Dr. Thomas is an accomplished leader and student affairs officer, recognized for her lifetime of contributions to college student health and wellness, including from research, prevention, and public health. Under her leadership, the Student Wellness Center at Ohio State has been transformed into a hub of holistic health and well-being experiences.

Dr. Thomas is the inaugural Director of Academic Success and Leadership Development at the University of Texas, Austin. She is a proud first-generation college graduate from the University of Dayton. Kia started her career at Ohio State in 2008 as an academic advisor for the education and human ecology. During her thirteen-year tenure at Ohio State, she has served in a variety of academic and administrative roles within the Office of Undergraduate Student Services, now, the Office of Academic Success and Leadership Development.

Dr. Thomas has been recognized for her ability to develop and implement comprehensive strategies for student retention, engagement, and success. Her research and scholarship focus on academic integrity and achievement, gender, racial and ethnic diversity, and inclusive excellence. She has held several leadership roles, including as an assistant professor, associate dean, and director of the Office of Student Life. Her contributions have been recognized with numerous awards and honors, including the 2017 BSA/CFA Directors Practice Award, the 2018 SURA Diversity and Inclusion Award, the 2019 Sydney Devine Leadership Award, and the 2022 BYU Leadership and Change Program at Antioch University.

Aga Wigoda (she/her/hers) is the Director of Student Life Belonging and Engagement. Prior to this role, she was the Assistant Dean of Student Life at the University of Oregon and the Director of the Multicultural Center (formerly the Multicultural Center).

The supervision required of higher education professionals who were “first-generation” college graduates, the focus of her PhD studies in Higher Education Administration from Savannah State University.

In 2019, Ohio State became one of the first institutions to participate in several short-term service trips focusing on student engagement and leadership development in the Bahamas, led study abroad programs to the Bahamas, and courses, developed residential programs for high school age students, and led study abroad programs.

Dr. Angela Wellman is the Assistant Vice Provost for Student Affairs at The Ohio State University. She has a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Administration from Florida Atlantic University.

She has served as editor-in-chief of the Journal of Library Administration and a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Library Collections, Acquisitions, and Technical Services.

Dr. David L. Graham is the Assistant Vice-Provost for Student Affairs at The Ohio State University. He has a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Administration from the University of Oregon.

He has served as a consultant for the American Council on Education (ACE) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). He has also been a member of the OhioLINK, the Big Ten Academic Alliance, TOME, and the Association of Research Libraries Digital Scholarship Institute.

Dr. Damon E. Jaggars is the Director of the Student Life Center for Belonging and Social Change. He has a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Administration from the University of Texas, and a master’s degree in Sports Management from George Washington University.

He has served as a consultant for the American Council on Education (ACE) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). He has also been a member of the OhioLINK, the Big Ten Academic Alliance, TOME, and the Association of Research Libraries Digital Scholarship Institute.

Dr. Angela Wellman is the Assistant Vice Provost for Student Affairs at The Ohio State University. She has a Doctor of Education in Higher Education Administration from Florida Atlantic University.

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