

The Honourable Doctor Mayann Francis, ONS was appointed to the Faculty of Management, School of Public Administration as the first Distinguished Public Service Fellow in fall of 2015.

Dr. Francis served as Lieutenant Governor for the province of Nova Scotia, from 2006-2012. She was the first African Nova Scotian and second woman to be appointed as the vice regal representative.

She is the recipient of honorary degrees, from Mount St. Vincent University, St. Mary's University and York University in Ontario. Dr. Francis graduated from St. Mary's University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and a Master's in Public Administration from New York University. In addition she has a Certificate in Equal Opportunity Studies from Cornell University, a Certificate in Paralegal Studies from Long Island University and a Certificate in Theological Studies from the Atlantic School of Theology.

Her leadership roles include Director and CEO of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, Ombudsman for the province of Nova Scotia, Assistant Deputy Minister in Ontario, Employment Equity Officer for Dalhousie University and Administrative Manager in Human Resources with the Brooklyn District Attorney's office, Brooklyn NY.

In her inaugural public address on March 1, 2016, she said "it seemed a mandate for change was always part of my challenge in my public sector career. She said her experience and background, which was rooted in faith, contributed to her knowledge of how to be that change agent. "

In addition to her list of credentials, Dr. Francis can add author. Nimbus Publishing published her first children's book, "Mayann's Train Ride" in October 2015.

She is in much demand as a speaker.