

Keith Everett

2014, Master of Business Administration
Health Administration
South University, Richmond



South University Graduate Student Mentors Undergrads

Keith Everett, who will complete his Master of Business Administration in Health Administration from South University, Richmond in June 2014, has many things competing for his attention. As the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's vice president of quality and systems improvement, Everett is responsible for managing programs in an area that stretches from Maine to South Carolina. But one day recently, his entire attention was focused on ten South University, Richmond students and their futures.

Everett took time from his busy work and class schedule to speak to the students enrolled in a health science class about their career goals. Why did they want to work in health professions? What area of healthcare did they hope to work in?

After 45 minutes of talking to the students about their future plans, and talking about his own successful career path, Everett then took a moment to offer more than advice. He gave each student in the room the name and contact information for someone working in the Richmond-area healthcare industry. Each of these contacts could serve as a possible job shadow and mentor to the students – a crucial role model for those just entering the career world.

Everett didn't stop there. The decorated U.S. Army veteran followed up with an e-mail to each student, offering advice on everything from resume writing to professional e-mails. When he learned a South University graduate needed help with her career path, he made a special trip to campus and spent nearly an hour with her and her director of career services discussing the graduate's next steps.

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“Some say that knowledge is power, but I disagree with that,” Everett said when asked about the impact education has had on his own life. “I believe that ‘use’ of knowledge is power. Having the knowledge, and not sharing with others, is a waste.”

Everett is sharing more than his knowledge. By sharing his time and industry contacts with South University students working towards their own career in healthcare, he's helping them carve out their path to the future.

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