

Victor R. McCrary, Jr.



Dr. Victor R. McCrary is the inaugural Vice President for Research and Economic Development at Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD. In this new position, Dr. McCrary is responsible for developing a comprehensive research strategy for the University, encouraging cross disciplinary research, expand the current base of external research programs, develop opportunities to increase the University's intellectual property portfolio, and position Morgan State University as a catalyst for economic growth and vitality for Northeast Baltimore and the State of Maryland. Before joining Morgan State University, he held positions as the Business Executive for Science & Technology and Manager for Emerging Technology & Innovation at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL). His duties included developing the overall business investment and technology strategies leading to external research and development funding. During that period he funded over \$60M in cutting edge research projects which included research in detection technologies, autonomous systems, cognitive engineering, advance materials and nanostructures, and biologically-related technologies. Previously, he was the Chief of the Convergent Information Systems Division at the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, Maryland. His division conducted research into convergent information systems emphasizing standards and interoperability protocols for the exchange, storage, and manifestation of digital content. Areas included digital data preservation and optical storage, CD-DVD care and handling, biometric systems, electronic books, quantum communications, digital rights management, digital image quality, and digital cinema. Dr. McCrary organized the world's first conference on electronic books in October 1998, and subsequent conferences in 1999, and 2000. His research group developed a prototype of the electronic book reader, and a low-cost Braille reader for electronic books which received a 2001 R&D 100 Award, and the standards development which opened the door for today's Kindle and iPad readers and the e-book industry. Most importantly, Dr. McCrary credits these string of innovations via his student program at NIST where his division employed and mentored over 40 students ranging from 14 years old to 22 years old; many have gone on to careers in science, engineering, and law.

In 2000, he was the co-recipient of the Gold Medal from the Department of Commerce, for his leadership in catalyzing the electronic book industry, facilitating standards for the e-book industry, and the development of a Braille reader for e-books. In March 2002, Dr. McCrary received the Percy Julian Award from the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCCHE), the organization's highest honor, for lifetime achievement in research in science and engineering. In 2004, he was selected the Emerald Honors Conference Award for Research Science, for Career Achievement in Academia for his exemplary performance in the management of research science and technology. In 2005, he was featured in *Science Spectrum Magazine* as one of the Top 50 Minorities in Science. In 2007, Dr. McCrary was elected to the 2007 DVD Hall of Fame by the DVD Association for his leadership as executive director of the organization and his leadership in research for the preservation of optical discs. In July 2007, he was elected the National President of NOBCCHE. The organization is dedicated towards developing and promoting students and professionals in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. In 2011, he was honored as Scientist of the Year by the BEYA-STEM Conference in Washington, D.C. In 2012, he led the effort to establish the Coalition of Hispanic, African, and Native Americans for the Next Generation of Engineers and Scientists (CHANGES). In August of 2014, he was selected as a Fellow of the American Chemical Society. Victor was also an adjunct lecturer in the Executive Masters of Technology Management Program at the University of Pennsylvania from 1995-2013. In May 2014 he successfully implemented \$500K STEM student internship program between Johns Hopkins University and Morgan State University. He received his doctoral degree in 1985 from Howard University in physical chemistry. He received an Executive Masters of Science & Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania in May 1995. Victor has authored or co-authored over 60 technical papers in refereed journals and co-edited two books. His view on life is simple, "concentrate more on doing the right things than on doing things right!" He enjoys his time with his wife Mercedes, and their two children, Francesca and Maximilian.