

Eve J. Higginbotham, M.D.

Dr. Eve J. Higginbotham is a Visiting Scholar for Health Equity, Association of American Medical Colleges in Washington DC.

Recently she served as Senior Vice President and Executive Dean for Health Sciences at Howard University with oversight responsibly for Howard University Hospital, the College of Medicine, the College of Dentistry, the College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Allied Health and the Health Sciences Library.

An expert in the treatment of glaucoma, Dr. Higginbotham served as Dean and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta. Dr. Higginbotham's career has included many firsts, including her appointment as the nation's first woman to head a university-based ophthalmology department in 1994, when she was named chair of the Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences Department at the University of Maryland, School of Medicine in Baltimore. With the support of the Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Congress, she developed the Student Sight Savers program, a program in which medical students in more than 50 medical schools nationally conduct vision screenings in underserved communities.

Dr. Higginbotham is member of several boards, including the Editorial Board of the Archives of Ophthalmology. Recently she was elected as a member of the MIT Corporation and appointed to the Board of Directors of the AOA Medical Honor Society. She is also a member of the Board of Overseers at Harvard University and the Scientific Advisory Board of the Research to Prevent Blindness Foundation. Dr. Higginbotham is a member of the Institute of Medicine since 2000 and in 2010 was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in Cambridge, Mass. She also is the past chair of the National Eye Institute's (NEI) Planning Committee for the National Eye Health Education Program, former member of the Advisory Council of the National Eye Institute and the Data and Safety Monitoring Committee of the NEI Clinical Research Center and a current member of the FDA Ophthalmic Devices Panel. She has also served as a member of the Veterans Affairs Secretary's Blue Ribbon Panel on VA-Medical School Affiliations. She is the past president of Harvard Medical School Alumni Council, Baltimore City Medical Society, and the Maryland Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. Higginbotham received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and her medical degree from Harvard Medical School. She has published more than 100 peer reviewed articles and co-edited four textbooks in ophthalmology. She has broad research interests ranging from ocular pharmacology, and clinical trials to health disparities and policy. As the daughter of a Tuskegee Airman, Mr. Luther Higginbotham (deceased), she is committed to applying her experience as an administrator, clinician, and a scientist to enhance the delivery of care for our Wounded Warriors and Veterans.