THE HEMAN SWEATT CENTER FOR BLACK MALES is a faculty-led academic initiative to promote academic excellence among African American males. The Sweatt Center includes a research focus that informs public policy experts, practitioners and community members on how best to create and maintain a culture of Black male excellence in K-20 settings. This research guides a hands-on practical approach to help The Sweatt Center achieve its major goals: to increase the four-year graduation rate for African American males at The University of Texas at Austin and to increase the number of Black males attending four-year colleges and universities across the state of Texas.

Housed in the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, The Sweatt Center partners with local and national organizations to provide professional development and special events for undergraduates and opportunities for the undergrads to mentor younger African American males.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- Black male orientation
- Academic coaching and advising
- Free and unlimited tutoring
- Weekly empowerment meetings (Power Hour)
- Undergraduate research
- Internship program
- Student-athlete programming
- Black Student-Athlete Summit
- Study abroad (Beijing and Cape Town)
- Host campus visits (College for a Day)
- Collegiate Black Male Retreat
- AMP’d Mentorship
- Black Male Education Research Collection

LEADERSHIP TEAM

RYAN SUTTON, PH.D.
Director, The Heman Sweatt Center for Black Males
Sutton earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Xavier University. He earned a Ph.D. in counseling psychology from Howard University and has published on African American youth and mental health, juvenile justice and academic achievement.

DARREN KELLY, PH.D.
Deputy to Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement
Previously Kelly was director of the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program and chief of staff for Longhorn Center for Academic Excellence. He earned a bachelor’s degree in finance and marketing from University of Virginia and a Ph.D. from UT Austin in sports management.

LEONARD N. MOORE, PH.D.
Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement
George W. Littlefield Professor of American History
Moore was named vice president for diversity and community engagement in June 2018 after serving as interim VP for a year and senior associate VP for four years. Moore earned a B.A. from Jackson State University and a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University.

LOUIS HARRISON JR., PH.D.
Professor, College of Education
Harrison is a full professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and is the nation’s leading expert on racial identity and the African American athlete. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of New Orleans and his Ph.D. from LSU.
LEADERSHIP TEAM (CONTINUED)

DEVIN WALKER, PH.D.
Director of Global Leadership and Social Impact
Walker leads DDCE’s initiative to prepare students for the 21st century global workforce through innovative programming, including the 100 passports program. He earned his bachelor’s degree at University of Wisconsin-Madison and his Ph.D. at UT Austin.

JAMES C. BROWN, PH.D.
Instructional Support Coordinator, STEM
After a distinguished career in the tech industry at Motorola, 3M and IBM, Brown now leads the STEM initiative in Longhorn Center for Academic Excellence. He holds a doctorate in physics from Cornell.

G. CHRISTOPHER CUTKELVIN
Program Coordinator, DDCE
Cutkelvin earned his bachelor’s degree from Texas Southern University and is currently in graduate school. He is a founding member of the Collegiate 100 in Houston and has served in leadership roles for NAACP and Alpha Phi Alpha.

PATRICK K. PATTERSON
Assistant Vice President for School Partnerships
Patterson oversees all of DDCE’s pre-college academic readiness programs. He earned a master’s in education from Chicago State University and was a highly acclaimed principal at Austin’s LBJ HS for six years.

BRANDON JONES, PH.D.
Associate Director for Student Learning and Development Housing and Dining
Jones holds a BFA and a master’s degree from Abilene Christian University. He earned a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at UT Arlington. His research interests include intercollegiate athletics and student achievement.

MALIK A. CROWDER
Assistant Director, Multicultural Engagement Center
Crowder was the inaugural academic advisor for the UT Black Studies program and helped launch a successful program in Undergraduate Studies. He earned his M.S. in human development at Abilene Christian University.

ANDEL FILS-AMIE, ED.D.
Director of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity
Previously Fils-Amie was assistant director of Student Conduct at the University of Central Florida. He earned a BA from Florida State University, an MA from University of Hawaii at Manoa and an EdD from University of Central Florida.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

DELANDO CROOKS
Crooks earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Vanderbilt University. He is currently pursuing a doctorate in Higher Education.

JAVIER WALLACE
Wallace earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Florida A&M University. He is pursuing his doctorate in Physical Education Teacher Education.

JAYLEN WRIGHT
Wright earned his undergraduate degree from Texas A&M University. He is pursuing a master’s degree and doctorate in Health Behavior and Health Education.

CHASE MOORE
Moore was a walk-on defensive back at UT Austin, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology. He is pursuing a graduate degree in Education.

NATHAN JONES
Jones earned his bachelor’s degree in Economics and Sociology from Morehouse College. After working in impact investing, he is currently pursuing an MBA.

For more information about the Heman Sweatt Center for Black Males, visit diversity.utexas.edu/sweattcenter or contact Dr. Ryan Sutton by email: r.suttonm@austin.utexas.edu.