

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Dr. Roderic Pettigrew

PERSON

Pettigrew, Roderic

Alternative Names: Dr. Roderic Pettigrew;

Life Dates: March 26, 1951-

Place of Birth: Albany, Georgia, USA

Residence: Sugar Land, TX

Work: Houston, TX

Occupations: Medical Scientist

Biographical Note

Medical scientist Dr. Roderic I. Pettigrew was born on March 26, 1951 in Albany, Georgia to Edwina Phinazee and Dr. Cleveland William Pettigrew. Pettigrew received his M.S. degree in nuclear science and engineering from Morehouse College in 1972, his M.S. degree in nuclear science and engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1972, his Ph.D. degree in applied radiation physics from the Massachusetts Institutes of Technology in 1977, and his M.D. degree from the University of Miami School of Medicine in 1979.

In 1980, Pettigrew interned and completed his residency at Emory University. He did an additional residency in nuclear medicine at the University of California, San Diego. In 1983, Pettigrew joined Picker International as a clinical research scientist, where he developed the company's first commercial cardiac imaging technology. In 1984, he joined Emory University School of Medicine as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Fellow where his work centered on non-invasive cardiac imaging. Pettigrew was promoted to associate professor of radiology with tenure in 1990, professor of radiology in 1996, and professor of cardiology in 2000. He also served as director of the Frederik Philips Magnetic Resonance Research Center in 1994 and director of the Emory Center for MR Research in 1999. Pettigrew's work at Emory University centered around four-dimensional imaging of the cardiovascular system using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Pettigrew was appointed founding director of the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in 2002. During his tenure, Pettigrew served on numerous NIH committees, including the ethics advisory committee from 2005 to 2015, the director's steering committee from 2006 to 2014, as chair of the information and technology working

group from 2007 to 2013, and the scientific management review board from 2011 to 2016. From 2012 to 2014, Pettigrew served as acting chief officer for scientific workforce diversity at the National Institutes of Health. In 2017, he stepped down as director of NIBIB to serve as chief executive officer of EnHealth and executive dean for EnMed at Texas A&M University.

Pettigrew served on numerous boards, including the American Heart Association from 1994 to 2000 and the Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance from 1998 to 2001. In 2003, he was elected chair of the National Advisory Council on Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering.

Pettigrew was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2007, and to the National Academy of Engineering in 2010. In 2012, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed a resolution in honor of Pettigrew's accomplishments with the NIBIB; and, in 2016, he was elected to the Foreign Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences India (NASI). His awards include the Pierre Galletti Award from the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering in 2013, the Inaugural Gold Medal Award from the Academy of Radiology Research in 2014, and the Gold Medal from the Radiological Society of North America in 2017.

Dr. Roderic I. Pettigrew was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on December 19, 2019.

Related Entries

Monroe Comprehensive High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Morehouse College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.S.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.S.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Ph.D.

University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.D.

Emory University School of Medicine [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1979 to 1981]

Resident, Internal Medicine

University of California, San Diego School of Medicine [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1981 to 1983]

Intern, Nuclear Medicine

Picker International, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 198307 to 198410]

Clinical Research Scientist

Emory University School of Medicine [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1984 to 1990]

Assistant Professor of Radiology

Emory University Hospital [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1984 to 2002]

Attending Physician, Nuclear Radiology

Grady Memorial Hospital [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1984 to 2002]

Attending Physician, Nuclear Radiology

Crawford Long Hospital [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1984 to 2002]

Attending Physician, Nuclear Radiology

Emory University School of Medicine [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1990 to 1996]

Associate Professor of Radiology with Tenure

Frederick Philips MR Research Center [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1994 to ?]

Director

Georgia Institute of Technology [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1995 to 1996]

Associate Professor of Bioengineering

Emory University School of Medicine [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1996 to 2002]

Professor of Radiology

Georgia Institute of Technology [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1996 to 2002]

Professor of Bioengineering

Emory University School of Medicine [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2000 to 2002]

Professor of Medicine (Cardiology)

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2002 to 2017]

Founding Director

National Institutes of Health [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2012 to 2014]

Acting Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity

Texas A&M University, EnHealth [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2017 to ?]

Chief Executive Officer

Texas A&M University, EnMed [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 2017 to ?]

Executive Dean

Emory Center for MR Research [EMPLOYEEOf]
[from 1999 to ?]

Director

International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine [MEMBEROf]
[from 1989 to 1992]

Board Member

National Institutes of Health [MEMBEROf]
[from 1992 to 2001]

Charter member, Diagnostic Radiology Study Section

American Heart Association [MEMBEROf]
[from 1994 to 2000]

Executive Committee, Cardiovascular Radiology Council

Journal Magnetic Resonance Imaging [MEMBEROf]
[from 1996 to 1996]

Associate Editor

Magnetic Resonance in Medicine [MEMBEROf]
[from 1996 to 1996]

Editorial Board Member

Investigative Radiology [MEMBEROf]
[from 1997 to 1997]

Editorial Board Member

Journal of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance [MEMBEROf]
[from 1999 to 2000]

Editorial Board Member

Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance [MEMBEROf]
[from 1998 to 2001]

Board Member

National Institutes of Health [MEMBEROf]
[from 2000 to 2001]

Chairperson, Diagnostic Radiology Study Section

International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine [MEMBEROF]
[from 2000 to 2000]

Chair, Scientific Program, Cardiac Imaging Study Group, Annual Meeting

Association of Black Cardiologists [MEMBEROF]
[from 2001 to 2001]

Board Member

National Academy of Engineering [MEMBEROF]
[from 2013 to 2016]

Member, Awards Committee

National Advisory Council on Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering [MEMBEROF]
[from 2003 to ?]

Chair

Governing Body of U.S. - India Science and Technology Forum [MEMBEROF]
[from 2010 to ?]

Appointed Member

Korean Biomedical Research Institute [MEMBEROF]
[from 2011 to ?]

Chair, International Advisory Committee

University of Leiden Medical Center [MEMBEROF]
[from 2011 to ?]

Member, International Review Board

National Academy of Engineering [MEMBEROF]
[from 2013 to 2013]

Chair, Bioengineering Peer Committee

National Academy of Engineering [MEMBEROF]
[from 2014 to 2017]

Member, Committee on Membership

Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact [MEMBEROF]
[from 2018 to ?]

Member, External Advisory Board

Rescuing the Biomedical Research Enterprise [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Member, National Advisory Committee

