

## Commencement Keynote Speaker

David Satcher, MD, PhD, FAAFP, FACPM, FACP  
Director, The Satcher Health Leadership Institute and  
Center of Excellence on Health Disparities  
Poussaint-Satcher-Cosby Chair in Mental Health  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
16th Surgeon General of the United States

Dr. David Satcher is Director of The Satcher Health Leadership Institute which was established in 2006 at the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia. The mission of the Institute is to develop a diverse group of public health leaders, foster and support leadership strategies, and influence policies toward the reduction and ultimate elimination of disparities in health. The Institute's programs reflect Dr. Satcher's experience in improving public health policy and his commitment to eliminating health disparities for underserved groups, such as minorities and the poor and shedding light on neglected issues, such as mental and sexual health.

Dr. Satcher was sworn in as the 16th Surgeon General of the United States in 1998. He also served as Assistant Secretary for Health in the Department of Health and Human Services from February 1998 to January 2001, making him only the second person in history to have held both positions simultaneously. His tenure of public service also includes serving as Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Administrator of the Toxic Substances and Disease Registry from 1993 to 1998. He was the first person to have served as Director of the CDC and Surgeon General of the United States.

Dr. Satcher has held top leadership positions at the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, Meharry Medical College, and the Morehouse School of Medicine. He has been a Macy Foundation Fellow, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar, and a Senior Visiting Fellow of the Kaiser Family Foundation.

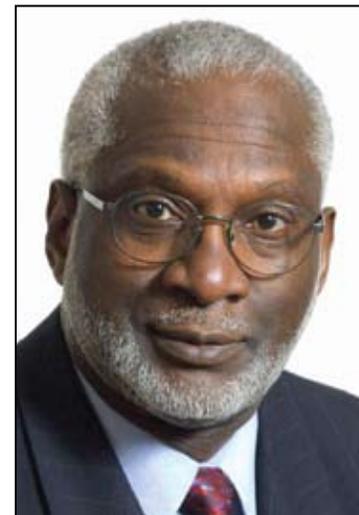
Dr. Satcher held the position of Director of the new National Center for Primary Care (NCPC) at the Morehouse School of Medicine from 2002 to 2004. He presently occupies the Poussaint-Satcher-Cosby Chair in Mental Health at the Morehouse School of Medicine. This recognizes his long commitment to removing the stigma attached to mental illness, as evidenced by Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General, the first surgeon general's report on mental health released during his tenure as surgeon general. As Surgeon General and Assistant Secretary for Health, Dr. Satcher led the department's effort to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in health, an initiative that was incorporated as one of the two major goals of Healthy People 2010.

Dr. Satcher has received over 40 honorary degrees and numerous distinguished honors including top awards from the National Medical Association, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the Ronald Davis Special Recognition Award from the American College of Preventive Medicine and the Symbol of H.O.P.E. Award for health promotion and disease prevention. In 2005, he was appointed to serve on the World Health Organization Commission on Social Determinants of Health.

Presently, Dr. Satcher serves on the Board of Directors of Johnson and Johnson, MetLife, and the Kaiser Family Foundation. He also serves locally on the board of United Way of Greater Atlanta and The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta.

Dr. Satcher graduated from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia in 1963 and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He holds MD and PhD degrees from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. He is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society and a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American College of Preventive Medicine and the American College of Physicians. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences, the 100 Black Men of Atlanta and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

A proponent of healthy lifestyles through physical activity and good nutrition, Dr. Satcher is an avid runner, rower, and gardener.



## Honorary Degree

Nominees for honorary degrees are distinguished in their respective fields and widely recognized. Nominees must have demonstrated intellectual and humane values that are consistent with the aims of the University's mission and higher education, and with the highest ideals of the person's chosen field.

Presentation of the  
**Honorary Degree**  
to  
**Geraldine Burton-Branch, MD, MPH**



Dr. Geraldine Burton-Branch has used her voice and intellect for creating lasting change in the Watts area of Los Angeles and beyond for more than a half century. In a lifetime of leadership, Dr. Burton-Branch worked in a variety of roles for the common good. Since the 1940s, she has been a distinguished physician, educator and public health professional in Southern California, remaining ever humble.

"There's something I learned about leadership," she told an interviewer. "A leader can't run alone. You've got to have people to go along with you, otherwise, you accomplish nothing."

Dr. Burton-Branch was born in Savannah, Georgia, but moved at an early age to New York City. She graduated in 1936 from the New York Medical College. She married her husband, Robert, a dentist, and they established practices on the East Coast. But within a few years, the family, which included two children and her mother, moved west to Southern California.

"I had a dream of a place with special trees, unpaved roads and brightly colored houses," she said in an earlier interview. "When I went to visit a friend in Watts, I realized God wanted me to be there."

Early in her medical practice in Watts, she had set up her own system for prepaid medical service, long before HMO's became a popular form of health insurance.

Later, when working for the Los Angeles Unified School District at Jordan High School, Dr. Burton-Branch urged top officials to relieve the overburdened system by creating what became Markham Middle School.

Gaining notice for her work, she became the district health officer for the Watts area. Dr. Burton-Branch played a large role in creating a smooth transition when the city and county health departments were combined, garnering more praise. She also earned her Master's degree in public health in 1962 from UCLA.

Following the Watts Rebellion in the mid-1960s, she was named a top health official for the southern parts of the county. She played a lead role in planning an ambulatory health care center, later known as Martin Luther King/Drew Hospital. She also paved the way for the Watts Health Center, and held leadership roles in the Watts Health Foundation, a nonprofit health plan, until the early 1980s.

Still, she continued her quest for improving the area by arguing for what is now known as Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science, and the King Drew Medical Magnet High School. In addition, Dr. Burton-Branch defended against the 105 Freeway being built on land that was designed for King Hospital.

In a life dedicated to public service, she played a key role in proposing that Los Angeles County was too big, and should be broken into smaller districts. Today, her vision helped shape the nation's most populous county being separated into five districts, each run by a supervisor. Even in retirement, Dr. Burton-Branch actively pursued change. She played such an instrumental role in designing what was known as the Golden Age Adult Day Health Center, the building was named after her.

## Board of Trustees' Medal of Honor

The highest honor the Board of Trustees of the Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science is empowered to bestow is the Medal of Honor. Specially crafted by Charles Dickson according to a design by former University President, Walter Leavell, MD, it depicts the face of Charles R. Drew encircled by University emblem. First given in 1988, the Medal of Honor is bestowed to the recipient who best exemplifies the spirit of the Drew Mission – serving the underserved with excellence and compassion.

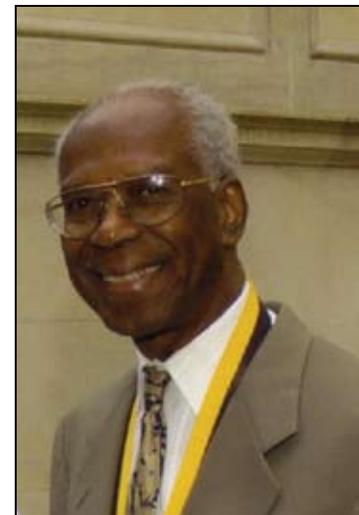
Presentation of the  
**Board of Trustees' Medal of Honor**  
to  
**M. Alfred Haynes, MD, MPH**

It's no secret that there are health disparities between people of different races and ethnicities. But thanks to Moses Alfred Haynes, M.D., M.P.H., scores of underrepresented minorities received better access to healthcare and professional health education opportunities than they could have hoped to receive otherwise.

M. Alfred Haynes is a pioneer in addressing disparities in health status, access to care and professional health education opportunities for underrepresented minorities and the poor. Over the course of his long and distinguished career, he has been a major architect of social justice for black professionals in the health sciences. One of the first African-American faculty members at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Haynes played an important role in a national study titled, "Hunger U.S.A." and contributed to establishing racial integration policies for the university. Following the Watts riots in Los Angeles, Dr. Haynes became an early faculty member and associate dean of the Drew Postgraduate Medical School, an institution he later served as dean and where he is now president emeritus.

Throughout his long and distinguished career, Dr. Haynes has made an impact on both patients and other medical professionals, serving as a doctor, a mentor, a professor and a dean. From his days as a medical officer with the U.S. Public Health Service to his appointment as president of the Drew Postgraduate Medical School, Dr. Haynes lives to serve and made the reduction of health disparities his mission. He transformed health care systems around the world and worked tirelessly to reduce cancer mortality in the African-American community.

Dr. Haynes transformed many healthcare systems, but much of his success was aided by the love and support of his wife of 58 years, Hazel Louise Edgecombe Haynes. Dr. and Mrs. M. Alfred Haynes have three grand children: Raven Lopez, Jeremiah Watkins and Jules Watkins and four great-grand children, Rea-Ann Watkins, Cheyenne Watkins, Deliyala Lopez and Christopher Lopez.



## The President's Medal

The President's Medal recognizes extraordinary and unique service to Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science by a member of the University community who has performed with excellence in his or her chosen profession.

Presentation of the  
**The President's Medal**  
to  
**Loretta Jones, MA**



Loretta Jones, MA is CEO and founder of Healthy African American Families, a non-profit, community serving agency. Its mission: to improve the health of African American, Latino and Korean communities in Los Angeles County by enhancing the quality of care. In addition, the group advances social progress through education, training, and collaborative partnering with community, academia, researchers and government.

Ms. Jones' career as a civil rights activist, health policy advocate, and social architect has spanned more than three decades. In an effort to level the playing field for all people, Ms. Jones has made an unyielding commitment against disparities in human health, development and opportunity. She remains dedicated toward her hope of healing community and society at large.

Ms. Jones has been awarded numerous grants and contracts for her work from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Recently, the agency honored her as the first recipient of the National Contribution to Minority Health Programs, Research and Surveillance award. The award recognizes public leadership in overcoming health disparities. In 2009, she received the NAACP's W. Montague Cobb Award.

Ms Jones is co-investigator of the National Institute of Mental Health; National Institutes of Health (NIH)/University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)/RAND Center for Research on Quality in Managed Care; the National Institute on Aging; NIH/UCLA Center for Health Improvement in Minority Elderly (CHIME); and the NIH Drew/UCLA Project EXPORT, a research project designed to reduce disparities in diabetes and depression in low-income African Americans and Latinos. She also remains a member of the UCLA

Institutional Review Board for protection of human subjects.

She has served as a board member for numerous organizations, including: Women's Hope, Black Women for Wellness, Korean-African American United. She also is Chair-Emeritus of the African American Alcohol & Other Drug Council of Los Angeles County, which she founded. Ms. Jones is the co-principal investigator on Racial Health Disparities, Witness for Wellness Depression Studies, and co-chair of the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars, among others. She also sits on the Federal Advisory Council of National Children's Studies-National Institutes of Health.

Ms. Jones' professional employment include: CEO, National Black Alcoholism Center, Oakland, CA; CEO, National Black Alcoholism Center, Los Angeles; and Deputy CEO, National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency, Los Angeles County. In 2005, she became a commissioner for the Joint Center Health Policy Institute's Dellums Commission and a Family and Youth Stakeholder Member for the National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP). She currently resides in Los Angeles, the area she tirelessly serves.