

Duncan Clark Awardee

S. Edwards Dismuke, MD, MSPH

2009

S. Edwards Dismuke, MD, MSPH is Dean of the University of Kansas School of Medicine—Wichita, a regional medical school campus in Wichita. He is a professor of Preventive Medicine/Public Health and of Internal Medicine. In 1991, Dr. Dismuke became Professor and Chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine at the University of Kansas in both Kansas City and Wichita. He built the department from 5 faculty to over 30 on two campuses with annual extramural funding of over \$3 million. He has helped lead an effort to develop a Statewide MPH degree program which is accredited by the Council on Education in Public Health. The program is ranked among the best graduate MPH programs in community health in the country by US News and World Report magazine.



In Wichita, Kansas, Dr. Dismuke has led a Community Health Assessment Process and developed a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) for the community. He has also helped the community develop an award winning program for providing medical care to the uninsured through physician volunteers (500+) and other donated services (hospital care, pharmacy service, etc). (This project won the national Mary Gates Award for United Way of America). From October 1998 until July 2001, he was the Kansas Health Foundation Distinguished Professor in Public Health.

From July 2001 until September 2008, Dr. Dismuke was the dean of the regional medical school campus in Wichita, Kansas. The school educates 110 medical students in their third and fourth years of school (but now has all four years). Wichita also oversees 14 residency programs and 270 residents and has a nationally ranked MPH degree program. The campus has an annual budget of >\$60 million per year and employs 600 people.

Dr Dismuke spent 14 years on the faculty of the College of Medicine at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, Tennessee in the departments of preventive medicine and internal medicine. He directed the courses in epidemiology, biostatistics, behavioral science and public health for medical students. Practicing general internal medicine, preventive medicine and preventive cardiology half time he also taught medical students in the hospital and in the clinic. His research focused on health promotion/disease prevention and preventive cardiology. Among other research activities he was heavily involved in NIH risk factor reduction clinical trials with his colleagues, Bill Applegate, Steve Miller and Robert Klesges. He also obtained a \$3 M grant from the WK Kellogg foundation to change the balance of medical education to give significant weight to health promotion/disease prevention.

After college at Brown University, Dr. Dismuke completed medical school at the University of Tennessee, Memphis. After four years in an internal medicine residency in Memphis, he spent two years as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, where he also obtained a master's degree in epidemiology. He completed a five year NIH Career Development Award in Preventive Cardiology. For 10 years, he served as chair of the department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health on the Kansas City and Wichita campuses. He also held the position of Kansas Health Foundation Distinguished Endowed Professor of Public Health. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Kansas in 1991, he spent 13 years on the faculty at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine in Memphis, Tennessee.