



# *Distinguished* LECTURE SERIES

## **The Legacy of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Future Engineering Faculty Fellowship (FEFF) Program**

### *Presenters:*

**Dr. Felecia McInnis Nave**

Provost and Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs  
**North Carolina Central University**

**Dr. Frances Williams**

Professor and Associate Dean  
for Graduate Studies and Research  
College of Engineering  
**Tennessee State University**

**Dr. Michel Reece**

Associate Professor and Interim Chair  
Department of Electrical and Computer  
Engineering  
**Morgan State University**



February 11, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
in the Bobby Junker Executive Conference Center, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Office of Naval Research, 875 N. Randolph St., Arlington, Virginia

# The Legacy of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Future Engineering Faculty Fellowship (FEFF) Faculty

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From 1990 to 2008, the Office of Naval Research funded the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Future Engineering Faculty Fellowship (FEFF) Program. During its 18-year run, the program developed a cadre of scholars who were prepared to serve as faculty at HBCUs, positioned to train the next generation of engineers, and equipped to expand science and technology (S&T) research capabilities at these institutions. The HBCU FEFF Program supported over 50 engineering Ph.D. students during its existence. This panel features three highly distinguished HBCU FEFF alumnae, each of whom fulfilled the promise of the program, returned to HBCUs as faculty, and are now serving as leaders and administrators at various levels. During the panel, Drs. Felecia Nave, Frances Williams, and Michel Reece will share their experiences as program fellows, discuss the impact of the program from their perspective, and provide insight on the naval-relevant research underway at their institutions.

## ABOUT

### Dr. Felecia McInnis Nave

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Dr. Nave currently serves as provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs at North Carolina Central University (NCCU). In this role, she leads and supports several units including six schools and colleges, the Office of Sponsored Research and Programs, and the Division of Extended Studies. Prior to her service at NCCU, Dr. Nave was a professor and administrator at Prairie View A&M University in Texas. Dr. Nave has published extensively and her research interests include broadening the participation of underrepresented minorities in STEM and the design, development, and characterization of bio-materials. Dr. Nave has received over \$3M in funding from agencies such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Defense (DOD), ExxonMobil, and the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) to explore technical and education-related areas of inquiry. Dr. Nave earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Alcorn State University and a Ph.D. in Engineering from the University of Toledo.

## ABOUT

### Dr. Frances Williams

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Dr. Williams is a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the associate dean for Graduate Studies and Research in the College of Engineering at Tennessee State University (TSU). Dr. Williams's research interests include advanced materials and devices, biosensors, and nano-/micro-electromechanical systems processing and devices. She has received grants totaling \$14 million as a principal investigator or co-principal investigator. In 2010 she received a U.S. patent for developing a micro-machined sensor for monitoring electrochemical deposition. Prior to her service at TSU, Dr. Williams was a professor of Engineering and the director of the Center for Materials Research at Norfolk State University (NSU). Dr. Williams earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina Agricultural & Technical (NC A&T) State University and a Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

## ABOUT

### Dr. Michel Reece

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Dr. Reece is currently an associate professor and interim chairperson in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Morgan State University (MSU). As the director of the laboratory for Advanced RF/Microwave Measurement and Electronic Design (ARMMED), she and her team specialize in device authentication for IoT profiling, high frequency device characterization, modeling, circuit design, test and evaluation of communication electronics. She has served as PI or Co-PI on over \$8M of externally funded research grants from DoD, NSF and industry. Dr. Reece earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Morgan State University and she later became the first woman to earn a Doctor of Engineering degree from the same institution.