Linda Katehi
Chancellor, UC Davis

The Importance Of Gaining A Systems Perspective In Earlier Years

Biography:

Linda P.B. Katehi-Tseregounis is an engineer and university administrator. Since 2009, she has served as the sixth chancellor of the University of California, Davis. She earned a master's degree and doctorate in electrical engineering at the Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science, University of California, Los Angeles, in 1981 and 1984, respectively. Katehi's expertise is in circuit design and her research focuses on antennas. She currently holds 19 patents. Through her academic roles she has been a mentor to over 70 postdoctoral fellows.

In addition to her university roles, Katehi was appointed by President George W. Bush to the Committee on the National Medal of Science. She chaired the 12-member committee, along with the Secretary of Commerce's committee for the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, until 2010. She was appointed to the FBI's National Security Higher Education Advisory Board in 2010. Katehi is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and in 2011, she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She is also a member of the National Academy of Engineering where she chaired the committee on K-12 engineering education for two years.

For her academic work, she has received awards including the AHC Aristeio Award in Academics in 2011 and a Gabby Award for her achievements in education and academia, also in 2011.

Abstract:

I learned very early in my engineering studies that a systems approach is essential to the effective management of any large, complex organization because everything in such an organization is inter-connected. Any large public research university functions as a complex system, and many of the lessons I learned about using a systems approach to solving problems can be applied directly to leading and managing our campus. In my talk, I will focus on examples from my experience as Chancellor at the University of California, Davis that illuminate this concept.