

Duncan Clark Awardee

Daniel S. Blumenthal, MD, MPH

2010

Daniel Blumenthal received his MD from the University of Chicago and his MPH from Emory University. He completed a pediatric residency at Charity Hospital of New Orleans on the Tulane Division. In 1969-70, he served as a VISTA volunteer physician – the only one in the country at the time – in Lee County Arkansas, combining medicine with civil rights activity (for which he received the “Outstanding VISTA Volunteer of the 1960s” award). He served as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer at CDC and as an Assistant Professor at the Emory University School of Medicine. He was appointed Chair of the Morehouse School of Medicine Department of Community Health and Preventive Medicine in 1984, and stepped down in 2009. He continues as Associate Dean for Community Health.



At the time he was appointed Chair, the department had five full-time faculty and no research program. In the ensuing 25 years, he led the development of a department that now houses some 40 full-time faculty. While it is clear that these are not the accomplishments of a single individual, Blumenthal recruited most of the department’s faculty leaders and he is or has served as the principal investigator on many of the grants that supported the development of the department. During his 25 years as Department Chair, he has secured approximately \$50 million (direct cost) in competitive peer-reviewed grants. He has authored or co-authored over 40 peer-reviewed journal articles and a dozen book chapters, co-edited 3 books, and written a large number of commentaries, letters to the editor, and other publications.

In 1992-93, he served as President of the Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine. Other features of Dr. Blumenthal’s career include a year as Fulton County (Atlanta) Health Officer in 1996 – the year that Atlanta hosted the Olympics – and service in the WHO Smallpox Eradication Campaign in India and Somalia.