



Aaron Thompson, Ph.D., is the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. He holds a doctorate degree in sociology in the areas of Organizational Behavior/Race and Gender Relations. Previous positions he has held include: Executive Director of the Student Success Institute; Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs and University Programs; Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management; Professor of Sociology; and Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.

Dr. Thompson is nationally recognized in the areas of education attainment and academic success. He has researched, taught and/or consulted in areas of diversity, leadership, ethics, multicultural families, race and ethnic relations, student success, first-year students, retention, cultural competence and organizational design throughout his personal career.

He has over 30 publications and numerous research and peer reviewed presentations. Thompson has traveled over the U.S. and has given more than 400 workshops, seminars and invited lectures in areas of race and gender diversity, living an unbiased life, overcoming obstacles to gain success, creating a school environment for academic success, cultural competence, workplace interaction, leadership, organizational goal setting, building relationships, the first-year seminar, and a variety of other topics. He has been or is a consultant to educational institutions (elementary, secondary and postsecondary), corporations, non-profit organizations, police departments, and other governmental agencies. In addition, his research has been cited in popular publications such as *Cosmopolitan*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Orlando Sentinel*, *Tampa Tribune*, and other.

His latest co-authored books are *Thriving in College and Beyond: Research-Based Strategies for Academic Success and Personal Development*, *Diversity and the College Experience: Research-Based Strategies for Appreciating Human Differences*; *Focus on Success and Black Men and Divorce* and three books that will be published in 2010: *Thriving in the Community College & Beyond: Strategies for Academic Success and Personal Development*, *Humanity, Diversity, & the Liberal Arts: The Foundation of a College Education* for summer reading programs, and *Infusing Diversity into the College Experience*.