teacher education community or the development and promotion of outstanding practices in teacher education at the collegiate, state, or national level. The award is given in honor of former AACTE Executive Director Edward C. Pomeroy.

Herring is the President/CEO and founder of Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity (BranchED), a professional services organization dedicated to maximizing programming and driving innovation in preparing highly effective diverse educators for all learners.

“To receive the 2023 Edward C. Pomeroy Award for Outstanding Contributions to Teacher Education is an incredible honor” Herring said. “This honor recognizes that the work our organization does is beneficial to and valued by our educator community. I share this moment with the deans, faculty, and teacher candidates who we walk alongside daily, as they too work to transform educator preparation. Together, we are pioneering a higher standard of educational excellence where diversity is fused with quality and where, ultimately, every student is prepared to thrive.”

Under Herring’s leadership, in 2018, BranchED launched the National Teacher Preparation Transformation Center. Through participation in the three-year program, colleges, and universities join a unique community of practice where each institution’s faculty and their respective school district partners can access enhanced resources and professional development, network with others, share data, and learn from each other to move forward with sustainability and innovation. The larger goals of BranchED’s Transformation Center include diversifying the teaching profession and intentionally addressing critical issues of educational equity for all students.

“I applaud Dr. Cassandra Herring on being the recipient of the 2023 Edward C. Pomeroy Award for Outstanding Contributions to Teacher Education, said Dr. Frank Gettridge. “As board chair of the BranchED, it is no surprise that Dr. Herring was awarded this recognition for her vision and leadership in educator preparation. Every day, Dr. Herring’s commitment to the future of not just teacher prep, but the future of all students, is evident through BranchED’s intentional, inclusive, and community centered approach. We are looking forward to celebrating this honor with Dr. Herring and our MSI EPP community at this year’s AACTE Conference.”

“I look forward to honoring Dr. Herring for her exceptional contributions to advancing educational equity for all students at the Awards Forum during our 75th Annual Meeting,” said Lynn M. Gangone, AACTE president and chief executive officer. “Under Dr. Herring’s leadership, BranchED created the National Teacher Preparation Transformation Center to promote community partnerships with colleges and universities to diversify the teaching profession and improve outcomes for all students.”

Learn more about AACTE and the Annual Meeting by visiting aacte.org.

About AACTE

Established in 1948, AACTE is the leading voice in educator preparation. AACTE’s member institutions and programs prepare the greatest number of professional educators in the United States and its territories, including teachers, counselors, administrators, and college faculty. These professional educators are prepared for careers in PK-12 classrooms, colleges and universities, state and governmental agencies, policy institutes, and non-profit organizations. The AACTE alliance of colleges and universities and educator preparation programs collaborates with members and partners to advance the field of education by prioritizing diversity, equity, and inclusion, and engaging in research-based inquiry, advocacy, and innovative practice. Learn more at aacte.org.

About BranchED

Based in Austin, Texas, with an office in Peachtree City, Georgia, Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity (BranchED) is the first and only non-profit organization in the nation dedicated to strengthening, growing, and amplifying the impact of educator preparation at Minority Serving Institutions, with broader goals of both diversifying the teaching profession and intentionally addressing critical issues of educational equity for all students. Visit BranchED at www.educatordiversity.org.