Dr. Jennifer Williams Molock and Jay Molock: A Thank You

Dr. Jennifer Molock and Jay Molock recently announced that they are moving on to new opportunities. I wanted to take a moment to recognize both of them for their many contributions to the University of Utah.

Dr. Jennifer Williams Molock was hired as Assistant Vice President for Student Equity & Diversity in 2008. While in that role, Dr. Molock helped create meaningful traditions for students and the community such as the annual graduation celebration and the Days of Remembrance “reading of names ceremony.” In addition to her support and guidance of many diversity programs and events, Dr. Molock also assisted in the development and implementation of strategic plans for both Student Equity & Diversity and Education & Community Partnerships for Diversity. What she is best known for, though, is her ability to connect with audiences and convey her enthusiasm about the University of Utah and the importance of higher education when recruiting students of color, particularly African-American students.

Dr. Molock is fortunate to have a great partner in life and in work, Jay Molock. He served in several roles supporting diversity initiatives at the University including in the Office of Admissions and in the Office of Inclusion, Health Sciences. The Molock team has been an important presence at and a significant contributor to so many efforts, including developing, implementing, and shepherding the annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Rally and Marade. They also created and ran the Black Student Leadership Institute (BSLI), a program that they gave endless loving hours to each year. BSLI connected high school students with mentors on campus during an intensive three-day college prep experience at the University, which had a positive impact on many young students of color and built lasting connections between the University and the students’ communities. Most recently, they served as thoughtful ambassadors as we explored the possibility of a partnership between Langston University, an Historically Black College/University, and the University of Utah.

Although Dr. Molock and Mr. Molock are now moving on, we thank them for all they have done as part of the University of Utah and we wish them well in their endeavors.