



#### STARS 2013 Keynote Speaker

Robert T. McGrath, Ph.D. serves as vice president at the Georgia Institute of Technology and director of the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI). Prior to joining GTRI in 2011, McGrath worked in a number of capacities with Battelle Memorial Institute supporting a variety of R&D programs, national laboratory and university partnerships, STEM education initiatives and the Battelle-managed National Renewable Energy Laboratory, where he served as deputy director.

From 2004 to 2008, McGrath served as senior vice president for research at The Ohio State University, and was a tenured professor in material science and engineering, and physics. Under his leadership, Ohio State's research and development grew dramatically to more than \$740 million per year, ranking it ninth among U.S. academic institutions. During his tenure, Ohio State's ranking for industry-sponsored research rose from sixth to second in the nation. McGrath was appointed by Ohio Governor Ted Strickland to serve on the Third Frontier Advisory Board managing the state's \$1.6 billion technology investment fund for stimulating innovation and jobs.

Between 1996 and 2004, McGrath was professor of engineering at Penn State University, where he also served as associate vice president for research, director of strategic & interdisciplinary initiatives, and director of the Marine Corps Research University.

From 1981 through 1998, McGrath worked for Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he directed programs such as cooperative research and development with SEMATECH on microelectronics manufacturing, high performance computing applications, and international collaborations with Japan, Europe and the former Soviet Union on plasma-materials interactions and engineering of high heat flux components for magnetic fusion reactors.

McGrath received his Ph.D. in nuclear science & engineering from The University of Michigan and earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Penn State University in engineering sciences, mathematics and physics. He has authored more than 60 journal publications, many with the numerous graduate students, postdoctoral fellows or junior researchers that have worked under his direction. He has similarly authored more than 80 published abstracts and conference presentations, in addition to numerous technical reports.