

Faculty Forward



Tenure & Promotion Navigator

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Ronald (Ron) C. Williams, Ph.D.

Ron has dedicated his career to higher education since 1985, serving in senior management and as a faculty associate at Johns Hopkins University for 11 years, as a faculty member in Coppin State University's (CSU) College of Business since 1996 and as interim dean from 2013 to 2017. As founding director of the Center for Strategic Entrepreneurship, established in 2020, Ron integrates his expertise in organizational transformation, relational competence, and innovation-centric community building to advance equity and inclusion in academic and professional settings.

A recognized leader in organizational development, Ron emphasizes psychological safety, emotional well-being, and productivity in his work. He forged the first national partnership between CSU and Open Works Baltimore, a groundbreaking collaboration that led to his role as principal investigator for significant studies on makerspaces' organizational and economic impact. These studies directly influenced Maryland's MD Makerspace Pilot Initiative, securing public investment for makerspaces as economic drivers.

Ron coined the term "ingepreneurship" to promote socio-economic advancement in underrepresented communities and has contributed to workforce development initiatives with The Century Foundation and the Urban Manufacturing Alliance. He also developed CSU's Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Innovation and a trust-climate assessment framework for cross-cultural economic collaboration.

He earned a Ph.D. in management and organization from George Washington University, a master's in human resource development from Johns Hopkins University, and a bachelor's from the University of Tampa. He serves on several boards, including the Urban Manufacturing Alliance and AAAS HBCU Making & Innovation Advisory Board.