

2014 MARY M. WHITE

Distinguished
Speaker

Chair- Dept. of Entrepreneurship and Professional
Development, College of Business at Jackson State
University



Dr. Mary M. White is a pioneer and innovator in the academic, entrepreneurial and service communities. She is the inaugural chairperson of the Department of Entrepreneurship and Professional Development in the College of Business at Jackson State University. She spearheaded the creation of a new BBA degree in Entrepreneurship in 2005. Upon obtaining IHL Board approval this degree program became the first of its kind in the state of Mississippi and among HBCU's. She is a Fulbright Fellow and Sam Walton Fellow, recognized as one of America's leading educators. She has been a Price-Babson and LLEEP Fellow in Entrepreneurship as well. Her commitment to entrepreneurship led her to co-author the book, *The Engrossed Entrepreneurial Campus: What Our Economy and Our Academy Needs Now*. Dr. White's passion for entrepreneurship and business extends internationally to South Africa, Nigeria, Puerto Rico, Romania, India, France and throughout the United States by providing guidance on entrepreneurship as a means to enhance economic development.

Dr. White represents Jackson State on the Women Owned & Managed Enterprise Network National Advisory Council (W.O.M.E.N) with Morgan State University, HBCU/Babson Entrepreneurship and Engineering consortium, Capitol City Convention Center Procurement Outreach Advisory Board and the Mississippi Entrepreneurial Alliance. She is an active board member of the Community Financial Services Association (CFSA), Minority Serving Institutions Research Partnership Consortium (Vice President), Society for Financial Education and Professional Development, Katherine Murriel Education Foundation and Clinton Alumnae Delta Enterprise Foundation. She has successfully directed the 2009 Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), 2005 Women of Color Entrepreneurs Conference and the 2004 Minority Serving Institutions Conference. In 2006, Dr. White secured funding for the Business Entrepreneurial Scholars Program and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Small Farmers Training Initiative. She also directs the SIFE "I Choose" grant, guiding at-risk high school students in entrepreneurship and free enterprise. Dr. White received the Doctor of Education at Northern Illinois University.

