Modern Math Workshop Plenary Lecture

“Rethinking the Culture of STEM Education in America: Promoting Student Success and Minority Achievement”

Presented by Dr. Freeman Hrabowski
President of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

Biography: Dr. Freeman A. Hrabowski, President of UMBC (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) since 1992, is a consultant on science and math education to national agencies, universities, and school systems. He was recently named by President Obama to chair the newly created President’s Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans. He also chaired the National Academies’ committee that produced the recent report, Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America’s Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads.

Named one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World by TIME (2012) and one of America’s Best Leaders by U.S. News & World Report (2008), he also received TIAA-CREF’s Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence (2011), the Carnegie Corporation’s Academic Leadership Award (2011), and the Heinz Award (2012) for contributions to improving the “Human Condition.” UMBC has been recognized as a model for academic innovation and inclusive excellence by such publications as U.S. News, which the past six years ranked UMBC the #1 “Up and Coming” university in the nation.

Abstract: Rapid and dramatic demographic and technological changes present our nation’s schools and universities with enormous challenges for preparing students – particularly those from diverse backgrounds – for careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. Over the past four decades, Freeman Hrabowski has studied student achievement, focusing special attention on the participation and performance of underrepresented minorities and women in STEM fields. Drawing on the success of UMBC’s Meyerhoff Scholars Program, a national model for preparing high-achieving minority students, the National Academies’ report, Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America’s Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads, and his most recent book, Holding Fast to Dreams: Empowering Youth from the Civil Rights Crusade to STEM Achievement, Dr. Hrabowski will discuss innovation in undergraduate STEM education that promotes student success, inclusive excellence, and achievement for all students in STEM.