Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Paula Hammond

Hammond, Paula , 1963-

Alternative Names: Hammond, Paula , 1963-; Hammond-Cunningham, Paula Therese

Life Dates: September 3, 1963-

Place of Birth: Detroit, Michigan

Residence:

Occupations: Chemical Engineer; Engineering Professor

Biographical Note

Chemical engineer and engineering professor Paula Therese Hammond was born on September 3, 1963 in Detroit, Michigan. Her mother, Della Mae McGraw Goodwin was a dean of nursing at Wayne County Community College and her father, Jesse Francis Goodwin was an analytical chemist and president of the Detroit chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Although she grew up wanting to become a writer, Hammond changed her mind after taking a junior high school chemistry class. Hammond attended the Academy of the Sacred Heart High School in Bloomfield Hills and was admitted to Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1980, where she obtained her B.S. degree in chemical engineering in 1984. She was then hired by the Motorola Corporation in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where she worked for two years. In 1988, Hammond earned her M.S. degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology and then returned to MIT to earn her Ph.D. degree in chemical engineering in 1993.

Following a postdoctoral research fellowship in chemistry at Harvard University, where she became interested in surface chemistry, Hammond went
Paula T. Hammond was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on October 9, 2012.

Related Entries

Cunningham, Carmon [spouseOf]
   Spouse

Cunningham, James [parentOf]
   Child

McGraw, Della Mae [childOf]
   Mother

Goodwin, Jesse Francis [childOf]
   Father

McGraw, James [grandchildOf]
   Maternal Grandfather
McGraw, Allie [GRANDCHILDOf]
Maternal Grandmother

Meadows, Henrietta [GREAT GRANDCHILDOf]
Maternal Great Grandmother

Byrd Goodwin, Frances [GREAT GRANDCHILDOf]
Paternal Grandmother

Goodwin, Jesse [GREAT GRANDCHILDOf]
Paternal Grandfather

Byrd, Jim [GREAT NIECEOf]
Uncle

Georgia Institute of Technology [STUDENTOf]
[from ? to 1988-08]

B.S.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology [STUDENTOf]
[from ? to 1984-06]

B.S.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology [STUDENTOf]
[from ? to 1993]

Ph.D.

Harvard University [STUDENTOf]
[from ? to 1993-09]

Postdoctoral Fellow

Dow Chemical Company [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1983-05 to 1983-08]

Summer Intern

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1989-06 to 1993-06]

Research Assistant

Motorola, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1984-07 to 1986-06]

Process Engineer I, II

Georgia Technical Research Institute [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1986-08 to 1988-08]
Research Engineer I

Massachusetts Institute of Technology [EmployeeOf]
[from 1995 to ?]

Chair and Professor

Advanced Materials [MemberOf]
Advisory Board

Chemistry of Materials [MemberOf]
Advisory Board

Soft Matter [MemberOf]
Advisory Board

American Chemical Society [MemberOf]
Polymeric Materials Science and Engineering, Member-at-Large (PMSE)

National Science Foundation [MemberOf]
Postdoctoral Fellow

National Research Council [MemberOf]
Board Member

American Institute of Chemical Engineers [MemberOf]
Vice Chair, MESD Programming Chair

American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering [MemberOf]
Fellow