

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Keith Jackson

PERSON

**Jackson, Keith, 1953-**

**Alternative Names:** Keith Jackson;

**Life Dates:** September 24, 1953-

**Place of Birth:** Columbus, Ohio, USA

**Residence:** Baltimore, MD

**Occupations:** Physicist;

## Biographical Note

Physicist Keith Hunter Jackson was born on September 24, 1953 in Columbus, Ohio to Gloria and Russell Jackson. He earned two B.S. degrees, one in physics from Morehouse College and one in electrical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Jackson then moved to California where he obtained his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University in 1979 and 1982, respectively.

After obtaining his graduate degrees, Jackson began working for Hewlett Packard Laboratories. He became a member of the Gate Dielectric group and developed techniques to create thin nitride films on silicon layers. In 1983, he served as a professor at Howard University, working in the Solid State Electronics group. Beginning in 1988, Jackson worked for Rockwell International (now Boeing) in the Rocketdyne division where under the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) program he performed research on diamond thin films, high powered chemical and Free Electron Lasers (FEL) and water-cooled optics. In 1992, Jackson began working for the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory as associate director of the Center for X-Ray Optics (CXRO). His research interests were in the Extreme Ultra-Violet (EUV) lithography, x-ray lithography, electroplating and injection molding. EUV lithography is the technology, which is used to build billions of nano-sized devices for use in computers and cell phones. X-ray lithography and molding is used to build micro-sized mechanical devices like micropumps, and tiny mirrors for large screen projection TV's. In 2005, Jackson became Vice President of Research and Professor of Physics at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU). On January 4th 2010, Jackson moved to Baltimore, Maryland and joined the faculty of Morgan State University as Chair of the Department of Physics.

Jackson served as president of the National Society of Black Physicists (NSBP) from

2001 to 2006. He is also a fellow of the National Society of Black Physicists and the African Scientific Institute. In 2004, Jackson was selected as one of the 50 Most Important African Americans in Technology by U.S. Black Engineer and Information Technology. In addition to his published papers, Jackson has written pieces on minority physicists including “Utilization of African American Physicists in the Science & Engineering Workforce” and “The Status of the African American Physicist in the Department of Energy National Laboratories.”

## Related Entries

**Morehouse College** [STUDENTOf]  
[from ? to ?]

**B.S.**

**Georgia Institute of Technology** [STUDENTOf]  
[from ? to ?]

**B.S.**

**Stanford University** [STUDENTOf]  
[from ? to ?]

**M.S.**

**Stanford University** [STUDENTOf]  
[from ? to ?]

**Ph.D.**

**Howard University** [EMPLOYEEOf]  
[from 1974 to ?]

**Electrical Engineering Department Assistant Professor**

**Rockwell International** [EMPLOYEEOf]  
[from 1941 to ?]

**Member of Technical Staff Rocketdyne division**

**Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory** [EMPLOYEEOf]  
[from 2006 to 2006]

**Associate Director Center for X-ray Optics**

**National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO)**  
[EMPLOYEEOf]  
[from 1972 to ?]

**Director of the NAFEO/Ames Research Academy**

**Florida A&M University** [EMPLOYEEOf]  
[from 2005 to 2008]

**Vice President of the Division of Research and Tenured Full Professor of Physics**

**Florida A&M University** [EMPLOYEEOf]  
[from 1970 to ?]

**Tenured Full Professor of Physics and Associate Chair of Department of Physics**

**Morgan State University** [EMPLOYEEOf]  
[from 2010 to ?]

**Tenured Full Professor of Physics and Chair of Department of Physics**

**American Physical Society (APS)** [MEMBEROf]  
[from ? to ?]

**Member**

**Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society** [MEMBEROf]  
[from ? to ?]

**Member**

**Society of Photographic Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE)** [MEMBEROf]  
[from ? to ?]

**Member**

**American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)** [MEMBEROf]  
[from ? to ?]

**Member**

**National Society of Black Physicists (NSBP)** [MEMBEROf]  
[from 2001 to 2006]

**President**