

# Top 25 Women in Higher Education & Beyond

We salute and honor a diverse group of women who have made significant contributions in higher education and beyond.

Compiled by Catherine Morris



**Edith Bartley**

**Spokesperson and Advocate for Diplomatic Families and Victims of International Terrorism**

Bartley's career is marked by advocacy on behalf of two causes: HIBCU's and achieving justice for the victims of the 1998 al-Qaida bombings of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya. Bartley's father, a vice consul, and her brother, then intern at the embassy, were both killed in the attack. Bartley has spent years lobbying on Capitol Hill on behalf of the victims, while also working for the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCFF) and the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). She stepped down as vice president of government affairs at TMCFF at the end of 2016 to focus on writing a book related to her advocacy on behalf of the victims of terrorism.

**Carrie L. Billy**

**President and CEO, American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC)**

As president of the AIHEC, Billy advocates for the nation's 37 tribal colleges and universities. After graduating from Georgetown University Law Center in 1986, Billy worked at a law firm in Washington, D.C., before heeding the call to enter public service. She served as a se-



nior staff member in the office of Sen. Jeff Bingaman, (D-New Mexico), where she helped pass legislation designating tribal colleges as land-grant institutions. She was named the first executive director of the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities by President Clinton in 1998. Billy is a member of the Navajo Nation.



**Dr. Khalillah L. Brown-Dean**

**Associate Professor of Political Science, Quinnipiac University**

Brown-Dean is a scholar and criminal justice reform advocate, using her research and activism to highlight social issues brought about by mass incarceration and the death penalty. In 2009, she was named the Senior Justice Advocacy Fellow by the George Soros' Open Society Foundation.

As a fellow, she examined voter registration and mobilization strategies in five communities in Connecticut where the rate of incarceration is high but civic engagement is low.



**Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell**

**President, Spelman College**  
Campbell was appointed the 10th president of Spelman College, a historically Black women's college located in Atlanta, Georgia, in 2013. She has worked in

academia, civic government and museums, previously serving as dean of the Tisch School of the Arts and associate provost for the arts at New York University. Campbell was commissioner of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs from 1987 to 1991, before which she served as executive director of the Studio Museum in Harlem and curator of the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse, New York.

**Dr. Constance Carroll**

**Chancellor, San Diego Community College District**

A trailblazing leader in the community college sphere, Carroll is the first woman to serve as chancellor of the San Diego Community College District (SDCCCD), which serves approximately 130,000 students. In addition to her work equalizing access to higher education, Carroll has also fought to raise the profile of community colleges, piloting a four-year degree program at SDCCCD. Carroll has a Ph.D. in classics and served for six years on the National Council on the Humanities.



**Dr. Kim Cassidy**

**President, Bryn Mawr College**

Cassidy is the ninth president of Bryn Mawr, a women's liberal arts college in Pennsylvania. She has been with the college since 1993, serving as a faculty member, provost and interim president. With her support, Bryn Mawr developed academic partnerships with other four-year institutions such as Haverford College, Penn State University and Swarthmore College. Cassidy was also integral in Bryn Mawr obtaining a grant from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation to develop a partnership with the Community College of Philadelphia and Montgomery County Community College, which created a pathway for high-achieving community college students to attend Bryn Mawr.



**Dr. Doris Ching**

**2017 Acting Director, University of Hawaii System Academy for Creative Media**

Ching began working in education in Hawaii in the early 1980s, starting as a middle school teacher before moving to a faculty role within the University of Hawaii's (UH) system. She has since served as a dean and in multiple senior positions in student and academic affairs. In 2016, she served as interim chancellor of UH West O'ahu.



**Dr. Marsha J. Tyson Darling**

**Director, African, Black and Caribbean Studies, Adelphi University**

As a self-described engaged scholar, Darling is an intellectual and activist. Her causes are civil and women's rights, and she has been active for decades on the international stage, representing the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and chairing United Nations panels on women's issues and economic issues.



**Peggy Davis**

**Athletic Director, Virginia State University**

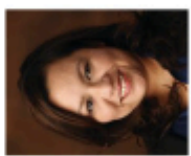
Davis was named Virginia State University (VSU) athletic director in 2003, making her one of the relatively few women who serve as an athletic director of an NCAA Division II school. According to a 2014 study on women in sports, less than a quarter of Division II athletic directors are female. Under Davis' direction, VSU student-athletes perform well on and off the field. In 2015, VSU was one of 27 NCAA Division II schools to receive the President's Award for Academic Excellence. VSU is a member of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA), a conference of historically Black institutions.



**Dr. Stella Flores**

**Professor of Education, New York University**

An expert in higher education issues, Flores' research has a wide and influential scope. Her areas of expertise include minority-serving institutions, immigrant students, English language learners, alternative admissions plans and financial aid programs, skills in student demographics, Latino students and community colleges. Her insights were cited in the dissenting opinion of the U.S. Supreme Court: *Gonzalez v. Bollinger* decision, which ruled that the University of Michigan's affirmative action policies were unconstitutional.



**Maureen Hoyler**

**President, Council for Opportunity in Education**

Hoyler is president of the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), a Washington, D.C.-based organization that advocates for low-income, first-generation college students and students with disabilities. She has been with the organization since its inception in 1981 and was an essential part of building COE from the ground up. She served as the organization's chief operating officer prior to assuming her role as president in 2013.

