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Veronica J. Duncan

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Transforming the Ivory Tower: Ebony Women Redefining the Academy

A Lot of Milk With a Drop of Chocolate: The Effects of Black Women on the Academy

Dr. Veronica J. Duncan

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

“This session explores the changes that occur within European American faculty, staff, and students at predominately white universities when African American women are added to the academic experience.”

African Americans' experiences in the Academy vary, however, there are some commonalities that seem to be shared over and over again. This session explores the changes that occur within European American faculty, staff, and students at predominately white universities when African American women are added to the academic experience. This exploration occurs from the viewpoint of an African American female faculty member who was once a graduate student.

First, the presenter explores the effects her presence had on fellow graduate students and the undergraduates she taught. Second, she explores the effects of her presence as faculty on faculty colleagues and staff. Finally, the presenter explores the effects of her presence as a faculty member on students. The session concludes with the notion that milk without chocolate has a lot less flava'.

PRESENTER

Dr. Veronica J. Duncan is Assistant Professor of communication studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She received a Ph.D. in communication studies from the University of Kentucky in 1995.