Drs. Julia Fullick-Jagiela and Kiku Jones, were appointed Co-Directors of the People’s United Center for Women & Business (PUCWB), whose mission is to provide opportunities for women to achieve their professional goals as well as to build a community focused on achieving those goals consistent with their personal values. This community is comprised of women and their allies committed to life-long learning who are eager to share and includes the external community, students, alumni, faculty, and staff. Our center is devoted to preparing our community for enlightened and engaged citizenship. The center also facilitates connections and thereby builds and develops an engaged community where wisdom and experience are shared to educate, inspire and foster growth.

The center is part of a dynamic and growing university with a commitment to academic excellence and to building a strong sense of community enlightenment and engagement. The center effectively serves the needs of existing and future female professionals by providing opportunities for lifelong learning, professional development, community-building and citizenship.

Jones’s work is focused on building empowered student leaders equipped both professionally and personally. She promotes diversity and inclusion in the classroom and challenges her students to become leaders on campus and in the community. In her roles as PUCWB Co-Director and Associate Professor of Computer Information System, she is passionate about building a strong sharing community of women and their allies ready to effect systemic change in workforce to help in the advancement of women. Jones is also particularly interested in the challenges women of color encounter. Prior to working at Quinnipiac, she was a Vice President at Feed The Children. Jones has extensive experience working and consulting in various aspects of non-profit organizations. In 2017, she received Quinnipiac University’s Center for Excellence in Teaching Award. In 2014, 2015 and 2016 (last year of the award), she was the recipient of the Quinnipiac University CIS Society’s Professor of the Year. In 2008, she received the University of Tulsa’s Mayo Excellence in Teaching Award. Jones earned her Ph.D. in Decision Sciences and Information Systems from the University of Kentucky and her B.S. in Computer Information Systems and MBA from Western Kentucky University.

“At different times in my career, I have felt uncomfortable being my authentic self – sometimes I wouldn’t even recognize the sound of my own voice. Organizations have stated they are devoted to diversity and inclusion. However, stopping short at making statements and even writing policies isn’t enough to truly make the systemic changes needed for women, particularly women of color, to feel comfortable to bring their authentic selves. I am excited for how the Center and its engaged community will help to impact this needed change.” – Dr. Kiku Jones, co-director, People’s United Center for Women & Business.

Fullick-Jagiela’s work is centered on redefining leadership development practice to include diverse leader voices and experience. She challenges her students to be catalysts for inclusive and equitable change and empowers them to be dedicated leaders in the classroom and community. In her roles as PUCWB Co-Director and Associate Professor and Chair of Management, she is a passionate advocate for advancing women in the workforce and engaging real systemic change that will allow them to bring their authentic intersectional identities to the table. She has developed formal mentoring programs and consulted with non-
profits and professional organizations. In 2015 she was awarded the Quinnipiac University Pi Beta Phi Certificate of Excellence in Teaching Award. She is the founding faculty advisor for SHRM@QU, a Superior Merit Award winning student chapter. In 2011, she was awarded the William R. Jones Most Valuable Mentor Award from the Florida Education Fund. As part of her commitment to being a lifelong learner in her roles, she completed the HERS Institute Higher Education Leadership Development Program in 2019. Fullick-Jagiela earned her Ph.D. and M.S. in Industrial Organizational Psychology and B.S., Honors in the Major in Psychology from the University of Central Florida.

“There are systemic organizational obstacles for women, particularly for women of color that need to be addressed. Gender diversity must be a business priority and we must hold our leaders accountable for results. Actions speak louder than words. I am excited to build on the work of our Center’s founders, Kathleen Simione and Rowena Ortiz-Walters to build community by connecting women and their allies to effect real organizational and societal change.” – Dr. Julia Fullick-Jagiela, co-director, People’s United Center for Women & Business.

“Drs. Julia Fullick-Jagiela and Kiku Jones will bring their passion and dedication to the leadership of the People’s United Center for Women and Business. Their commitment to building community, engagement, and opportunity for women will benefit students, faculty, alumni, and the entire business community” – Matthew O’Connor, Dean, Quinnipiac University School of Business.