



## Ayanna Howard

Dr. Ayanna Howard is the Dean of Engineering at The Ohio State University and Monte Ahuja Endowed Dean's Chair. She also holds a faculty appointment in the college's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering with a joint appointment in Computer Science and Engineering.

Previously she was the Linda J. and Mark C. Smith Endowed Chair in Bioengineering and Chair of the School of Interactive Computing at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Prior to Georgia Tech, Dr. Howard was at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory where she held the title of Senior Robotics Researcher and Deputy Manager in the Office of the Chief Scientist. Her research encompasses advancements in artificial intelligence (AI), assistive technologies, and robotics, and has resulted in over 275 peer-reviewed publications. At NASA, she worked on designing advanced technologies for future Mars rover missions. Now, she works on projects ranging from healthcare robots to developing methods to mitigate bias and trust in AI. In 2013, she founded Zyrobotics, an education technology startup, which designed AI-powered STEM tools and learning games to engage children with diverse abilities. She has also served as the Associate Director of Research for the Institute for Robotics and Intelligent Machines, Chair of the Robotics Ph.D. program, and the Associate Chair for Faculty Development in ECE at Georgia Tech.



Dr. Howard is an IEEE, AAAS, National Academy of Inventors (NAI), and AAAI Fellow. She is also a recipient of the Anita Borg Institute Richard Newton Educator ABIE Award, CRA A. Nico Habermann Award, Richard A. Tapia Achievement Award, and an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for Autodesk and Motorola Solutions. To date, Dr. Howard's unique accomplishments have been highlighted through a number of other public recognitions, including highlights in *Vanity Fair*, *USA Today*, *Upscale*, *Black Enterprise*, and *TIME Magazine*, as well as being recognized as one of the 23 most powerful women engineers in the world by *Business Insider* and one of the Top 50 U.S. Women in Tech by *Forbes*. She regularly advises on issues concerning robotics, AI, and workforce development.

Dr. Howard is a frequent speaker and expert source for venues such as CNN and NPR. She regularly gives invited seminars at venues such as the Smithsonian Design Museum, Science Museum of London, Detroit Science Museum, and the National Security Agency. Her research leadership has also been externally recognized through her role as a U.S. Embassy Speaker Specialist and her Congressional Testimony on Innovation, just to name a few.