Professor Hinds has a formal and research-based background in chemistry and electronic device processing. Bachelor studies were in Chemistry at Harvey Mudd College in California (1991). His Ph.D. work (1996) was on the MOCVD growth of high temperature superconductors at Northwestern University. He went on to post-doctoral research at NC State Physics and a NSF-JSPS at Tokyo Institute of Technology. In 2001 he joined the faculty of the University of Kentucky to start a research program for functional materials at the nm-scale. In particular, his research group is trying to produce nano-scale materials that can mimic natural process for applications ranging from health care, energy storage/generation and water purification. He has authored 60 papers (including Science, Nature, PNAS, Nat. Nanotech), has recently received a Presidential Early Career Award (PECASE) award sponsored by NIH and is the William Bryan Professor of Materials Engineering.