

Speaker Biosketches
National Diversity Equity Workshop (NDEW) 2013

F. Fleming Crim

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Professor Crim was born in Waco, Texas and earned a Bachelors degree in chemistry from Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas, in 1969 and a Ph.D. degree in physical chemistry from Cornell University in 1974. He was a member of the research staff at Western Electric Company and then a Postdoctoral Staff member at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. He joined the Department of Chemistry at the University of Wisconsin - Madison in 1977 where he is the John E. Willard Professor and the Hilldale Professor of Chemistry. He is presently serving as the Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation overseeing the Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences.

He has received the Earle K. Plyler Prize in Molecular Spectroscopy from the American Physical Society, the Irving Langmuir Award in Chemical Physics from the American Chemical Society, and the Centenary Silver Medal from The Royal Society of Chemistry among other awards. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences.

Professor Crim has chaired the Physical Chemistry Division of the American Chemical Society and the Committee on Professional Training of the Society. He was also been the Co-Chair of both the Chemical Sciences Roundtable of the National Academy of Sciences and the Board on Chemical Sciences and Technology of the Academy. He is currently Chair of the Chemistry Section of the National Academy of Sciences. The unifying theme of his research is understanding the role that vibrational energy plays in chemical reactions. A pioneering aspect of his work is controlling reactions using vibrational excitation to break bonds selectively.