

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Dr. James Gavin, III

PERSON

Gavin, James R., 1945-

Alternative Names: Dr. James Gavin, III;

Life Dates: November 23, 1945-

Place of Birth: Mobile, Alabama, USA

Residence: Fayetteville, GA

Work: Jonesboro, GA

Occupations: Healthcare Executive; Chief Executive Officer

Biographical Note

Researcher and medical school president Dr. James R. Gavin III was born on November 23, 1945, in Mobile, Alabama. Gavin attended Livingstone College, graduating magna cum laude in 1966. From there he attended Emory University in Atlanta, earning a Ph.D. in biochemistry in 1970 and earned his M.D. from Duke University in 1975.

Gavin's impressive career in the healthcare industry began in 1971, when he went to work as a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Public Health Service, a position he held until 1973. Today, he still serves as a reserve officer. After earning his M.D., Gavin worked as a pathologist at Duke University Hospital. The Washington University School of Medicine hired Gavin in 1979, where he served as an associate professor of medicine until 1986. After Washington University, Gavin went to the University of Oklahoma, where he worked on diabetes research. In 1991, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) hired Gavin as its senior scientific officer, and in 2000, he was promoted to the director of HHMI-National Institutes of Health Research Scholars Program. Morehouse College School of Medicine named Gavin its president in 2002.

Gavin is an active member of numerous organizations, having served as president of the American Diabetes Association and on the editorial board of The American Journal of Physiology. He is a recipient of the Emory University Medal for Distinguished Achievement, the Banting Medal for Distinguished Service from the American Diabetes Association and the Internist of the Year from the National Medical Association. He currently serves on the board of directors of Baxter International and is outspoken in his support of affirmative action. Gavin and his wife of thirty-two years, Annie, have two sons.

Related Entries

W H Council Traditional School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Central High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Dunbar Creative Performing Arts [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Livingstone College [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Duke University School of Medicine [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Emory University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Ph.D.

Duke University Hospital [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 197308 to 197507]

Pathologist

United States Public Health Service [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1965 to 1976]

Lieutenant Commander

Washington University in St. Louis [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1983 to 1996]

Associate Professor

University of Oklahoma [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1986 to 1991]

Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1991 to 2000]

Senior Scientific Officer

Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2000 to 2002]

Director

Morehouse College School of Medicine [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2002 to ?]

President

