Sharon Fries-Britt, Ph.D., ACE
Project co-lead, is a professor of higher education at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her research examines the experiences of high-achieving blacks in higher education and underrepresented minorities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. She currently serves on the American Institute of Physics National Task Force to Elevate African American Representation (TEAM-UP) and is a co-principal investigator on a National Science Foundation grant to explore the academic trajectories of black transfer engineering students from community colleges. Prior to her academic career she served as a senior level administrator in higher education, and has over 37 years of consulting experience with leaders in colleges and universities, foundations, governmental agencies, and national organizations on issues of race, equity, and diversity.

Kevin McDonald, JD, EdD, the Chief Diversity Officer for the University of Missouri System/University of Missouri, Columbia. The ACE Report is a collaboration between MU, ACE; and project co-leads and authors of the report A. K. Kezar, USC, and S. Fries-Britt. He was named permanent Vice Chancellor for Inclusion, Diversity & Equity on June 1, 2017. He also currently serves as chief diversity officer of the University of Missouri System. As a diversity and inclusion professional, Kevin McDonald has developed a significant track record of transformational contributions toward organizational equity, diversity, and inclusion goals. His efforts revolve around inextricably binding organizational pursuits of excellence with diversity and inclusion efforts. From access and success, to education and scholarship and institutional infrastructures, McDonald has worked collaboratively to create initiatives that positively impact policies, practices, processes, and people.