



**Olivia Blackmon, Ph.D.**

**Director**

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Dr. Olivia M. Blackmon is the Director for Oak Ridge Associated Universities STEM Accelerator (OSA), where she directs and manages Public-Private-Partnership consortiums to build Research and Development capacity in various sectors to include Nuclear Energy, Critical Infrastructure – Water Security, and Space Manufacturing. Dr. Blackmon has over 20 years of professional experience designing regional innovation hubs and economic development, mobilizing a diverse network of public-private partners, and creating new innovative ecosystems. Her work spans across four-continents where she has lead USAID and State efforts in developing countries to build education, training and workforce capacity efforts. Before coming to ORAU, she directed a \$30 million United States Agency of International Development (USAID) program for DAI, Inc., to enable the digital transformation of the Western Balkans, Black Sea Region, and South Caucasus. Through her work with organizations such as MITRE, George Mason University, George Washington University, DevTech and Thurgood Marshall College Fund, she built and managed more than \$130 million in programs with multiple federal agencies such as the Department of Defense, National Science Foundation, USAID, Health and Human Services, Department of Health Services and National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Dr. Blackmon speaks five languages and earned a doctoral degree from George Mason University in Sociology with a concentration in Education, and Mixed Methods in 2015. She has served as both a Fulbright Scholar and a Fellow at Harvard University in Education.