

### *For Immediate Release*

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## **Simmons College Professor Named to 2018 List of Boston's Most Influential People of Color**

BOSTON (April 9, 2018) – Gary Bailey, DHL, MSW, ACSW, Professor of Practice at Simmons College School of Social Work, was honored on March 27, 2018 for being named one of Boston's Most Influential People of Color.

"Gary Bailey has been an invaluable member of our community since his arrival in 1999," said Simmons College President Helen G. Drinan. "His academic work is stellar, but beyond that, his deep commitment to improving the lives of others have served as a model for his students and his colleagues to aspire to. He is most deserving of this prestigious recognition."

Created by Colette Phillips Communications, Inc. (CPC) and Get Konnected! in partnership with the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce and The Boston Foundation, this year marked the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the GK100 list of Greater Boston's *100 Most Influential People of Color*.

"We do not view the GK100 as a popularity list, but more of an opportunity to showcase the depth and breadth of culturally diverse talent in Boston who are contributing to the economic and social fabric of the city across various industries – including academia, business, health care, innovation and technology, and philanthropy. The GK100 should help us move beyond the phrase "*we can't find qualified candidates of color*." said Colette Phillips, CEO of Colette Phillips Communications and Founder of Get Konnected!

In addition to his teaching in the Simmons School of Social Work, Bailey holds a secondary appointment as the Special Assistant to the Dean for Inter-professional Education in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences. Among his many on-campus activities, Professor Bailey directs the Urban Leadership Certificate in Clinical Social Work; and co-ordinates the Dynamics of Racism and Oppression sequence. He chairs the School of Social Work Awards Committee; is Chair of the Simmons College Black Administrators, Faculty and Staff Council (BAFAS); is a member of the Simmons Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Council (DIAC), co-Chaired the Simmons College Initiative on Human Rights and Social Justice, and was a member of the Simmons Faculty Senate

Off campus, Bailey is equally active. In 2017 he was appointed by Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker as a member of the Massachusetts LGBT-Q Youth Commission; and in 2009 he was appointed by Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick to the serve on the board of the

Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA); he was reappointed in 2013 for a term ending in 2019. At MEFA he chairs the Audit Committee and is a member of the Executive Committee. In 2010, Bailey was elected President of the International Federation of Social Workers, representing over 90 countries and 746,000 social workers globally, becoming the first person of color to hold this post.

Among his many accolades include being named Social Worker of the Year by both the National and Massachusetts NASW in 1998. He was made a Social Work Pioneer by NASW in 2005, the youngest person to have received the distinction.

Simmons College ([www.simmons.edu](http://www.simmons.edu)) is a nationally recognized private university located in the heart of Boston. Founded in 1899, Simmons is the only undergraduate women's college in Boston, and maintains a history of visionary thinking and a focus on social responsibility. The college offers world-class coeducational graduate programs in nursing and health sciences, including physical therapy and nutrition; liberal arts; education; behavior analysis; library and information science; management; and social work. Follow Simmons on Twitter at [@SimmonsCollege](https://twitter.com/SimmonsCollege) and [@SimmonsNews](https://twitter.com/SimmonsNews).

About Get Konnected!™

Founded as a Social Impact Venture in 2008, and the brainchild of Colette Phillips, President and CEO of Colette Phillips Communications, Inc. Get Konnected! is Boston's premier inclusive business networking event that brings together urban and international professionals, C suite executives, business leaders, small business owners and entrepreneurs of all cultures across industries and sectors. Get Konnected! is the creator of the historic [GK100](#), Boston's first comprehensive list of the 100 Most Influential People of Color.