

## R. Bob Mullins, Jr., MD

Alabama Medicaid Commissioner



Longtime family physician R. Bob Mullins, Jr., MD, was appointed Alabama Medicaid Commissioner in January 2011. A 1968 graduate of the University of Alabama School of Medicine, Dr. Mullins interned at Lloyd Noland Hospital in Fairfield, Ala., served two years in the U.S. Army at Ft. Polk, La., and completed a two-year General Practice residency in Columbus, Ga., before starting his private practice in 1973 in Valley, Ala.

Dr. Mullins has been involved in a variety of local and state health-care organizations, beginning in 1978 when he volunteered to help start an Impaired Physicians Committee for the Medical Association of the State of Alabama (MASA). He served on its Executive Committee until 1988.

His service to MASA continued in 1989 when he assumed the office of Vice Speaker of the House of Delegates and College of Counselors, a post he held until his election to Speaker of the House in 1995. He held that position through 1997. In addition, he served as Alternate Delegate to the American Medical Association House of Delegates from 1990 to 1999 and as Delegate during 2000-2001. He served as President of MASA for 2004-2005.

In early 1989, Dr. Mullins served as Chairman of MASA's Ad Hoc Committee on Rural and Indigent Care and later that same year served on both the Manpower and Finance subcommittees of the Alabama Legislative Rural Health Task Force. As a result of the Alabama Legislature's response to the Task Force's recommendations, the Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board was created in 1990, and Dr. Mullins served on its Executive Committee until 2003, serving the last year as Committee Chairman. He was reappointed to the Board in 2004 and served until 2007.

Community activities have included Leadership Alabama Class II, the Board of Directors for Chambers County/Bradshaw Library, the Board of Trustees for Lanier Health Services and Chattahoochee Valley Healthcare Foundation, the Steering Committee for the Greater Valley Area Chamber of Commerce's Project Leadership, and the Executive Committee of the National Physician's Center for Family Resources.

Dr. Mullins and his wife, Jeannene, have three children and nine grandchildren. His interests include bioethics and classical music.



## 2011 Charles Barkley Health Disparities Research Awards Call for Applications

The UAB Minority Health & Health Disparities Research Center (MHRC) invites applications for the funding of one-year pilot research projects focusing on health disparities. The projects may be in the areas of basic science, clinical science, epidemiology, outcomes/health services, social and behavioral sciences, or community-based research and must demonstrate relevance to health disparities.

Eligible applicants are faculty at the level of instructor, Assistant Professor, or Associate Professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, University of Alabama, Tuskegee University, and Morehouse School of Medicine.

- **Release Date:** May 2, 2011
- **Letters of Intent Due:** May 31, 2011
- **Applications Due:** July 19, 2011
- **Project Start Date:** October 1, 2011

PLEASE SUBMIT ELECTRONICALLY AT [www.uabmhrc.org](http://www.uabmhrc.org)

### Scientific Planning Committee

Mona Fouad, MD, MPH • Linda Moneyham, DNS, RN, FAAN • Edward Partridge, MD • Robert Weech-Maldonado, PhD, MBA

### Sponsored by: UAB Minority Health & Health Disparities Research Center (MHRC)

The Minority Health & Health Disparities Research Center (MHRC) is a comprehensive educational, research, and service center focused on eliminating the health disparities of racial/ethnic minorities and underserved populations locally, regionally, and nationally.

1-877-MHRC-UAB [info@UABMHRC.org](http://info@UABMHRC.org)

Supported in part by a grant from the National Institutes of Health, National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (Grant #P60MD000502).



6th ANNUAL

## HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

### The Science of Eliminating Health Disparities From Discovery to Delivery



Monday & Tuesday,  
April 25-26, 2011

DoubleTree Hotel  
808 20th Street South  
Birmingham, Alabama



### UAB CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

The University of Alabama School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The University of Alabama School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 3.5 AMA PRA Category 1 credits. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. The University of Alabama School of Medicine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.



6th ANNUAL

## HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

The Science of Eliminating Health Disparities  
From Discovery to Delivery

April 25-26, 2011

### Monday, April 25

2:30 – 4:30 pm	Alumni Roundtable	Heritage I
5:00 – 7:00 pm	Poster Session and Reception	Heritage II

### Tuesday, April 26

7:30 – 8:30 am	Registration and Breakfast	
8:30 – 9:00 am	General Assembly	Heritage I
9:00 – 10:00 am	Keynote Address <b>Bob Mullins, MD, Alabama Medicaid Commissioner</b> <i>Balancing the Equation: Searching for Better Health Outcomes in a World of Limited Resources</i>	Heritage I
10:00 am – 12:00 pm	<b>BREAK-OUT SESSIONS</b> Session I Moderator: Edward Partridge, MD Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology Director, UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center Co-Director, UAB Minority Health & Health Disparities Research Center	Centennial I

SPEAKER	TOPIC
1 <b>Monika Safford, MD</b> Associate Professor, UAB School of Medicine, Preventive Medicine	Acute Coronary Heart Disease Mortality in the Reasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke (REGARDS) Study
2 <b>Paul Muntner, PhD</b> Professor, UAB School of Public Health, Epidemiology	Acute Coronary Heart Disease Incidence in the Reasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke (REGARDS) Study
3 <b>Celestine Dent-Parter, DNP</b> Adjunct Faculty, UAB School of Nursing	Promoting Heart Health to African American Women: A Church-Based Program to Improve Knowledge of Heart Disease
4 <b>Derek DuBay, MD</b> Assistant Professor, UAB School of Medicine, Transplant Surgery	Is Decedent Race an Independent Predictor of Consent or Organ Donation or Merely a Surrogate Marker of Socioeconomic Status, Education, and Access to Health Care?
5 <b>Ghyeon Kim, PhD</b> Assistant Professor, UAB School of Social & Behavioral Sciences, Department of Psychology	Associations between Self-rated Mental Health and Psychiatric Disorders among Older Adults: Do Racial/Ethnic Differences Exist?
6 <b>Stephanie Garrett, MD</b> Assistant Professor, Morehouse School of Medicine, Geriatric Medicine	Surviving Confusion—Differences in Survival among Older African Americans and Whites Hospitalized with Delirium Diagnoses in the United States

### Tuesday, April 26 continued...

10:00 am – 12:00 pm		BREAK-OUT SESSIONS	Centennial II
<b>Session II</b> Moderator: Linda D. Monevham, PhD, RN, FAAN Professor and Rachel Z. Booth Endowed Chair Interim Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs UAB School of Nursing			
SPEAKER	TOPIC		
1 <b>Stefan Kertesz, MD</b> Associate Professor, UAB School of Medicine, Preventive Medicine	Crossing Quality Chasm: Primary Care from the Perspective of Homeless Patients and Their Caregivers		
2 <b>Akilah Dulin Keita, PhD</b> Postdoctoral Scholar, UAB School of Health Professions, Nutrition Sciences	Changing Neighborhood Structures: The Effects of a HOPE VI Housing Program for Community, Health, and Physical Activity		
3 <b>Belinda Neesham, PhD</b> Assistant Professor, UAB School of Social & Behavioral Sciences, Sociology	Socioeconomic Status and Cell Aging in Children		
4 <b>Jewell Kalanyich, MD</b> Assistant Professor, UAB School of Medicine, Preventive Medicine	The Role of Ancillary Staff in Perceived Discrimination in Medical Care		
5 <b>Despina Stavrinou, PhD</b> Postdoctoral Fellow, UAB School of Medicine, University Transportation Center	Racial Disparities in Distracted Driving		
6 <b>Michael Crowe, PhD</b> Assistant Professor, UAB School of Social & Behavioral Sciences, Psychology	Indicators of Childhood Quality of Education Predict Cognitive Performance in Older Adulthood		

12:00 – 1:30 pm		University
<b>Session III</b> Moderator: Keith A. (Tony) Jones, MD Alfred Habeeb Professor and Chair UAB Department of Anesthesiology		

SPEAKER	TOPIC
1 <b>Cynthia Owsley, PhD</b> Professor and Nathan E. Miles Chair of Ophthalmology, UAB School of Medicine, Ophthalmology	Effect of an Eye Health Education Program on Older African Americans' Eye Care Utilization and Attitudes about Eye Care
2 <b>Keahia Elder, OD, MS</b> Associate Professor, UAB School of Optometry, Optometry	Ocular Inflammation in African American and European American SLE Patients
3 <b>Gloria Westney, MD</b> Associate Professor, Morehouse School of Medicine, Pulmonary/Critical Care Section	Disparate Severity Parameters in a Racially Homogeneous Sarcoidosis Cohort
4 <b>Alexandra Walsh, MD</b> Fellow, UAB School of Medicine, Pediatric Hematology-Oncology	Insurance Status Does Not Explain Persistently Poor Outcomes in Black and Hispanic Children Diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia
5 <b>Kesha Buster, MD</b> Dermatology resident, UAB School of Medicine, Dermatology	Are Dermatologists Confident in Treating Skin Disease in African Americans?
6 <b>Mandy Willig, PhD</b> Fellow, UAB School of Health Professions, Nutrition Sciences	Race and Gender Are Associated with Body Mass Index and Markers of Immune Function among Patients Living with HIV

10:00 am – 12:00 pm		BREAK-OUT SESSIONS	Arlington
<b>Session IV</b> Moderator: Robert Weech-Maldonado, MBA, PhD Professor and L.E. Jordan Endowed Chair UAB Department of Health Services Administration			

SPEAKER	TOPIC
1 <b>Stephen Glasser, MD</b> Professor, UAB School of Medicine, Preventive Medicine	Differential Black-to-White Stroke Susceptibility to Elevated SBP
2 <b>Monica Baskin, PhD</b> Associate Professor, UAB School of Medicine, Preventive Medicine	Social and Cultural Environments Influencing Physical Activity among African American Adolescents
3 <b>Andrea Cherrington, MD, MPH</b> Assistant Professor, UAB School of Medicine, Preventive Medicine	Developing a Peer-support intervention for Individuals Living with Diabetes in Rural Alabama: the ENCOURAGE Study
4 <b>Jambika Ashraf, MD</b> Assistant Professor, UAB School of Medicine, Pediatrics	Associations between Serum 25(OH)D and Insulin Sensitivity and Fasting Glucose
5 <b>Dori Pekmez, PhD</b> Assistant Professor, UAB School of Public Health, Health Behavior	Feasibility and Acceptability of Using Pedometers as an Intervention Tool for Latinos
6 <b>Sohil Makwana, MD</b> Research Assistant, UAB School of Public Health, Epidemiology	The Relationship between Rurality and Diabetes Control

12:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch	Heritage I
1:30 pm	Presentation of Awards	Heritage I
1:45 pm	Closing Remarks	Heritage I

### UAB Health Disparities Research Symposium

The UAB Health Disparities Research Symposium is UAB's annual forum designed to keep scientists at UAB, the University of Alabama, and key minority institutions across the Southeast at the forefront of health disparities research. The event highlights the work of investigators in basic science, clinical, behavioral, and community-based research as it relates to health disparities, enabling researchers to come together to share ideas and build important connections in the scientific community. The event, now in its sixth year, also works hand in hand with other programs of the UAB Minority Health & Health Disparities Research Center to encourage young researchers to enter the field of health disparities research.

Thank you for your participation and support.