

UConn

PROCUREMENT SERVICES

SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

Veronica Cook is the Executive Program Director for the UConn Supplier Diversity Program (USDP) and has been the Program's leader since its inception in 2005. Veronica is a 26-year veteran of the University of Connecticut's University Business Services Department, which includes Procurement Contracting and Compliance, Capital Projects and Facilities Procurement, and Purchasing. Veronica's USDP responsibilities encompass UConn's main and regional campuses as well as UConn Health located in Farmington CT. The mission of the USDP is to expand enrollment and participation of small/minority businesses (S/MBE's) on University contracts, with an endeavor to educate, encourage S/MBE's to participate, build relationships, connect S/MBE's to UConn's buying professionals and measure compliance to affect positive change for S/MBE's. Over the past couple of years the USDP has been a recipient of awards from both the Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council (GNEMSDC) (2018 and 2019) and the Minority Construction Council (MCC-2018).

Veronica holds Associate's, Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Eastern Connecticut State University and has volunteered as a First Year Experience (FYE) Instructor for UConn's Freshman class for the past decade, in addition to carrying out her USDP responsibilities.

Veronica's message to S/MBE's is this, "the University of Connecticut is open for business, and we hope that you will not stop knocking until someone answers the door."