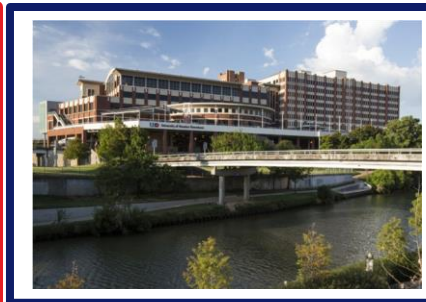


Peer-Led Team Learning International Society  
Eleventh Annual Conference  
University of Houston Downtown, Houston, Texas  
Wednesday – Saturday  
May 31-June 3, 2023

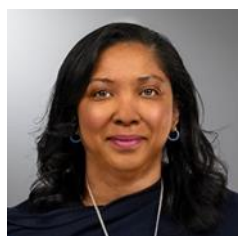


## KEYNOTE PANEL

Friday, June 2, 9:15-10:30am

### Securing Administrators' Support to Sustain Your PLTL Program

#### Convenor



**KIMSHI HICKMAN**, Ed.D., is the Assistant Vice Provost for Retention and Completion at The University of Texas at Arlington. Kimshi has served in higher education for over 20 years in student affairs, enrollment management and academic affairs. Her career focus for the past 10 years has been on increasing retention and graduation rates through work in academic support programs such as Peer-Led Team Learning (PLTL) and Supplemental Instruction and through retention focused initiatives that address barriers students face in persistence.

While many PLTL practitioners started their program with grants, some have been started through Learning Centers with the support of administrators concerned about retention and student success. The panelists will share the models that have developed and supported peer-led programs, allowing them to be institutionalized and sustained.

#### Panelists



**NICHOLAS HAMMOND**, Ph.D., is the Director of the Learning Center at the University of Rochester. Combining his time in a hybrid teaching/research postdoctoral appointment with his work at UR on the PLTL 'Workshop' Program, he has now spent over thirteen years working with near-peer collaborative learning models. His other research has included alternative ways to assess near-peer leaders and the roles of self-efficacy and gender in students' success in chemistry courses.



**MARY JO PARKER**, Ed.D., is a first-generation, Hispanic, and faculty member in the Natural Sciences at University of Houston-Downtown, a federally designated Hispanic-serving and Minority-serving institution. She is also the Executive Director of the Scholars Academy, an academic unit supporting STEM majors. She has been with UHD for 14 years. She currently is PI on several active federal and state awards involving mentored research, workforce development, and bridge programs for precollege students totaling \$1.8 M, which emphasize the power of PLTL.

