

Patricia Smith Bransford
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PERSONAL STATEMENT: I retired from IBM in 1992 after a career in technology and have dedicated the last fifteen (15) years to finding solutions that improve the skills of disadvantaged individuals and address the low utilization of human resources in inner-city communities. This passion and dedication has come from integrating the Catholic schools in DC in 1948 – a life-changing experience that made me conscious of my uniqueness and value as an advocate for change.

EXPERTISE: Expert in using technology to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of delivering education and vocational services to low-income communities. Extensive experience in developing educational products that use technology to transform the conventional classroom into a more stimulating environment for teaching and learning in order to address the achievement gap and high risk, unproductive behavior among youth.

EDUCATION:

Catholic University of America, Washington, DC June 1961
A.B. Mathematics

New York University Stern School, New York, NY June 1994
Executive MBA Program

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Founder and President
The National Urban Technology Center
New York, New York March 1995 to Present

- Author of the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA), twelve (12) educational curricula that transform the conventional classroom into a multi-disciplinary, interactive and experiential learning environment for teaching and learning focusing on computer literacy, higher order thinking abilities and leadership training skills for youth 10 to 17.
- Chief architect of the community technology center movement; advisor to Department of Education on investment requirements; recipient of major grants from the Ford Foundation, the Department of Commerce, AT&T, the Enterprise Foundation, the Kellogg Foundation, the Kauffman Foundation, Microsoft, Department of Justice, Elton John AIDS Foundation, Wachovia Corporation, and several community partnerships to build technology infrastructure and transfer skills to communities for computer literacy, job training, and youth development.
- Developed a “franchise” approach and “turn-key” process for building state-of-the-art computer training centers allowing for easy and expeditious replication in multiple locations across the country and preparing people for work in record numbers. This process, called SEEDTECH®, has been adopted by the Department of Justice, Weed and Seed, for transferring technology skills to inner-city communities. Urban Tech has built more than 500 centers in 40 major cities serving 400,000 low-income residents. Recipient of several awards and recognition.

IBM 1963 - 1992

Economic Planning Consultant, 1991

- Assisted the Governor of Oklahoma and the Mayors in New York City, San Antonio and Green Bay, Wisconsin in developing economic development and differentiation strategies for the 21st century.
- Instrumental in turning a former IBM manufacturing facility into the largest minority employee-owned computer manufacturing company in the world.

National Urban Technology Center, Inc.

Account Executive, 1989-1992

- Directed IBM's \$100 million business with New York City including strategic planning, marketing and implementation of large-scale information systems projects in the areas of social services, criminal justice, housing and finance.
- Innovated systems for linking all government agencies for distribution of electronic mail and more efficient coordination of government data.
- Established systems for equitable placement of abused at-risk children in foster care thus eliminating restrictive practices based on race and religion that resulted in substandard treatment of minority children by the city's Child Welfare Agency.

Director of Distribution Systems, 1985 - 1989

- Restructured procurement and distribution programs to achieve more efficient operations across IBM's worldwide business units.
- Managed PC Project Office, addressing technical support issues that reduce productivity of the workforce.
- Created 1-800 direct marketing and distribution channel in the U.S. for personal computers.

Board Activities:

New York State Hospital Review and Planning Council, 2008

Catholic University, School of Arts and Sciences Development Board, November 2003

NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc
Director Emeritus, 1990

Awards and Honors:

Distinguished Alumni Award, Catholic University 2004

Dr. Gardner C. Taylor Humanitarian Award, Concord Family Services for "outstanding vision and commitment to opening up the world of computer technology and telecommunications to our children and families, increasing educational, employment and economic opportunities and fostering empowerment in our urban communities." November 2003

Granville T. Woods award given by the National Association of Black Telecommunications Professionals to "the outstanding CEO of a corporation with the greatest impact in the community." March 2000

Beacon Award by the Morehouse and Spelman New York Alumni Scholarship Fund "in honor of her distinguished accomplishments and work in disadvantaged communities." May 1999.

Los Angeles Urban League Technology Award, March 1998

Numerous IBM Achievement Awards from 1980 - 1992

Publications:

Sustainable Urban Preservation: Developing A Model Program for New York in 1997, funded by the World Monuments Fund in cooperation with the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, November 1997

The National Urban Technology Center and the Bronx Community Technology Centers Network, Education, Volume 122, Winter 2001

The Youth Leadership Academy: Self-Discovery, Team-Building, Conflict Resolution, Personal Appearance, Community Awareness, Healthy Habits, STD/AIDS Awareness, Drug and Alcohol Prevention, Personal Relationships, 1997 - 2003

SEEDTECH® Teacher Toolkit: Computer Courseware for Communities, 1995

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