

## KENNETH OLDEN LECTURE SERIES



We are pleased to announce the first annual Kenneth Olden Lecture as a part of the Rural Health Lecture Series established by the Department of Graduate Public Health (DGPH) in the College of Veterinary Medicine. This lecture will be held annually by the DGPH and will highlight a scholar and/or advocate in Environmental Health Sciences that has or is currently conducting research and/or advocating for advances that will help to decrease health disparities in rural and other marginalized communities. This lecture series will highlight faculty, policy makers, and community leaders that are trail blazers in this field like the distinguished scholar for which it is named.

From 1991-2005, Dr. Olden was Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Toxicology Program (NTP) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He was the first African American to become Director of one of the NIH Institutes. In 2005, Ken resigned as Director so he could devote full time to his research and position as Chief of the Metastasis Group in the Laboratory of Molecular Carcinogenesis at the NIEHS.

He also held the position of Yerby Visiting Professor at the Harvard School of Public Health for the academic year 2006-2007, and was Founding Dean of the School of Public Health at the City University of New York from 2008-2012. From 2012-2016, Ken served as Director of the National Center for Environmental Assessment in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Dr. Olden received the Ph.D. degree in Cell Biology and Biochemistry from Temple University in 1970, and is the recipient of six honorary doctorate degrees. He was a Postdoctoral Fellow and Instructor in the Physiology Department at Harvard University Medical School in Boston, MA. from 1970-1974. From 1974-1979, Ken was a researcher in the Laboratory of Molecular Biology in the National Cancer Institute of the NIH. In 1977, he became the first African American promoted to tenure with the rank of Independent Investigator at the NIH. From 1979-1991, Ken

held several positions at the Howard University hospital in Washington, DC. including: Director, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Oncology.

***Dr. Olden's honors and awards are numerous, a few examples are cited below:***

1990—Appointed to membership on the National Advisory Board by President George H.W. Bush.

1994---Elected to membership in National Academy of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.

1995---Selected to receive the Secretary of Health and Human Services Distinguished Service Award.

1996---Selected by President William j. Clinton to receive the Presidential Distinguished Executive Rank Award.

Selected to receive the City of Medicine Prize for extraordinary achievement in medical research.

1997—Selected by President William j. Clinton to receive the Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award.

1999--- Elected a Fellow in the Academy of Toxicological Sciences.

2002--- Selected to receive the Calver Award by the American Public Health Association.

2004--- Selected to receive the Sedgwich Medal by the American Public Health Association.

2004--- Selected to receive the Princess Takamatsu Cancer Medal by the Japanese Royal Family.

2005---Selected to receive the Julius B. Richmond Award for leadership in public health by the Harvard School of Public Health.

2011--- Selected to receive the Hansen Prize for leadership in the Environmental Health Sciences by University of Iowa School of Public Health.

2015--- Selected to receive the Sackler Prize for leadership in promoting Community-Based Participatory Research by 'Research America'.