

## News Release

# Bernard Franklin, Ph.D., to Present at U of M Crookston on Thursday, September 5, 2013, on "Imagineering and Reengineering the Future through Education, Innovation and Leadership"

By *ltollefs* on Monday, August 26, 2013 The University of Minnesota Crookston will host Bernard Franklin, Ph.D., (in photo) assistant to the vice



president at Kansas State University, on Thursday, September 5, 2013. Franklin, who is also the current president of Junior Achievement in Middle America, will be speaking during the campus Thursday Commons at noon in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center, on "Reengineering the Future." He will also give his presentation "Imagineering the Future" at 7 p.m. in the Kiehle Auditorium that same evening. Both events are free and the public is invited to attend either or both sessions.

Franklin is known for his passion and vision along with his ability to motivate and inspire young people to succeed in today's world. He takes on such relevant topics as leadership, innovation, empowering the leader inside, as well as encouraging students to consider the important question: "do your skills, talents, and abilities meet the expectation of employers?" Of interest to educators will be Franklin's expertise on strategic planning, changing demographics, and the future of higher education. And, community leaders and members will benefit from his knowledge of leadership, innovation, and education.

For more information, contact Lorna Hollowell, director of diversity and multicultural programs at 218-281-8580 ([lhollowe@umn.edu](mailto:lhollowe@umn.edu)). Sponsors for the event include the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Programs, Crookston Student Association, Center for Adult Learning, and the Career and Counseling Center.

### Background

Franklin brings incredible knowledge and insightful personal experience as a role model to each audience he touches. His presentations are always moving experiences that inspire participants.

As an undergraduate at Kansas State University, he became the first black student ever elected president of the Student Government Association. At the age of 24, Franklin made Kansas history by becoming the youngest person ever appointed to the Kansas State Board of Regents and the youngest Chair of the Board at age 28. Franklin has been a Fellow for the Study of the United States Presidency and has served on an advisory commission to President Carter's Administration with Martin Luther King III and other prominent African Americans.

Franklin received his masters in Counseling and Behavioral Studies from the University of South Alabama and a Ph.D. in Counseling and Higher Education Administration, with an outside emphasis in Family Studies from Kansas State University. He received his bachelor's degree in Political Science from Kansas State University. In 1984, he began his higher education career at the University of South Alabama as Director of Student Activities and Minority Student Affairs and followed with a similar position at Rollins College in Winter Park, FL. He served as Assistant Dean of Student Life and Director of Leadership Development Programs at his alma mater, Kansas State University. He was formerly the President of Metropolitan Community College - Penn Valley in Kansas City, MO.

He was recently named president of Junior Achievement of Middle America, an organization dedicated to inspiring and preparing young people to succeed in a global economy.

For more than 20 years Franklin has advised and worked with undergraduate men's fraternities and other male organizations. He is currently on the board of directors as president of Delta Upsilon International Fraternity.

Franklin has been honored as one of the 100 Most Influential African Americans in Kansas City. His work and contributions to urban boys was recognized in the opening chapter of Bill Cosby's book, "Come On People" (2008). The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce honored him with their distinguished Leadership Award for contributions to urban education. Franklin is also a past recipient of the Urban Hero award presented by the Downtown Kansas City Council.

Today the University of Minnesota Crookston delivers 28 bachelor's degree programs, 20 minors, and 39 concentrations on campus--as well as 11 degrees online--in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,800 undergraduates from 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit [www.umn-crookston.edu](http://www.umn-crookston.edu).

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