

## **Mary Sue Coleman, Education, Doctor of Science**

Eastern Kentucky University awarded Dr. Mary Sue Coleman, President of the University of Michigan, the honorary Doctor of Science in 2012. This degree acknowledges her dedication to higher education, as well as her outstanding accomplishments in the field of chemistry and medicine.

Dr. Coleman is a native of eastern Kentucky. Born in Madison County, her father, Leland Wilson, was an Eastern Kentucky University graduate and former chemistry professor. Dr. Coleman's post-secondary education came from Grinnell College in Iowa, where she received an undergraduate degree and master's degree in chemistry. She received her doctorate from the University of North Carolina, where she studied biochemistry.

For nineteen years, Dr. Coleman was a member of the biochemistry faculty at the University of Kentucky. The outstanding amount of work ethic she exhibited at the University of Kentucky earned her administrative positions at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of New Mexico, where she was Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. In 1995, she served as President of the University of Iowa, where she also taught biochemistry when not attending to administrative duties. By 1997, she was a member of the Institute of Medicine and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, as well as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Within the Institute of Medicine, Dr. Coleman performed a major study on the consequences of being medically uninsured, and many consider her an expert within that field of medical research.

After becoming president of the University of Michigan in 2002, Dr. Coleman vastly improved the intellectual lives of her students as well as residential life and economic vitality.

She was responsible for The Michigan Difference, a campaign that raised roughly 3 billion dollars for University of Michigan. In 2009, *Time* magazine listed her as one of the top 10 university presidents in the nation.

Dr. Coleman's term at the University of Michigan lasted from August 2002 to July 2014, when she retired.