# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers ® Video Oral History with Dr. Donald E. Wilson

### Overview of the Collection

**Repository:** The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616

info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com

Creator: Wilson, Donald E., 1936-

Title: The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson,

**Dates:** January 25, 2020

Bulk Dates: 2020

**Physical Description:** 13 uncompressed MOV digital video files (6:01:55).

**Abstract:** Physician and academic administrator Dr. Donald E. Wilson (1936-) became the first

African American dean of a non-minority medical school upon being named dean of the University of Maryland, Baltimore School of Medicine in 1991. Wilson was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on January 25, 2020, in Washington, District of Columbia. This

collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.

**Identification:** A2020 004

**Language:** The interview and records are in English.

## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Physician and academic administrator Dr. Donald E. Wilson born on August 28, 1936 in Worcester, Massachusetts to Rivers and Licine Wilson. He attended Dix Street Preparatory School and North High School in Worcester, Massachusetts. Wilson then attended Harvard University and received his B.A. degree in biology in 1958. He later received his M.D. degree from Tufts University School of Medicine in 1962.

Wilson completed his residency at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Boston; and, in 1964, worked as the senior medical resident in gastroenterology. Wilson then became the chief resident and research fellow at Lemuel Shattuck Hospital in 1965. In 1966, after being drafted into the United States Air Force and stationed in Omaha, Nebraska, he served as a medical consultant for the V.A. Hospital as well as the chief of internal medicine while chairing the department of medicine at Ehrling Bergquist U.S.A.F. Hospital. Wilson was discharged in 1968, and subsequently moved to New York and joined the Brooklyn Cumberland Medical Center as associate chief of gastroenterology. During this time, he also served as an instructor and attending physician at the State University of New York Hospital, Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn. In 1971, Wilson was hired by the University of Illinois as assistant professor and director of the division of gastroenterology. By 1975, he was promoted to full professor. In 1980, Wilson returned to SUNY Downstate Medical Center as professor and chairman of the department of medicine. In 1991, he became dean of the University of Maryland at Baltimore School of Medicine, making him the first African American to be dean of a non-minority medical school in the United States. He served there until 2006 when he retired. In 2008, Wilson briefly came out of retirement to serve as senior vice president for health sciences at Howard University until 2010.

Wilson has been elected to membership in the Association of American Physicians, the American Clinical and Climatological Association, and the National Academy of Medicine (formerly Institute of Medicine). He is also a master of the American College of Physicians and has served on many advisory boards including as chairman of the Association of American Medical Colleges and a director of the National Institutes of Health.

Wilson has received numerous awards throughout his career, including the Frederick Douglass Award from the University System of Maryland Board of Regents, being named *Baltimore Magazine*'s 2007 Baltimorean of the Year, and the Abraham Flexner Award from the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Wilson lives in Maryland with his wife, Patricia. He has four children.

Dr. Donald E. Wilson was interviewed by *The HistoryMarkers* on January 25, 2020.

## **Scope and Content**

This life oral history interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson was conducted by Larry Crowe on January 25, 2020, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 13 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Physician and academic administrator Dr. Donald E. Wilson (1936-) became the first African American dean of a non-minority medical school upon being named dean of the University of Maryland, Baltimore School of Medicine in 1991.

### Restrictions

#### **Restrictions on Access**

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

#### **Restrictions on Use**

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

## **Related Material**

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

#### Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

#### Persons:

Wilson, Donald E., 1936-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

## Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Wilson, Donald E., 1936---Interviews

## **Organizations:**

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

## **Occupations:**

Physician

## **HistoryMakers® Category:**

MedicalMakers

### **Administrative Information**

## **Custodial History**

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

#### **Preferred Citation**

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, January 25, 2020. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

## **Processing Information**

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

# Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

# **Detailed Description of the Collection**

## Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_001, TRT: 1:29:27?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:35?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_003, TRT: 3:28:59?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_004, TRT: 4:29:28?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_005, TRT: 5:28:30?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_006, TRT: 6:30:16?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_007, TRT: 7:28:45?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_008, TRT: 8:29:34?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_009, TRT: 9:30:49?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_010, TRT: 10:28:32?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_011, TRT: 11:28:46?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_012, TRT: 12:28:30?

Video Oral History Interview with Dr. Donald E. Wilson, Section A2020\_004\_001\_013, TRT: 13:11:44?