

Zerrie D. Campbell

Zerrie D. Campbell was the seventh President of Malcolm X College and the first woman to be permanently appointed to the position. Additionally, she was the longest serving President of Malcolm X College.

Zerrie Campbell was born in Chicago, Illinois Feb. 9, 1951. She attended Chicago Public Schools and upon graduation attended Northern Illinois University. Zerrie earned her B.A. degree in English in 1972 and M.S. in secondary professional education in 1974. In 1978 Zerrie earned her M.A. degree in English from Chicago State University.

While at Northern Illinois University Zerrie Campbell was initiated into our illustrious organization, in 1969 via Delta Omicron Chapter. Soror Zerrie held various positions and was very active in the chapter. Soror Zerrie has been a member of Xi Nu Omega Chapter for several years and is a Silver Star Life member. Soror Zerrie was Xi Nu Omega's 4th Basileus and has chaired many committees within the chapter and the Region. In 2010, Soror Zerrie received the Central Region Pamela Bates Porch Outstanding Educator Award.

Soror Zerrie's professional career spans 35 years as an educator, administrator and instructor. She is credited with turning Malcolm X Community College around, creating a more viable institution. During her tenure she re-established the nursing program, which was on state probation at the time. While she presided over the institution, enrollment increased as well as the number of graduates and certificates awarded. She negotiated a lucrative parking deal with the United Center Stadium, home of the Chicago Bulls, infusing \$2.1 million into the school's coffers. Additionally, in 2004 she managed an employee crisis with skill and compassion limiting the disruption of services to the students and returning moral to the staff and faculty.

Soror Zerrie has also served as interim president of the Forest Park and Meramec campuses of St. Louis Community College System.

Soror Zerrie has received numerous awards, among them was President of the Year from the American Association of Women in Community Colleges (AAWCC); the 7th Congressional District Outstanding Educator Award and three Illinois Community College Board Awards for Excellence in "Teaching and Learning", "Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning", "Workforce Preparation". Most recently Soror Zerrie was made a permanent part of the History Makers collection which is housed in Library of Congress.

Soror Zerrie has been on multiple boards, in multiple organizations and has been acknowledged locally and nationally for her commitment to education, leadership and civic duty. Today, Soror Zerrie is now happily retired and enjoying the sisterhood of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

through Xi Nu Omega Chapter with her legacy, Soror Sydney L. Adams, recipient of the Central Region 2015 Soror of the Year Award.