

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: PROMISE OR PROGRESS? WHAT LIES AHEAD?

Keynote

Yvonne Blanchard Freeman, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President
Clark Atlanta University

In January, 1996, Dr. Yvonne Blanchard Freeman assumed the position of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Clark Atlanta University. Prior to this appointment she served as Associate Administrator for Equal Opportunity Programs at NASA. While at CAU Dr. Freeman continues to work with NASA as a consultant on equal opportunity and education issues and serves as advisor to the NASA administrator.

At NASA, she led the development of minority education programs, managed funding for research centers in (HBCUs) and institutions with a predominance of minority enrollment, provided policy direction on the development of equal opportunity programs, and directed the development of pre-college programs on campuses of HBCUs, Hispanic Serving Institutions, Tribal Colleges, Local Education Agencies, and Non-Profit Organizations.

Her accomplishments at NASA include establishing minority training projects in four universities, increasing funding for research centers in 14 HBCUs, establishing NASA programs to support more than 650 undergraduates, 170 graduate level, and 12,000 pre-college students in S.E.M, implementing an agency-wide multicultural education program, and creating and implementing the Minority Internships and Summer Employment Program at JPL and North Carolina A&T State University.

Prior to joining NASA, Dr. Freeman worked in a variety of senior level positions in the US Department of Agriculture, the US Agency for International Development, and the US Department of Education.

Dr. Freeman is a graduate of Fisk University, holds a Master's degree from Loyola University at Los Angeles, and received her Doctorate in Education from the University of Massachusetts. She is a recipient of numerous awards and recognitions including the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education Leadership Award, the Presidential Award of Distinction from Moorehouse College, and the NASA Medal for Outstanding Leadership.



