

AC 2007-1127: THE PURPOSE INSTITUTE: PROMOTING UNDERREPRESENTED PRESENCE ON SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FACULTIES

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Dr. Tuere A. Bowles is an Assistant Professor Adult and Community College Education. Professor Bowles' research specializes in: adult learning and development, equity issues in education (race, ethnicity, gender and social class), assessment, workforce development and women's learning and development. She received her B.A. in English at Spelman College, an M.Div. in the ITC/Morehouse School of Religion and a Ph.D. in Adult Education at the University of Georgia.

PURPOSE INSTITUTE: Promoting Underrepresented Presence on Science and Engineering Faculties

The primary goal of the PURPOSE Institute is to *Empower Current and Aspiring Faculty to Achievement, Promotion and Leadership in the Academy*. The Institute focuses on the development of African-American, Hispanic, Native American and women engineering faculty members, with an express goal of promoting the recruitment, preparation and retention of these faculty in the Academy. The establishment of this *Future Faculty Resource Institute* will provide just-in-time guidance and support for current and aspiring faculty. The Institute consists of several components including:

- I. Think Tank of Successful Underrepresented Engineering and Science Faculty
- II. Current Faculty Resource Groups to dialog with Engineering Deans and Faculty Recruiting Committees
- III. Summits to Celebrate and Empower Faculty
- IV. Best Practices Resource for Successful Recruitment and Retention of Underrepresented Faculty
- V. Peer Mentoring Summits for Women Engineering Faculty of Color, supported by an NSF ADVANCE grant.

This paper will report on the accomplishments of PURPOSE and the unique, interdisciplinary partnership with the ASEE Engineering Dean's Council.