

*Introduction of Dr. John Brooks Slaughter  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering*

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Fairfax, Virginia  
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Thank you, Lorie (Jackson).

As a global company in business for more than 140 years, ExxonMobil has gained valuable experience developing people from diverse backgrounds and fostering a workplace where they can achieve their full potential.

Here in the United States, 90 percent of the professionals ExxonMobil hires each year have degrees in engineering, science or business.

Today, ExxonMobil employs more than 10,000 engineers in nearly 200 countries worldwide in a variety of disciplines.

No single group has a corner on the market when it comes to providing engineering talent – and we cannot afford to leave any group out of the educational pipeline if America is to remain competitive in global markets.

Yet, the United States is not producing enough scientists and engineers to maintain our leading position in the global economy – and the shortage of minorities and women in these critical areas remains a national concern.

That is why ExxonMobil has invested in building programs throughout the educational pipeline aimed at encouraging women and minorities to pursue careers in engineering, science, and other technical disciplines.

We understand the importance of math and science education, and we support programs ranging from kindergarten to graduate school – including a wide range of diversity education initiatives.

It is very important that we find ways to inspire and encourage children – especially in middle school – to pursue studies in mathematics and science.

Today, ExxonMobil programs are helping improve math and science education at every level.

We proudly support programs aimed at increasing the number of math and science teachers and enhancing their professional development.

ExxonMobil helped establish the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering over 30 years ago – and the company has contributed more than \$10 million to NACME in the years since.

Today, NACME is the largest private supplier of scholarships for minority engineering students, and ExxonMobil remains its largest contributor.

Extraordinary leaders such as our distinguished speaker today – NACME President Dr. John Slaughter – have opened doors of opportunity for minority students and professional engineers.

Dr. Slaughter has enjoyed a long and illustrious career, and he has led two great institutions – as President of Occidental College and as Chancellor of the University of Maryland.

He serves today as a member of the National Academy of Engineering, and sits on the boards of IBM and Northrup Grumman.

Dr. Slaughter is a former director of the National Science Foundation, a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Tau Beta Pi Honorary Engineering Society.

He has been inducted into the American Society for Engineering Education Hall of Fame, and was named an Eminent Member of the Eta Kappa Nu Society – the honorary society of electrical engineering.

Dr. Slaughter began his professional career as an electronics engineer at General Dynamics – prior to spending 15 years at the U.S. Navy Electronics Laboratory in San Diego, where he rose to the position of department head for Information Technology.

He has been director of the Applied Physics Laboratory and a professor of electrical engineering at the University of Washington; academic vice president and provost at Washington State University; and most recently the Irving R. Melbo Professor of Leadership in Education at the University of Southern California.

Dr. Slaughter earned a Ph.D. in engineering science from the University of California, San Diego; an M.S. in engineering from UCLA, and a B.S. in electrical engineering from Kansas State University.

He holds honorary degrees from more than 25 institutions.

He is the recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Award, and UCLA's Medal of Excellence.

He has served as president and CEO of the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering since August 2000 – and in February 2006, he was appointed to the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology.

As Dr. Slaughter's remarkable leadership has so vividly demonstrated, the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering is making a significant and positive contribution to our nation's future.

The United States simply cannot have a strong engineering base unless we take steps to ensure that access to engineering education is made broadly available to people of all groups.

That is what NACME does, and that is a task that is of immense social importance to our country – and to the world.

Equal opportunity has long been a core value at ExxonMobil, starting with the generous support for African-American education that John D. Rockefeller and his wife championed.

Support for that value continues today as represented by ExxonMobil Director and Senior Vice President Steve Simon's service as a member of the NACME Board of Directors.

Dr. Slaughter – we welcome you to ExxonMobil today and are proud to reaffirm our support for NACME's vital mission – to inspire and prepare minority students and engineers to achieve success as the leaders of tomorrow.

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