

PROGRAM-AT-A- GLANCE

2026 HBCU STEM Undergraduate Success Research Conference

Redefining STEM Student Success at HBCUs: Channeling Creativity, Resilience, and Persistence

DAY ONE | MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2026

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE *The Shirley Massey Conference Center*

11:00 AM

Transportation to Morehouse College

- 830 Westview Drive, S.W. Atlanta, GA 30314

12:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Conference Registration

- Location: Shirley Massey Conference Center Lobby

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Conference Networking Session & Lunch

- Location: Conference Meeting Rooms

2:30 PM - 3:15 PM

General Session I & Opening

- Dr. Derrick Bryan
- Dr. Eddie Red
- Dr. Shondrieka Lamb
- Welcome and occasion from the Executive Director
- Introduction to the STEM US Research Center
- Location: Bank of America Auditorium



Derrick M. Bryan, Ph.D.

Executive Director,
HBCU STEM US Center
Associate Professor of Sociology
Department Chair
Morehouse College



Eddie C. Red, Ph.D.

Principal Investor,
HBCU STEM US Center
Associate Professor, Mathematics &
Computational Sciences
Dean, STEM Division
Morehouse College



Shondrieka Lamb, Ph.D.

HBCU STEM US Center
Director
Morehouse College

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DAY ONE | MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2026

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE *The Shirley Massey Conference Center*

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

General Session II

- Dr. Derrick Bryan
- Dr. Shondrieka Lamb
- Session: *Redefining STEM at HBCUs*
- Location: Bank of America Auditorium



Dr. Shondrieka Lamb

Executive Director

HBCU STEM US Center

Morehouse College

General Session II, *Moderator*



Dr. Kelly Mack

Vice President

Undergraduate STEM Education

Executive Director, Project Kaleidoscope

American Association of Colleges & Universities

General Session II, *Speaker*

5:30 PM

Transportation to The Omni Hotel

- Departing Morehouse College



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DAY TWO | TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

7:00 AM

Transportation to Morehouse College

- 830 Westview Drive, S.W. Atlanta, GA 30314

7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Conference Registration

- Location: Shirley Massey Conference Center Lobby

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Poster Session I & Networking Breakfast

Location: Conference Meeting Rooms

Poster Presenters:

- Hailey Brown
- Franchesca Bellevu
- Nigel Belcher
- Zipporah Harlan
- Dr. Cammie Connor
- Miya Moon
- Melodee Montgomery
- Candice Pettaway
- Omyah Royals
- Dr. Cheryl Talley

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

General Session III: STEM Leadership Panel

Strengthening STEM Outcomes at HBCUs:

Institutional Leadership, Innovation, and Collaboration

- Location: Bank of America Auditorium



Eddie C. Red, Ph.D.

Principal Investor,
HBCU STEM US Center
Associate Professor, Mathematics
and Computational Sciences
Dean, STEM Division
Morehouse College



Walter Kimbrough, Ph.D

Executive Vice President,
Research and Member Engagement
United Negro College Fund (UNCF)



Erin Lynch, Ph.D, EdD, CRA

President and CEO
Quality Education for
Minorities Network,
Lynch Educational Consulting



James L. Moore III, Ph.D

Assistant Director
Directorate for STEM
Education (EDU)
National Science Foundation (NSF)

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DAY TWO | TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

10:40 AM - 11:45 AM

General Session IV: Student Presentations

Moderator:

Jennifer M. Kennedy, MBA



Jennifer M. Kennedy, MBA

HBCU STEM US Research Center

BPRTC Fellow

Ph.D. Candidate

North Carolina A&T State University

Presenters:

Jerriel T. Hall

Dr. Clinton Griffin

Nelson Pham, M.S.Ed



Dr. Clinton G. Griffin

HBCU STEM US Research Center

BPRTC Fellow

Postdoctoral Fellow

NC A&T State University



Jerriel T. Hall

HBCU STEM US Research Center

BPRTC Fellow

Graduate Student

Howard University



Nelson Pham, M.S.Ed

HBCU STEM US Research Center

BPRTC Fellow

Ph.D. Student

Howard University

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM

Conference Break

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DAY TWO | TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

12:20 PM - 2:00 PM

Speaker Introduction:

Jaire Clarida

General Session V

- Session: Student Success: Findings from the Practitioners
- Location: Conference Meeting Rooms



Natalie S. King, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Georgia State University
Founder & Executive Director,
I AM STEM, LLC

General Session V: Featured Presentation & Lunch

Scalable STEM Interventions at Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Theory and Practice for Lasting Impact

- Location: Conference Meeting Rooms



Cheryl Talley, Ph.D.

Co-Director, Analytic Hub
HBCU STEM-US Research Center

Book Introduction:

A New Metaphor for STEM Intervention Research



Terrell Morton, Ph.D.

Associate Professor
Identity and Justice in STEM Education
University of Illinois Chicago

Chapter 1:

Theorizing New Possibilities in HBCU STEM Education
through a Critical-Phenomenological and Ecological
Approach

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General Session V: Featured Presentation & Lunch

Scalable STEM Interventions at Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Theory and Practice for Lasting Impact



Channing Mathews, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Psychology
University of Virginia

Chapter 2:

Strengthening STEM Research Praxis:
Examining How Theory-driven Work
Anchors Impactful STEM Interventions



Rihana S. Mason, Ph.D.

Research Scientist, Urban Child Study Center
Georgia State University
Co-Founder, Academic Pipeline Project, LLC

Chapter 3:

Culturally Relevant, Responsive, and Equitable
Practices Used in STEM Education
Classrooms at HBCUs



Natalie S. King, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Georgia State University
Founder & Executive Director,
I AM STEM, LLC

Chapter 4:

STEM Roots, HBCU Wings:
The Journey of Two Siblings from
Pre-College Camp to Campus



Cheryl Talley, Ph.D.

Co-Director, Analytic Hub
HBCU STEM-US Research Center

Chapter 5:

STEM Beyond the Field: From Theory to
Practice to Permanence of Project Knowledge

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General Session V: Featured Presentation & Lunch

Scalable STEM Interventions at Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Theory and Practice for Lasting Impact



Jarrod W. Lockhard, EdD, MSc.Ed

Assistant Vice Provost for Education Outreach & Collaboration, Director of the Office of Science Education Opportunities (SEO)

Assistant Professor of Academic and Student Affairs
Oregon Health & Science University

Chapter 6:

From Vision to Impact: Expanding Health Career Pathways through HBCU Innovations



Kim L. Johnson

Instructor

Department of Psychology
Virginia State University

Chapter 7:

Peer Mentorship Ecosystems: A Critical Factor in STEM Retention and Success at HBCUs



Simon Nyaga, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Biology
School of Computer Mathematical and Natural Sciences (SCMNS)

Morgan State University

Chapter 8:

A Model for Preparing and Mentoring HBCU STEM Doctoral Students Toward the Professoriate

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General Session V: Featured Presentation & Lunch

Scalable STEM Interventions at Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Theory and Practice for Lasting Impact



Malcolm Devoe, Ph.D.

CEO, Devoe Digital Learning

AI Mathematics Trainer & Specialist, iMerit Technology

Computational Mathematics and

Computer Science Professor

Chapter 9:

STEM Student and Faculty Well-Being



Rihana S. Mason, Ph.D.

Research Scientist, Urban Child Study Center

Georgia State University

Co-Founder, Academic Pipeline Project, LLC

Chapter 10:

Achieving Student Success: Strategies for Sustainable Implementation and Funding



Adrian Neely, Ph.D.

Associate Director of Research

HBCU STEM US Research Center

Morehouse College

Chapter 11:

Scaling interventions at HBCUs: The story of Utilitarian Scientific Literacy

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12:20 PM - 2:00 PM

General Session V: Featured Presentation & Lunch

Scalable STEM Interventions at Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Theory and Practice for Lasting Impact



Mark A. Melton, Ph.D.

President

External Evaluator

Melton Consultants and Investments, LLC

Chapter 12:

History of Historically Black Colleges and Universities:
Past, Present & Future



Shari Watkins, Ph.D.

Director of Faculty Initiatives and Engagement

Center for Faculty Excellence

Senior Professorial Lecturer, School of Education

American University

Chapter 12:

History of Historically Black Colleges and Universities:
Past, Present & Future



Tom McKlin, Ph.D.

Director

The Findings Group

Chapter 13:

Mitigation of Intergenerational Poverty by HBCUs

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DAY TWO | TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

2:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Transition and Technology Break

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

General Session VI: Center Initiatives & Research Panel

- Building Blocks of the HBCU STEM US Research Center
- Location: Bank of America Auditorium

Moderator:

Derrick Bryan, Ph.D.



Derrick M. Bryan, Ph.D.

Executive Director, HBCU STEM US Research Center
Associate Professor and Chair of Sociology
Morehouse College

Presenters:

Danielle Dickens, Ph.D.

Adrian N. Neely, Ph.D.

Cheryl Talley, Ph.D.

Tracie Yorke



Danielle Dickens, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Psychology
Spelman College



Adrian Neely, Ph.D.

Associate Director of Research
HBCU STEM US Research Center
Morehouse College



Cheryl Talley, Ph.D.

Co-Director, Analytic Hub
HBCU STEM-US Research Center



Tracie Yorke

Scientific Literacy Research Mentor
Instructor, Literature, Culture, and Society Department
Instructor, Community Engagement Department
PhD Student, Community Engagement
Point Park University

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DAY THREE | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE *The Shirley Massey Conference Center*

8:00 AM

Transportation to Morehouse College

- 830 Westview Drive, S.W. Atlanta, GA 30314

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Poster Session II & Networking Breakfast

Location: Conference Meeting Rooms

Poster Presenters:

- Hailey Brown
- Franchesca Bellevu
- Nigel Belcher
- Zipporah Harlan
- Miya Moon
- Melodee Montgomery
- Candice Pettaway
- Omyah Royals

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Concurrent Session A: Student Development

- Preparing for the Future: From Student to Professional
- Location: Conference Meeting Rooms

Moderator:

Nelson Pham



Nelson Pham, M.S.Ed

HBCU STEM US Research Center

BPRTC Fellow

Ph.D. Student

Howard University

Presenters:

Charity T. Gordon, Ph.D.



Charity T. Gordon, Ph.D.

Independent Educational Consultant

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DAY THREE | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Concurrent Session B: Faculty Presentations

- Student Success Findings from the Practitioners

Location: Bank of America Auditorium

Moderator:

Aubray Chevannes



Aubray Chevannes III

Undergraduate Student

PEER Fellow

North Carolina A&T University

Presenters:

Ethell Vereen, Jr., Ph.D.

Manisha Maurya

Natasha K. McClendon, Ph.D.



Ethell Vereen, Jr., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Biology

HBCU STEM US Research Center

BPRTC Mentor

Morehouse College



Manisha Maurya

Research Associate

HBCU STEM US Research Center

Ph.D. Candidate



Natasha K. McClendon, Ph.D.

Director for the Center of Excellence

For Black Women in STEM

Spelman College

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DAY THREE | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

11:10 AM - 12:10 PM

General Session VII: Fireside Chat

- Building Bridges to Sustainability
- Location: Bank of America Auditorium

Moderator:

Brittany Chambers, Ed.D.



Brittany Chambers, Ed.D.

Research & Evaluation Consultant
HBCU STEM US Research Center

Presenters:

Mark A. Melton, Ph.D.

Claudia Rankins, Ph.D.

LaRico Treadwell, Ph.D.



Mark A. Melton, Ph.D.

President
External Evaluator
Melton Consultants and Investments, LLC



Claudia Rankins, Ph.D.

Senior Research Associate
PRISSEM Academic Services, LLC



LaRico Treadwell, Ph.D.

CEO of E4 Power Consulting
Founder of E4 Power Plus
President-Elect of NOBCCChE

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DAY THREE | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

12:10 PM - 1:30 PM

General Session VIII: Closing Session and Lunch

- Next, Stop Sustainability
- Location: Conference Meeting Rooms

Moderator:

Jaylen Lowe



Jaylen Lowe

Doctoral Student

BPRTC Fellow

HBCU STEM US Research Center

University of California, Los Angeles

Presenters:

Terrell Morton, Ph.D.



Terrell Morton, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Identity and Justice in STEM Education

University of Illinois Chicago

