

The National Academies of  
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE



ROUNDTABLE ON  
**BLACK MEN & BLACK WOMEN**  
IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & MEDICINE

***Systemic Changes to Address Mental Health and Behavioral Barriers***  
***A Workshop***  
***September 14-15, 2021***

via ZOOM Webinar

*Public Agenda*

---

**DAY ONE**

SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 - 9:30 AM – 5:15 PM EST

---

**9:30 – 10:00 AM ET      Opening Remarks and Introductions:**

**Dr. Laura Castillo-Page, Ph.D**

Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

**Dr. Cato T. Laurencin, M.D., Ph.D.**

Chair of the Roundtable

**Dr. Vivian W. Pinn, M.D. Co-chair**

**Dr. Shirley Malcom, Ph.D. Co-chair**

**Dr. Evelyn Hammonds, Ph.D. Co-chair**

---

**SESSION I: ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH AND SOCIO-PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS  
TO INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION OF BLACK WOMEN AND MEN IN SEM**

---

**10:00 – 10:15 AM      Opening Keynote:**

**Dr. Altha J. Stewart**, Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Director, Center for Health in Justice Involved Youth, University of Tennessee Health Science Center; First Black President of the American Psychiatric Association; Past President of the Association of Women Psychiatrists and Past President of the Black Psychiatrists of America.

Introduction by: **Dr. Vivian W. Pinn**, Senior Scientist Emerita, Fogarty International Center, NIH,  
Founding Director, Office of Research on Women's Health, NIH (Retired)

---

**10:15 – 11:00 AM      The Importance of the Mission: Setting the Stage for Change**

Moderator & Presenter: **Dr. Kevin Cokley**, Chair, Department of Educational Psychology; University and UT System Distinguished Teaching Professor, Oscar and Anne Mauzy Regents Professor for Educational Research and Development, Professor of Educational Psychology and African and African Diaspora Studies, University of Texas at Austin

Panelist: **Dr. Ebony O. McGee**, Professor of Education, Diversity and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics) Education, Department of Teaching and Learning, Vanderbilt University's Peabody College

Responder: **Dr. Thomas Vance**, Visiting Research Scholar, The New School

**11:00 – 11:15 AM**      Discussion and Q & A

---

## **SESSION II: EARLY EDUCATION AS THE PATHWAY TO SUCCESS: PRE-K TO 12**

---

**11:15 – 11:40 AM**      **Pre-K-12 as Foundational for Future in SEM**

Moderator: **Dr. Shirley Malcom**, Head of Education and Human Resources Programs of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

Presenter: **Dr. Edmund W. Gordon**, John M. Musser Professor of Psychology, Emeritus, Yale University, Richard March Hoe Professor, Emeritus of Psychology and Education, Founding Director of the Institute of Urban and Minority Education, Teachers College, Columbia University

Presenter: **Kenneth Hill**, President and CEO ChiS&E

**11:40 AM – 12:30 PM**      **Panel Discussion**

Panelists:

- **Dr. Jean-Claude Brizard**, President and CEO, Digital Promise
- **Dr. Bernard Harris, M.D.**, CEO, National Math-Science Initiative (NMSI)
- **Dr. Sonya Douglass Horsford**, Professor and Founding Director, Black Education Research Collective (BERC), Teachers College, Columbia University

Responder: **Dr. Edmund W. Gordon**

**12:30 to 12:45 PM**      Discussion and Q & A

---

**12:45 PM - 1:15 PM**      **Break for Lunch**

---

### SESSION III: HIGHER EDUCATION AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

---

#### **1:15 PM – 2:15 PM      Changes at Colleges and Universities to Assure Access, Success, and Well-Being**

Moderator: **Dr. Evelyn Hammonds**, Barbara Gutmann Rosenkrantz Professor of the History of Science; Professor of African and African American Studies; Chair, Department of the History of Science; Director, Project on Race & Gender in Science & Medicine, Hutchins Center for African and African American Research, Harvard University

Presenters:

- **Dr. Valerie Montgomery-Rice, MD**, President, Morehouse School of Medicine
- **Dr. Keivan Stassun, PhD**, Stevenson Prof. of Astrophysics, College of Arts and Sciences, Prof. of Computer Science, Vanderbilt School of Engineering, Director, Frist Autism and Innovation at Vanderbilt, and Adjunct Prof. of Physics, Fisk University
- **Dr. Mike Summers, PhD**, Professor of Chemistry, UMBC
- **Dr. Kimberly M. Jackson, PhD**, Professor and Chair Department of Chemistry, Spelman College; Co-director of the living and learning community for STEM scholars

#### **2:15-2:30 PM      Discussion and Q & A**

---

### SESSION IV: BRINGING SYSTEMIC CHANGES THROUGH IMPORTANT SECTORS OF INFLUENCE

---

#### **2:30 – 3:30 PM      Opportunities to Support a More Systemic Approach to Addressing Mental and Behavioral Health**

Moderator: **Dr. Garth Graham, MD MPH FACP FACC**, Director and Global Head of Healthcare and Public Health Google and Head of YouTube Health

Presenters:

- **Dr. Laurie Zephyrin, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A.**, Vice President for Advancing Health Equity at the Commonwealth Fund
- **Dr. Marie Bernard**, Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity, NIH
- **Dr. Cora B. Marrett**, Former Deputy Director, National Science Foundation
- **Dr. Nwando Olayiwola M.D., MPH**, Chief Health Equity Officer & Senior Vice President, Humana

#### **3:30 to 3:45 PM      Discussion and Q & A**

---

## SESSION V: DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EQUITY BASED STRATEGIES

---

**3:45-5:00 PM**                      **Coordinated Responses across Agencies, Organizations and Departments to Address Disparities and Barriers**

Moderator: **Dr. Sudip Parikh, CEO, AAAS**

Panelists:

- **Dr. Kafui Dzirasa**, Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science, Duke University
- **Michellene Davis, Esq.**, President and CEO, National Medical Fellowships, Inc.
- **Samsher Singh Gill**, President and CEO, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

**4:45 -5:00 PM**                      Discussion and Q&A.

---

**5:00 -5:15 PM**                      **Discussion, Wrap-up, and Next Steps by Workshop Co-Chairs**

---

5: 15 PM                              Day One Adjourned

---

**DAY TWO**  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2021 – 1:15 PM – 5:00 PM EST

---

**SESSION VI: SOLUTIONS THAT RESULT IN SYSTEMIC CHANGES:  
GATEWAYS AND GATEKEEPERS**

---

**1:15 – 2:15 PM**                      **Panel for Reality Based Observations from those in the Pathway:**

Moderator: **Evelynn Hammonds**

Panelists:

- **Courtney Hoggard**, Master of Bioethics candidate at University of Pennsylvania, and recent pre-med student, Brown University
- **Anicca Harriot**, PhD student in the Graduate Program in Life Sciences, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Program and Meyerhoff Graduate Fellows Program at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.
- **Dr. Gabriel Felix, M.D.** Psychiatry Resident at Cambridge Health Alliance/Harvard Medical School.

**2:00 PM – 2:15 PM**                      Discussion and Q & A

---

**2:15-3:00 PM**                      **Fireside chat** – Co-Chairs and Committee will reflect on questions such as:

- Why are mental health considerations vital for systemic changes?
- What are the actions that are needed to move forward after today?
- Which sectors of influence, from educational components, to government, communities, the scientific community, and even families, need to be involved?

**3:00-4:00 PM**                      **Audience Town Hall Discussion** on Innovative Strategies Required for Systemic Changes to Pave a Smooth Pathway for Black Men and Women into Successful Careers in Science, Engineering and Medicine

---

**SESSION VII: MOVING FORWARD WITH URGENCY – CLOSING KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

---

**4:00-4:45 PM**                      **Closing Keynote speaker: Dr. Cora Marrett**

Moderator: **Dr. Vivian Pinn**

**4:45-5:00 PM**                      **Closing comments and pathways for action from the Co-Chairs**

**5:00 PM**                      Day Two and Workshop Adjourns

---