



Prof Winston Davidson – public health specialist, physician, educator

Dr. Winston Davidson, is an outstanding scientist known for his pioneering telemedicine research and his outstanding work in public health.

Professor Davidson received his medical training from the University of the West Indies during the period 1965 to 1971 and was successful in the American Examination for Foreign Medical Graduates in 1971. He also received his Diploma in Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (DTM&H) from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, University of Liverpool, England in 1975. As a Phd candidate Professor Davidson is currently completing a PhD study on the harmonious adaptation of man within the environment and the natural processes influencing evolutionary change of the environment.

He is currently Professor, Public Health & Health Technology and Head of the University of Technology School of Public Health & Health Technology. He is also President & CEO, of Tele-Medicine Ltd and developed “Dr On Call” IP Telephony System and UNIMEDICS EMR both of which were products of his research and development work together with his partner Mr Sanjeev Kumar. Presently they are actively modernising the Dr On Call mobile IP telephony system which has begun to incorporate the WebRTC browser based system.

Professor Davidson has had a long and distinguished career serving as Director, Community Health Services, Department of Social & Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, Mona, Jamaica, W. I., Primary Health Care Researcher; Department of Social & Preventive Medicine. Prof Davidson was Honorary Research Fellow School of Graduate Studies; University of the West Indies; Executive Chairman, Tele-Medicine Limited, Chairman, Health for All Jamaica

Limited and several other companies. He has lectured in several departments of the University of the West Indies on health planning, pharmacology, public health and other health issues. He is a former Jamaican Senator and Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health & Environmental Control.

Professor Davidson was born on March 18, 1946 in Kingston, Jamaica. He attended Kingston College.

Some of Professor Davidson's key achievements in health development are listed below:

- Facilitated the development and deployment of the National Primary Health Care program throughout Jamaica which was derived from research done in the Department of Social & Preventive medicine 1973 to 1975. Program is still in existence after over 30 years.
- Developed or facilitated the development of the National drug abuse prevention Institutions i.e. Detoxification Unit UWI Hospital observation Ward; Richmond Fellowship Drug Rehab Centre; Addiction Alert; William Chamberlain Drug Rehab Centre; Eighteen Community Development Action Committees in fourteen Parishes utilizing the POPIE method (developed by W. Davidson) of Community Development;
- Developed and implemented the Integrated Demand Reduction (IDER) program which was the Caribbean Flagship programme endorsed by the United Nations after its adoption as both a Caribbean Model and a Global strategy for Drug demand reduction
- Organizational reform of MOH resulting in the development of Primary Secondary and Tertiary Health Care establishing the continuity of care and integration of care model.
- Organizational reform of the Medical Association of Jamaica; to achieve greater efficiencies and modernization of its operations also constitutional changes facilitating greater professionalism in the conduct of its affairs.
- Founder, and leader of numerous professional health and other organizations, in Jamaica for over thirty-five years.
- Developed the conceptual framework document and led a relentless campaign for the implementation of the National Health Fund, which is an institution which used proceeds from a tax on cigarettes to offset the costs of drugs for the treatment of chronic disease and promoting wellness and healthy lifestyles.
- Pioneering research in Telemedicine in Jamaica and developing the National Electronic Health Record System for the National Health Fund of the Jamaican Government.

- Pioneering work in Health Tourism including the epidemiological classification of Global Health Tourism's market segments
- He also has to his credit more than 150 presentations, papers and publications related to: Health Policy, Planning and Organizational issues; Primary Health Care; Drug Abuse Prevention, Epidemiology, Community Development, Public Health, Control of Communicable Diseases, Environmental Health, Philosophy, Telemedicine, Information Technology and Wellness. He has also written three books: The Wellness Handbook: "Your Guide to Healthy Living"; "Ites of Reasoning" of Rastafari; Head National Task Force to Review Jamaica's Health Service.

In 1991, he was appointed member of the World Expert Group of 15 Appointed by the UN Secretary General to reorganize the UN system on Drug Abuse, and in 1992, he served as Chairman: UNDCP World Expert Group to formulate recommendations for the restructuring to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (Vienna)

During the period 1993-5, he served as Consultant, UNDCP Development of Master Plan Turks & Caicos Consultant: Netherlands Govt. Development of Drug Demand Reduction Master plan Netherlands Antilles and Grenada, and Consultant: PAHO, Development of Caribbean Master plan for Drug Demand Reduction University of the West Indies. During the period 1991-1995, he was Chairman, Caricom High Level Expert Group on Drug Abuse Prevention

His Professional affiliations include: Member, Medical Council of Jamaica, Member and former President Medical Association of Jamaica, Founding Member and Former President, Association of General Practitioners, Member Caribbean College of Family Physicians, founding member and Former President, Caribbean Public Health Association,

He is a former Vice-Chairman, Jamaica Anti-Doping Commission, Chairman, Bureau of Standards Jamaica, Chairman, Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine.

He has received a number of honours and awards in recognition of his work. Among these honours and awards are a National Award, Commander of the Order of Distinction for Services to Medicine in Jamaica, 2003 and the "Pearl Award" for more than 30 years of distinguished and outstanding service to the People of Jamaica as Justice of the Peace in the parish of St. Andrew in 2008. He has received the Distinguished Service Award, to the Medical Profession, from the Medical Association of Jamaica, also a distinguished award for his Contribution to the Caribbean College of Family Physicians.

He also received the 2004 Francis Bowen Memorial Science Award (Chancellor Hall, UWI) Outstanding Service in the Field of Medicine; The Sir Phillip Sherlock Distinguished Award for Outstanding services to The Medical Sciences in The Caribbean at The 14th Annual International Diabetes Conference in 2008; the 2008 Health Tourism Award for pioneering work in Telemedicine, 2008 Scientific Research Council;

Jamaica National Scientific Award for Health & Safety; 2013 National Council on Drug Abuse Influence Award for fight against drug abuse

Professor Davidson is married to Dr Sonia Davidson nee Lambie and has three daughters:
Dr Tamu Davidson; Dr Chima Davidson and Ms Donna Davidson.