

# Freeman A. Hrabowski, III

Freeman A. Hrabowski, III, has served as President of UMBC (The University of Maryland, Baltimore County) since May, 1992. His research and publications focus on science and math education, with special emphasis on minority participation and performance. He currently chairs the National Academies' Committee on Underrepresented Groups and the Science & Engineering Workforce Pipeline.



In 2008, he was named one of *America's Best Leaders* by *U.S. News & World Report*, which in 2009 ranked UMBC the #1 "Up and Coming" university in the nation and fourth among all colleges and universities in the nation for commitment to undergraduate teaching. In 2009, *Time* magazine named him one of America's *10 Best College Presidents*.

He serves as a consultant to the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the National Academies, and universities and school systems nationally. He also serves on the boards of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, France-Merrick Foundation, Marguerite Casey Foundation (Chair), and The Urban Institute. He also sits on the boards of Constellation Energy Group, McCormick & Company, and the Baltimore Equitable Society. He also served on the board of the Maryland Humanities Council as both a member and Chair.

Examples of recent honors include election to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences and the American Philosophical Society; receiving the prestigious *McGraw Prize in Education*, the U.S. *Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring*, and the Columbia University *Teachers College Medal for Distinguished Service*; being named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and *Marylander of the Year* by the editors of the *Baltimore Sun*; and being listed among *Fast Company* magazine's first *Fast 50 Champions of Innovation* in business and technology. He also holds honorary degrees from more than a dozen institutions, including Princeton, Duke, Haverford College, the University of Michigan, and Georgetown University.

He 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. Both books are used by universities, school systems, and community groups around the country.

A child-leader in the Civil Rights Movement, Dr. 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, Dr. 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.