## **Tyrone A. Holmes, Ed.D**

A Professional Speaker and Consultant Building Powerful CONNECTIONS® in Diverse Organizations



# Unconscious Bias and Uncomfortable Conversations

Unconscious bias is a quiet, yet powerful performance killer because it interferes with our ability to build relationships across differences and leads to bad decisions that impair individual and organizational performance. One way it negatively affects performance is through the manifestation of microaggressions. These commonplace statements send derogatory messages to certain individuals, often unintentionally, that can damage relationships and impair performance. This session defines unconscious bias, describes the negative impact of microaggressions and proffers steps we can take to reduce this negative impact by engaging in, what are often, 'uncomfortable conversations.'



## Because of this presentation, you will be able to:

- Define unconscious bias and describe the different types of bias that can impact your interactions with others.
- Describe microaggressions and the ways they can negatively impact communication, work relationships and work performance.
- Define uncomfortable conversations and the steps we can take to manage these conversations more effectively. This will include discussion on giving and receiving constructive feedback and the impact of emotional noise on the communication process.

Book Dr. Holmes for your next meeting or event

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### **Testimonials**

A very unique ability is to captivate an audience and make them process your spoken words long after you have left the room. This, I am sure, occurs on many occasions when Dr. Tyrone A. Holmes speaks. It certainly happened when he spoke at the Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development's Samuel H. Johnson Luncheon. He understood our mission and delivered a powerful and memorable keynote address that provided our guests with the "professional opportunity of a lifetime".

#### S. Kent Butler, Ph.D, PLPC, NCC, NCSC, Associate Professor, University of Missouri at St. Louis

Dr. Holmes, on behalf of the entire membership of the Michigan chapter of Meeting Professionals International, I want to thank you for speaking to our group today. Unconscious Bias needs to be more widely recognized and actively fought, not only in our industry, but in our own communities. Thank you for sharing your knowledge and giving us tools in the fight.

#### Maryellen Jansen, V.P. of Education, MPI Michigan

Thanks Tyrone! Building Powerful Business Relationships in a Culturally Diverse Society was a huge hit! Everyone really enjoyed the presentation and we all learned something new about L.U.C.A.S. and the S.O.L.E.R. Technique that we can use at work and home. I'm going to recommend you to Garland Preddy, Education Coordinator at the National SGMP Headquarters. This is a topic that we all need to work on and you provided some excellent communication tools for us to implement.

Michelle Fink, Vice President, Arizona Society of Government Meeting Professionals, Phoenix, AZ



Dr. Tyrone A. Holmes is a professional speaker and consultant who has spent three decades teaching thousands of people to build powerful relationships in diverse settings. He received his bachelor's degree in Rehabilitation Education and master's degree in Counselor Education from Penn State University. Dr. Holmes received a second master's degree in Business Management from the State University of New York, before earning a perfect 4.0 GPA in his Counselor Education doctoral program at Penn State. As the owner of T.A.H. Performance Consultants, he has facilitated more than 1,500 keynotes, training seminars and virtual workshops that have taught participants to connect with others despite their differences, to effectively articulate their messages, to connect with diverse audiences and groups, and to reduce the negative impact of unconscious bias. Dr. Holmes served as a full-time faculty member at Eastern Michigan University in the Department of Leadership and Counseling, and at Wayne State University in the Department of Theoretical and Behavioral Foundations. He is also a Past President of the Arizona Chapter of the National Speakers Association. Dr. Holmes is an eSpeakers Certified Virtual Presenter, Certified Virtual Host and most recently, Certified Virtual Master Presenter.

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