Dr. Juliette B. Bell assumed the presidency as the 15th leader of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) on July 1, 2012.

Prior to joining UMES, Dr. Bell served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Central State University (CSU) in Ohio. Also, during her 17-year tenure at Fayetteville State University (FSU) in North Carolina, she served as Professor of Chemistry, Director of Biomedical Research, Dean of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, and Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. At both CSU and FSU, Dr. Bell provided transformational leadership resulting in development, enhancement, and restructuring of academic colleges; development of new cutting-edge academic programs, on-line degree programs, international partnerships; and improved student success.

A renowned biochemist and scholar, Dr. Bell has numerous national honors and awards, including the "Millennium Award for Excellence in Teaching" from the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, the NAFEO "Research Excellence Award", the Minority Access Inc. "National Role Model Mentoring Award", and the prestigious University of North Carolina "Board of Governors' Award for Excellence in Teaching". She has also been named a "Giant in Science" by the Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) and was featured as one of ten African American Life Scientists in an exhibition at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry entitled "Defying Tradition: African American Women in Science and Technology." She was named one of Maryland's "Top 100 Women" in 2014.

Dr. Bell is a strong advocate for increasing the number of minority scientists and has dedicated much of her career to providing motivation and opportunities for students to participate in scientific research. In her current role as President of UMES, she continues to provide leadership to public, private, and governmental agencies, including the National Science Foundation, the American Association of Colleges and Universities, and QEM. She currently serves as Chair of the Council of 1890 Universities, and member of the Board of Directors of the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (AACTE), Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), and the Maryland/DC Campus Compact.

Dr. Bell earned the bachelor's degree in chemistry from Talladega College and the Ph.D. in chemistry from Atlanta University. She completed postdoctoral studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. She is a graduate of the Millennium Leadership Institute and the Harvard University Institute for Educational Management.

She is married with two children and five grandchildren.