**Darren D. Kelly, Ph.D.** is the Deputy to the Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement and an Assistant Professor of Instruction of Kinesiology at The University of Texas at Austin. As deputy, Dr. Kelly develops the short and long-term strategic goals for the division and advise the vice president on key decisions regarding budget, personnel, programming and other core administrative functions. He also has specific oversight over the Academic Diversity Initiatives (ADI) and Student Diversity Initiatives (SDI) portfolios. The ADI portfolio is a complex unit that consists of 3 unique centers: The [Longhorn Center for Academic Excellence](https://diversity.utexas.edu/academiccenter/), the [Longhorn Center for Community Engagement](http://diversity.utexas.edu/communityengagement/), and the [Longhorn Center for School Partnerships](http://diversity.utexas.edu/schoolpartnerships/). Each of these units serve to provide academic support, service learning, co-curricular, and college-readiness programming to first generation and underrepresented students in our Pre-K to Ph.D. educational pipeline on campus and across the state. The Student Diversity Initiatives portfolio houses the university’s [Gender and Sexuality Center](http://diversity.utexas.edu/genderandsexuality/) and [Multicultural Engagement Center](http://diversity.utexas.edu/multiculturalengagement/).

In addition to his administrative responsibilities Dr. Kelly maintains an active teaching and research agenda in the field of sport management. As a scholar, he conducts research centered around the holistic development of student-athletes – specifically African American student-athletes. He currently teaches two classes for the Department of Kinesiology and Health Education: Sociological Aspects of Sport and Physical Activity and Race and Sport in African American Life. Additionally, his work affords him the opportunity to teach a diverse group of students outside of the traditional classroom setting as a part of the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement’s Urban Economic Development Maymester Program in Cape Town, South Africa.

A native of Mission Viejo, CA, Dr. Kelly received his undergraduate degree in Finance and Marketing from the University of Virginia in 2004, his M.A. and Ph.D. in Kinesiology with specialization in Sport Management from The University of Texas at Austin in 2009 and 2012. He is married to Paige Elijah Kelly and enjoys watching and playing sports with his two sons, Devin (5) and Davis (4).