

THE CHARLOTTE W. NEWCOMBE FOUNDATION

Conference for Institutional Partners in the Newcombe Scholarships for Mature Women Students Program

October 17, 2014

Conference Presenters

Freeman A. Hrabowski has served as President of UMBC (The University of Maryland, Baltimore County) since 1992. His research and publications focus on science and math education, with special emphasis on minority participation and performance. He chaired the National Academies' committee that produced the recent report, *Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America's Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads*. He also 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 five years ranked UMBC the #1 "Up and Coming" university in the nation. He also holds honorary degrees from more than 20 institutions – from Harvard, Princeton, and Duke to the University of Michigan, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Johns Hopkins University, Georgetown University, Haverford College, and Harvey Mudd College.

With philanthropist Robert Meyerhoff, he co-founded the Meyerhoff Scholars Program in 1988. The program is open to all high-achieving students committed to pursuing advanced degrees and research careers in science and engineering, and advancing underrepresented minorities in these fields. The program is recognized as a national model, and based on program outcomes, Hrabowski has authored numerous articles and co-authored two books, *Beating the Odds* and *Overcoming the Odds* (Oxford University Press), focusing on parenting and high-achieving African American males and females in science. He and UMBC were recently featured on CBS's *60 Minutes*, attracting national attention for the campus's achievements involving innovation and inclusive excellence.

A child-leader in the Civil Rights Movement, Hrabowski was prominently featured in Spike Lee's 1997 documentary, *Four Little Girls*, on the racially motivated bombing in 1963 of Birmingham's Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. Born in 1950 in Birmingham, Alabama, Hrabowski graduated at 19 from Hampton Institute with highest honors in mathematics. At the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, he received his M.A. (mathematics) and four years later his Ph.D. (higher education administration/statistics) at age 24.

Ben Miller is a senior policy analyst in the Education Policy Program of the New America Foundation, where he provides research and analysis on policies related to postsecondary education. Previously, Miller was a senior policy advisor in the Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development in the U.S. Department of Education. While there he helped develop policy proposals for the president's annual budget request to Congress related to higher education. He also worked on regulatory issues related to gainful employment. Miller's work has appeared in the *Washington Monthly*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Inside Higher Ed*, *U.S. News and World Report*, and *Roll Call*, among other outlets. He holds a bachelor's degree in history and economics from Brown University.

