



Biographical Summary

Ronald C. Williams, PhD

Associate Professor of Management

Interim Dean, School of Graduate Studies and Research

2024 USM Regents Faculty Award Recipient for Excellence in Public Service

A leader in higher education since 1985, Dr. Ronald (Ron) C. Williams has served Coppin State University (CSU) since 1996 as a faculty member in the College of Business, including service as interim dean from 2013 to 2017. He has served as Interim Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research since August 2025. Throughout his career, Dr. Williams has focused on community-centered academic innovation, most notably establishing the nation's first formal partnership between a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) and a state-of-the-art, community-embedded makerspace.

In 2017, Dr. Williams introduced the concept of *ingepreneurship*, a fusion of ingenuity and entrepreneurship, as a framework for advancing economic mobility in underserved communities. As an academic advisor, he has played a critical role in multiple research initiatives focused on manufacturing and workforce development. He also led the establishment of CSU's Entrepreneurship and Innovation Certificate Program, founded the CSU Center for Strategic Entrepreneurship, and has advised award-winning student teams in local and national innovation competitions.

A strong advocate for transdisciplinary research, Dr. Williams has served as principal investigator on numerous projects and is a frequent speaker on building and leading research teams that span diverse disciplines. He earned his PhD in management and organization from The George Washington University, with concentrations in organizational behavior and development and the management of science, technology, and innovation. He also holds a master's degree in human resource development from Johns Hopkins University and a bachelor's degree from the University of Tampa with majors in psychology, social science, and education.

Beyond his academic roles, Dr. Williams serves on the AAAS HBCU Making & Innovation Advisory Board and is president and chair of Mechanism (formerly the Urban Manufacturing Alliance).