MALCOLM DAVIS

In 2005, Malcolm began his career in the Baltimore City Public School System as a para-educator. After working as a kindergarten para-educator as well as an intern of students with learning disabilities, Malcolm knew that the education profession was for him. Malcolm received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Mass Communications from Frostburg State University and continued his education receiving a Masters of Arts in Teaching Degree from Notre Dame of Maryland University. He takes his professional responsibilities seriously, continuously striving to help students overcome barriers that can impact their success inside and outside of the classroom. In his tenure, Malcolm has offered to participate on various committees, and serves in capacities which promote the academic, social, and emotional success for the students of Hilton Elementary School. Malcolm’s professional attributes have been spotlighted by the Kappa Chapter of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. He was awarded an “Apple for the Teacher” plaque for his exemplary service in the classroom. Most recently Malcolm was selected to be a 2018 Beacon of Light Award Champion of Education recipient.

JANELLA HINDS

Janella T. Hinds brings a wealth of experience in both education and labor to her work as vice president for academic high schools. Janella earned a bachelor's degree in sociology with a concentration in African-American studies from Princeton University and her master’s in social studies education from New York University. She worked from 1996 to 2004 as a social studies teacher, dean, and conflict resolution specialist at high schools in central Brooklyn. She then worked as the public policy director of the New York State AFL-CIO. Janella brought her experience as a teacher and policy analyst back to the UFT in 2006 as a special representative, advocating for struggling schools and making sure the educator’s voice is heard in discussions of teacher evaluations, school innovation and governance. Janella was elected vice president of academic high schools in 2012. As vice president, Janella champions equity for students and empowerment for educators in each of the vast array of NYC high schools. Since her election, she has also proudly taught global history and geography to students at the High School for Public Service in Brooklyn. In addition to her responsibilities at the UFT, Janella has been re-elected to serve a second four-year term as secretary-treasurer of the NYC Central Labor Council. In that role, she is responsible for fiduciary oversight of this umbrella labor organization, which represents 1.3 million workers in about 400 public- and private-sector unions.
Stephanie Hoover, Ph.D., is a Counseling Psychologist and Research Scientist at the Center for Health Equity Research, Department of Social Medicine, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Stephanie’s research is in mental health professional development and training, multicultural counseling, social justice and activism in mental health, public health, disparity populations, and behavioral health interventions including culturally adapted interventions for Latinx youth, social justice training for mental health service providers, and participatory and qualitative methods. She uses a range of methods with particular expertise in grounded theory, critical feminist phenomenological analysis, and community-engaged approaches. Stephanie earned her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Utah, where she investigated social justice training for mental health service providers.

Delegate Ariana Kelly has spent her career advocating for the diverse needs of women, children and families. Since 2010 she has represented the 16th District in the Maryland House of Delegates, which includes Bethesda, Chevy Chase and Potomac. As Deputy Majority Whip, Delegate Kelly serves on the legislature’s Health and Government Operations Committee, and Chairs the Health Occupations and Long-Term Care Subcommittee and the Montgomery County Delegation Economic Development Committee. She also Chairs the Joint Committee on Children, Youth, and Families and served as the 2018 President of the Women Legislators of Maryland. Delegate Kelly’s background in advocacy and policy is extensive, including serving as Executive Director at NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland, Campaign Director at MomsRising. She began her career at Girls Inc. national headquarters. She also served as Executive Producer of the National PBS news program To The Contrary. A specialist in women’s health and family economic security issues, Delegate Kelly has passed landmark legislation making Maryland first in the nation for access to contraception, as well as legislation requiring parental leave, preventing sexual harassment and investing in child care. She also authored legislation requiring insurance coverage for autism and expanding access to prenatal care. In 2018 she passed legislation to require consent education be included as part of Maryland’s sex education curriculum which has sparked national conversations and lead to other states pursuing similar legislation. This past session she passed legislation to expand Maryland’s Child Care Tax Credit, as well as multiple pieces of legislation aimed at improving public health.

Leo Casey is the Executive Director of the Albert Shanker Institute, a think tank affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers which focuses of issues of public education, unionism and democracy promotion. Before he assumed his current position at the Institute, Casey served as Vice President from Academic High Schools for the United Federation of Teachers, New York City’s 200,000 person strong teacher union. He is the son of two New York City public school teachers. Casey attended Antioch College in Ohio, the University of Dar Es Salaam in Tanzania and the University of Toronto in Canada, where he earned a Ph.D. in Political Philosophy. After a stint in political organizing, Casey began his teaching career in 1984 at Clara Barton High School in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn. There he taught classes in Civics, American History, African-American Studies for fifteen years. For ten years in a row, his classes, entirely students of color, largely immigrant and largely female, won the New York City championship of the national We The People civics competition, winning the New York State championship four times and placing fourth in the nation twice. Casey’s union activism at Clara Barton began in 1987, when he led an effort to have the school building closed to clean up major asbestos contamination caused by the Department of Education’s renovations. He served as UFT Chapter Leader at Clara Barton for ten years. In 1999, Casey became a full-time UFT Special Representative for High Schools. He was elected Vice President from Academic High Schools in October 2007. Casey has served as Vice President of the Graduate Student Union at the University of Toronto and on the executive of the Ontario Federation of Students. He was editor in chief of the Antioch Record, and National Field Director of Democratic Socialists of America. Casey has won several awards for his teaching, and was named national Social Studies Teacher of the Year for the American Teacher Awards in 1992. He has worked with teacher unions and teachers in Russia, Tanzania and China on the development of civics education.