



**Minority Media &  
Telecom Council**

## Press Release

**Contact:**

David Honig, President  
202-332-7005; [dhonig@crosslink.net](mailto:dhonig@crosslink.net)

### **MMTC NAMES DR. NICOL TURNER-LEE VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OF ITS NEW RESEARCH AND POLICY INITIATIVE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – Washington, D.C. (August 8, 2013): The Minority Media and Telecommunications Council (MMTC) has named Dr. Nicol Turner-Lee as Vice President and Chief Research and Policy Officer. Dr. Turner-Lee will launch a new research and policy arm aimed at advancing national leadership on telecommunications issues, and will direct MMTC’s 65-member bipartisan Telecom and Internet Policy Taskforce. The Taskforce is co-chaired by former Congressmen Clifford Stearns and Edolphus Towns, who served together on the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Latoya Livingston, MMTC Senior Attorney and Earle K. Moore Fellow, who was Interim Director of the Taskforce, will continue to serve as Assistant Director.

In this new senior role, Dr. Turner-Lee will design and implement a research and policy agenda that advocates for telecom and Internet policy reform through legislation, rulemaking, executive orders, public-private partnerships, and best practices. The specific agenda items will emanate from the Taskforce’s six subcommittees: spectrum policy, regulatory barriers to investment, FCC procedural reform, consumer protection and USF reform, diversity and inclusion, and entrepreneurship and innovation.

“After being actively engaged in workforce diversity in communications for many years, I’m eager to be in a position to have a more direct influence and impact on telecom and Internet policy and advance digital inclusion,” stated Dr. Turner-Lee. “I’ve served on MMTC’s board for the past two years, and admire their tireless advocacy for closing the digital divide. I’m thrilled to work closely with MMTC, the Taskforce, and supporters of their mission who understand the importance of having a strong voice and representation on these issues.”

Dr. Turner-Lee brings many years of expertise to her new role with MMTC. She most recently served as President and CEO of the National Association for Multi-ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC), a professional association that educates, advocates, and empowers for multi-ethnic diversity in the cable communications industry. Previously, Dr. Turner-Lee served as Vice President and the first Director of the Media and Technology Institute for the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, one of the nation’s leading think tanks whose work focuses on issues of concern to African Americans, where she spearheaded the first national minority broadband adoption study. Prior to the Joint Center, she served as an executive with One Economy Corporation. Over the years, Dr. Turner-Lee has been recognized for her exemplary achievement and leadership in the media and communications industry, recently being recognized as a “2013 Woman to Watch” by Multichannel News. She was appointed by former FCC Chairman Genachowski as a member of the Commission’s Advisory Committee on Diversity for Communications in the Digital Age, where she chairs the subcommittee on the engagement of minorities around innovations related to unlicensed spectrum and devices. Dr. Turner-Lee also participates on several national boards and provides consulting on a variety of matters, including universal broadband adoption and increasing opportunities for minorities in telecommunications and media.

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“MMTC strives to be the leading voice on how telecom and Internet policies impact people of color, and the nation overall. We are strengthening that voice by bringing on Dr. Turner-Lee, a dynamic and inspiring leader who understands that reliable data is a key component of policy reform, and that coalitions play a pivotal role in the advancements made in this space,” stated David Honig, MMTC’s President and CEO.

Dr. Turner-Lee received her B.A. *cum laude* from Colgate University and her M.A. and Ph.D. from Northwestern University.

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**About MMTC:**

The Minority Media and Telecommunications Council (MMTC) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving equal opportunity and civil rights in the mass media, telecommunications and broadband industries, and closing the digital divide. MMTC is generally recognized as the nation’s leading advocate for minority advancement in communications.