

**Venessa A. Brown, Associate Chancellor, Southern Illinois University  
Edwardsville**

Dr. Brown is the Associate Chancellor, for the Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) with a tenured faculty appointment as professor in the department of social work. She also served as Associate Provost in Academic Affairs and Executive Director of the SIUE East Saint Louis Center (ESLC).

Dr. Brown began her academic career in 1993 as an assistant professor of sociology and social work in the Department of Social Sciences at Greenville College (GC). Following in her commitment to accredited social work programs, Dr. Brown accepted a position at SIUE in 1995 as an assistant professor to start the Masters in Social Work (MSW) program. She was tenured and promoted in 2001, full professor in 2006 and department chair from 2006 – 2007. In this role, she contributed to the overall success of the BSW/MSW program being fully accredited.

Dr. Brown is a native of Missouri, earned her B.A. in Social Work and Psychology at Greenville College in 1983, MSW from Atlanta University School of Social Work in 1985 and a Ph.D. in Social Work with a Concentration in Statistics and Computer Science from Clark Atlanta University in 1994. After attending her master's program she worked for the State of Georgia. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Dr. Brown is nationally and internationally known for her commitment to public child welfare. She has also been recognized for teaching and international activities. Her past students have become leaders in the region. She is the author of "Child Welfare Case Studies" published by Allyn & Bacon and in the process of completing a textbook with Dr. Doris Houston on Community-Based Child Welfare with Multicultural Families.

Over the years, she has been a principle investigator on state and federally funded grants. Under her leadership as the Executive Director of the SIUE (ESLC) she oversaw grant funded programs totaling approximately \$15 million. She also secured a \$1million dollar cash gift to the University to open a state of the art STEM Technology Lab for the Charter High School.