

Biography



Michelle L. Reaves

Michelle L. Reaves serves as the Executive Director of the Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program (DAPCEP). DAPCEP is a nonprofit organization with over 40 years of experience providing premiere science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) educational experiences for PK-12 grade students. In partnership with universities, corporations and K-12 school systems, DAPCEP serves approximately 10,000 students annually and has over 60,000 alumni.

Prior to her appointment as Executive Director, Michelle was DAPCEP's Deputy Director for 5 years. She is also the chief architect of several DAPCEP initiatives including the popular PreK-3rd grade Explorers Program, STEM Day @Michigan Science Center, GEAR-UP student programming, bi-annual DAPCEP Student Showcase, and the STEM In-State and Out-of-State College Tours. Leading the very successful – Preparing African American Males in Energy and Education (PAAMEE) project, underwritten by the National Science Foundation, she ensures that 240 African American males will be prepared for careers in Renewable Energy and Power Generation. She also facilitates DAPCEP's long range strategic plan and national expansion efforts; including rolling-out the first out-of-state program with Bradley University and Peoria, IL School District.

Mrs. Reaves has over 15 years of experience in providing enrichment opportunities for students underrepresented in the science, technical, engineering, and mathematical (STEM) fields. Prior to DAPCEP, she was the Assistant Director of the Pre-College and Outreach programs in the College of Engineering at Wayne State University (WSU). Mrs. Reaves graduated from Western Michigan University with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration. She completed a Master of Business Administration from Wayne State University. She has also earned her Certification as a Project Management Professional (PMP). Her initial work experience began in the private sector, and those professional business skills and experiences transferred well into academia. Her efforts included proposal writing to obtain funding for current and new pre-college program and managing the daily activities of each program. Through her work with college and pre-college level students, she helped increase the number of underrepresented minorities considering STEM fields as a career choice. Some of the programs she managed in the College of Engineering at WSU include, Young Men in Engineering Program (YMEP) Girls Advancing in Math, Engineering, and Science (GAMES), Women in Engineering Training (WET), High School Engineering Training Institute (HSETI), Michigan – Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (MI-LSAMP), and Center of Academic Excellence in National Security Intelligence Studies (CAE-NSIS).

Michelle is the recipient of numerous professional and community awards, including Michigan Chronicle "Women of Excellence" Award, AABE Excellence in STEM Education Award, Boy Scouts of America "Women in STEM Award", and an Outstanding Performance Award for the Center of Academic Excellence in National Security Intelligence Studies.

Michelle is married to James II with two children, Kennedy and James III.