

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Warren Wesley Buck

PERSON

Buck, Warren , 1946-

**Alternative Names:** Buck, Warren , 1946-

**Life Dates:** February 16, 1946-

**Place of Birth:** Washington, D.C.

**Residence:** Snohomish, WA

**Occupations:** Physicist

## Biographical Note

Physicist Warren Wesley Buck, III was born on February 16, 1946 to Warren W. Buck, Jr. and Mildred G. Buck in Washington, D.C. He was raised in Washington, D.C. and graduated from Spingarn High School in 1963. After graduating from Morgan State University in 1968 with his B.S. degree in mathematics, Buck enrolled at the College of William and Mary where he received his M.S. degree in experimental and theoretical plasma physics in 1970 and his Ph.D. degree in theoretical relativistic nuclear physics in 1976.

Throughout his career, Buck has continued to do research in physics and has published numerous papers in academic journals. Most of his research interests focused on nuclear and subatomic particles, including studies of the interactions between particles and anti-particles and the nature of mesons and the quark model. Buck joined the faculty of Hampton University in 1984 after sailing on his motorless boat for three consecutive years from Massachusetts to the Bahamas. He became a full professor at Hampton University in 1989. He also helped create the Ph.D. program in physics, which was the first Ph.D. degree program at Hampton University. Buck was a member of the team that

established the science program at the Department of Energy's Jefferson Lab in Newport News, Virginia. He was also the founding director of the Nuclear/High Energy Physics Research Center of Excellence at Hampton University. In 1999, Buck was appointed chancellor and dean of the University of Washington, Bothell. He served in the position for six years. During his term, the University of Washington, Bothell became a four-year institution, and its new permanent campus was opened in the fall of 2000. Buck is also a painter, blending humanistic and physical elements in his art.

Buck has been recognized for his work as an educator and a researcher, being elected to membership in the American Physical Society (APS) and creating the popular Hampton University Graduate Studies (HUGS) summer school for nuclear physics graduate students worldwide. Buck was given the Hulon Willis Association Impact Award for his work within the African American community at the College of William and Mary. In 2001, Buck was named a "Giant in Science," by the Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network. Buck has served on many advisory boards and committees, including the Committee on Education of the American Physical Society. He has also served on the board of directors of the Pacific Science Center. Buck married Cate Buck in 2006.

Warren Buck was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on March 29, 2013.

## Related Entries

**Buck, Jr., Warren Wesley** [CHILD OF]  
Father

**Buck, Buelah Casey** [GRANDCHILD OF]  
Paternal Grandmother

**George, Josephine** [GRANDCHILD OF]  
Maternal Grandmother

**George, Isaac** [GRANDCHILD OF]  
Maternal Grandfather

**Buck, Lawrence William** [SIBLING OF]  
Brother

**Buck, Sr., Warren Wesley** [GRANDCHILD OF]  
Paternal Grandfather

**Buck, Mildred George** [CHILD OF]  
Mother

**Spingarn Senior High School** [STUDENT OF]  
[from ? to 1963-06]

## **Diploma**

**Lincoln University** [STUDENTOF]

**Morgan State University** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to 1968-06]

## **B.S.**

**Johns Hopkins University** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to 1968]

**The College of William & Mary** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to 1970-06]

## **M.S.**

**The College of William & Mary** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to 1976-08]

## **Ph.D.**

**The State University of New York** [EMPLOYEEOF]

**Post-Doctoral, Nuclear Physics Theory Group**

**Michigan State University** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1992-07 to 1992-07]

## **Visiting Professor**

**The College of William and Mary** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1984-01 to 1984-08]

## **Visiting Assistant Professor of Physics**

**Hampton University** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1989-01 to 1991]

## **Nuclear Physics Group Leader**

**CEBAF/Jefferson Lab** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1989-10 to 1999-07]

## **Theory Group Member**

**Bowie State College** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1970 to 1971]

## **Instructor of Mathematics**

**Los Alamos National Laboratory** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1977 to 1980]

**Visiting Staff Member**

**Hampton University** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1985 to 1999-07]

**Liaison with The Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator Facility**

**CEBAF/Jefferson Lab** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1992 to 1999]

**Advisor to Lab Director**

**University of Washington, Bothell** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 2005-02 to 2005-06-30]

**Chancellor**

**Morehouse College** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1996-02-05 to 1996-02-17]

**Visiting Professor of Physics**

**The Gutenberg University** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1996-03-06 to 1996-05-04]

**Visiting Professor of Physics**

**University of Washington, Bothell** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 2009-06 to ?]

**Professor of Physics**

**University of Washington, Bothell** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 2005-07-01 to ?]

**Chancellor Emeritus**

**Science and Technology Program** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 2009-07-15 to 2009-12-31]

**Acting Director**

**NASA Langley Research Center** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1985-07 to 1985-08]

**Physicist, Space Technology Branch**

**Hampton University** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1984-08 to 1989-08-27]

**Associate Professor of Physics**

**Hampton University** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1989-08-28 to 1999-06]

**Professor of Physics**

**CEBAF** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1995-09-01 to 1996-03-01]

**Staff Scientist**

**University of Washington, Bothell** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2006-09-15 to ?]

**Professor of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences**

**University of Washington, Seattle** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2006-09-15 to ?]

**Adjunct Professor of Physics**

**University of Paris** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1979-09 to 1980-09]

**Research Staff**

**Hampton University** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1991-09 to 1995-09]

**Director of the Nuclear/High Energy Physics Research Center of Excellence**

**Hampton University** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1996-09 to 1999-06]

**Director of the Nuclear/High Energy Physics Research Center of Excellence**

**John Hopkins University** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1968 to 1968]

**Student Researcher, Mechanical Engineering**

**American Physical Society** [MEMBEROF]

**Fellow and Life Member**

**National Society of Black Physicists** [MEMBEROF]

**The New York Academy of Sciences** [MEMBEROF]

**American Association for the Advancement of Science** [MEMBEROF]

