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More About Ya Vanca

Dr. Ya Vanca Brooks earned her Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership and Innovation from Wilmington University, an M.A. in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from Thomas Edison State University, and a B.A. in Criminal Justice with a minor in Education from Rowan University. Her research interests include teaching and learning in urban environments, gender studies, and African American studies.

With more than 25 years of experience in higher education, Dr. Brooks has dedicated her career to supporting both traditional and non-traditional students while advancing initiatives that foster diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. She is deeply committed to diversifying the educator workforce and creating inclusive learning environments where all students feel valued, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential. Inspired by a family of educators and nurses, Dr. Brooks' passion for education is rooted in a lifelong commitment to service, advocacy, and expanding opportunities for others.