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PLENARY: Status of Women in STEM in the US

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Abstract content
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Despite decades of effort to encourage and support the advancement of women and other under-represented groups in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines in the USA, the pace of change has been frustratingly slow in many fields. The STEM workforce is largely white and male, despite widespread encouragement by business and government leaders for broader demographic participation. There have been local success stories that we can point to, but not the national shifts that would signal a sea change across STEM. In this presentation, I will present recent data on trends, along with commentary from experts who study demographic changes in the workforce. I will discuss the challenges we face in changing the cultural dialogue around gender and other diversity axes, and make recommendations for what we can aim to achieve collectively to redress the imbalances we observe.

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