

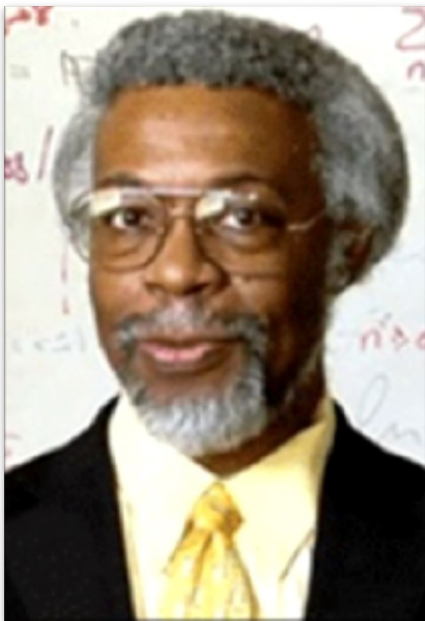
Equity vs. Excellence: A False Dichotomy in Science and Society

College of Science and Liberal Arts Distinguished Speaker

Dr. Sylvester James Gates, Distinguished Professor of Physics—UMD

Wednesday, March 29th at 2:30 PM

Campus Center Atrium



The issue of diversity and its impact can be studied from an evidence-based, scientifically-enabled viewpoint. This discussion highlights one scientist's thinking about diversity and an opportunity in education within the confines of our nation's historical and traditional trajectory.

Biography: Sylvester James Gates Jr. is a Distinguished University Professor, University System of Maryland Regents Professor and John S. Toll Professor of Physics at the University of Maryland. Also an affiliate mathematics professor, Gates is known for his pioneering work in supersymmetry and supergravity, areas closely related to string theory. Gates earned two Bachelor of Science degrees in physics and mathematics and his Ph.D. in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1984, Gates co-authored

Superspace, or One thousand and one lessons in supersymmetry, the first comprehensive book on supersymmetry, and joined the faculty at Maryland as an associate professor. Four years later, he became the first African American to hold an endowed chair in physics at a major U.S. research university.

The author of more than 200 research papers and a member of the National Academy of Sciences, Gates has been featured in dozens of video documentaries, including five in 2015. For his contribution to science and research, he received the National Medal of Science from President Obama in 2013. Gates serves on the U.S. President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, the National Commission on Forensic Science, and the Maryland State Board of Education. He is a strong advocate for science, technology, engineering and mathematics education.