# Black Excellence in the Nuclear Field

ANS Webinar Thursday, February 10, 2021



## The State of US Science & Engineering 2022

- The U.S. science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) labor force represents 23% of the total U.S. labor force, involves workers at all educational levels, and includes higher proportions of men, Whites, Asians, and foreign-born workers than the proportions of these groups in the U.S. population.
- Blacks and Hispanics are underrepresented among students earning S&E degrees and among STEM workers with at least a bachelor's degree. However, their share of STEM workers without a bachelor's degree is similar to their share in the U.S. workforce.
- Disparities in K–12 STEM education and student performance across demographic and socioeconomic categories and geographic regions are challenges to the U.S. STEM education system, as is the affordability of higher education.
- The United States awards the most S&E doctorates worldwide. Among S&E doctorate students in the
  United States, a large proportion are international and over half of the doctorate degrees in the fields of
  economics, computer sciences, engineering, and mathematics and statistics are awarded to international
  students.

NSF National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, <a href="https://ncses.nsf.gov/pubs/nsb20221/executive-summary">https://ncses.nsf.gov/pubs/nsb20221/executive-summary</a>



#### Demographic composition of the STEM workforce: 2010 and 2019 Bachelor's degree or higher: Bachelor's degree or higher: Hispanic Bachelor's degree or higher: Black Bachelor's degree or higher: AIAN Without a bachelor's degree: Without a bachelor's degree: Hispanic Without a bachelor's degree: Black Without a bachelor's degree: AIAN — 10 15 25 0 20 30 35 40 50 Percent 2019



# African Americans and the Manhattan Project

<u>Ernest Wilkins</u> and <u>Ralph Gardner-Chavis</u> assisted Enrico Fermi on plutonium research critical to the development of the production of fissionable nuclear materials. <u>Jasper Jeffries</u>, <u>Benjamin Franklin Scott</u>, and Moddie Taylor are among notable African American scientists who worked at the Met Lab.

From Atomic Heritage Foundation







## Introductions & opening panel remarks

- Share what attracted you to the field/memorial accomplishment
- Conditions for fuller participation @ the organization & individual levels



Jeff Harper
Vice President for Strategy and
Business Development
X-energy



J'Tia Hart

N&HS Chief Science Officer

Idaho National Laboratory



Christina Leggett
Nuclear Engineering
Consultant
Booz Allen Hamilton



Warren "Pete" Miller
Former Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Lisa Marshall (Moderator)

Director of Outreach,

Retention & Engagement Program

NC State Department of Nuclear Engineering



Thank you for participating in this ANS Webinar on "Black Excellence in the Nuclear Field".

We hope you will join us for upcoming webinars, meetings, conferences, committee & division work.

For example, the ANS Diversity & Inclusion Committee invites you to get involved, visit our website @

https://www.ans.org/communities/diversity/

