## CHANCELLOR'S AND PROVOST'S DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN ACADEMIC CAREERS

## Karen McDonald

Professor, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science Faculty Director and co-PI, UC Davis NSF ADVANCE Program University of California, Davis



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Sponsored by the Diversity Realized at Illinois Through Visioning Excellence (DRIVE) faculty committee



Strategies for Institutional Transformation to Build and Sustain a Diverse Community of STEM Faculty

Dr. McDonald received her M.S. from the University of California, Berkeley and her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, College Park. Prior to joining the ADVANCE leadership team she served for 13 years as Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies in the College of Engineering.

Dr. McDonald was also the PI and Director of the NSF IGERT training grant CREATE (Collaborative Research and Education in Agricultural Technologies and Engineering), and Co-Director of the NIH Training Program in Biomolecular Technology at UC Davis.

Professor McDonald's research is at the interface of plant synthetic biology and bioprocess engineering, for production of human therapeutics, industrial enzymes and biopolymers in plant tissues and plant cell culture bioreactor systems. She is a cofounder of Inserogen, Inc., a biotechnology startup focused on the development of plant-based production of orphan biologics.