



Dr. Sheila Caldwell received the NADOHE 2023 Institutional Excellence Award, Professional School on behalf of the SIU System. She is joined by NADOHE President Paulette Granberry Russell, Dr. Venessa Brown, Associate Athletic Director for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Athletics Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Caldwell, Kelly Hurst, Equity and Inclusion Strategist for the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Clinical Educator, Medical Humanities. (Photo credit to Tim Trumble for NADOHE.)

### **Southern Illinois University System receives 2023 Institutional Excellence Award from the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education**

Springfield, IL — The Southern Illinois University System has received a 2023 Institutional Excellence Award, Professional School from the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education (NADOHE) which is the preeminent voice for chief diversity officers across the country.

“On behalf of NADOHE, I am honored to present this year’s Inclusive Excellence Award winners,” NADOHE President Paulette Granberry Russell said. “This year’s winners have demonstrated an impressive commitment to transforming higher education so that all may thrive on our campuses — a commitment NADOHE shares. At a time when diversity, equity and inclusion is needed more than ever, it is vital that we lift up the excellence of our colleagues and celebrate their successes.”

The Institutional Excellence Award is presented to institutions that have demonstrated measurable progress in promoting and sustaining innovative diversity efforts within their campus community. These efforts may involve, but are not limited to, institutional leadership, curricular reform, institutional transformation, professional development, assessment policies and practices, accountability measures, and outreach efforts.

Dr. Sheila Caldwell, Vice President for Anti-racism, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the SIU System received the award on behalf of the System at NADOHE’s recent spring conference in Baltimore.

“To receive this recommendation from NADOHE, which is a leader in the national conversation on diversity, equity and inclusion, makes receiving this recognition all the more important and is a tremendous boost to support our efforts across the SIU System to promote excellence in these areas,” said Caldwell.

The National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education celebrates individuals and institutions for their exemplary achievements and contributions to lead higher education toward inclusive excellence. Each year nominations for the Inclusive Excellence Awards are submitted on behalf of higher education administrators, scholars and institutions who are leaders in the study of diversity by means of research, leadership and service.

“The SIU System and our campuses have committed to become a national leader promoting anti-racism, diversity, equity and inclusion. Receiving the NADOHE Institutional Excellence Award is an important recognition as we continue on this important journey. I want to thank all our students, faculty, staff and community who are contributing to this success,” said SIU System President Dan Mahony.

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#### About NADOHE

The National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education (NADOHE) is the preeminent voice for chief diversity officers. As the leader of the national conversation on diversity, equity, and inclusion, it investigates, influences, and innovates to transform higher education so that inclusive excellence lives at its core.

#### About the Southern Illinois University System

Founded in 1869 as Illinois’ second teacher’s college, the SIU System is now made up of two nationally recognized universities that provide students with diverse interactions, student-centered research and a comprehensive learning experience – Southern Illinois University Carbondale, with an on-campus law school and a School of Medicine in Springfield and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, with an on-campus Pharmacy School, a School of Dental Medicine in Alton and a Center in East St. Louis. An economic engine for the southern half Illinois, the University employs more than 7,000 faculty and staff who serve over 23,000 students. A modern and inclusive post-secondary educational system, SIU offers a broad range of academic programs that lead to associate, baccalaureate, master's, specialist's, and doctoral and professional practice degrees in 32 fields including law, medicine, pharmacy, and dental medicine.