Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Robert Dottin

Dottin, Robert Philip, 1943-

**Alternative Names:** Robert Dottin;

**Life Dates:** May 5, 1943-

**Place of Birth:** Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

**Residence:** Irvington, NY

**Work:** New York, NY

**Occupations:** Biologist;

**Biographical Note**

Biologist and research director Robert Dottin was born in Trinidad in 1943. He graduated from St. Mary’s College in 1970 with his B.S. degree in biology. Dottin went on to earn his M.S. degree in medical biophysics in 1972 and his Ph.D. in medical genetics in 1974 from the University of Toronto. Upon graduation, Dottin was awarded the Centennial Fellowship to pursue post-doctoral research at the
Dottin served as a professor at the Johns Hopkins University, and has been a visiting professor at the University of Copenhagen, Pasteur Institute in Paris, Karlova University in Prague and Oxford University. Dottin then became a full professor at Hunter College of the City University of New York. His teaching experience includes courses in bioinformatics, genetics and developmental biology, all of which utilize internet and digital technology to promote interactive learning. In addition, Dottin has developed many strategies that promote the inclusion of under-represented groups in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) research as well as addressing health disparities. Dottin is the founder of the “JustGarciaHill” website – a internet-based community of more than four-thousand minorities in science. Dottin scholarship is published in journals such as the Journal of Biological Chemistry and Ethnicity and Disease.

From 1988 to 1986, Dottin served as the program coordinator for the Center for the Study of Gene Structure and Function (Gene Center) at Hunter College. In 1998, he was appointed as the director of the Gene Center. As director, Dottin increased the productivity, the level of funding, and the diversity of the faculty and staff within the organization. He steered the research at the Gene Center towards a “translational research” agenda and managed equal partnership of the Gene Center in the Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) with the Weill Cornell Medical Center, the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and the Hospital for Special Surgery. He is the principal investigator for the CTSC sub-award to Hunter College, and he is co-principal investigator on T3 Translational Research Network pilot projects to use an interactive videoconferencing platform to prevent chronic diseases, infectious diseases, and environmental toxicity.
Robert Dottin was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on March 28, 2013.

Related Entries

University of Toronto [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.S.

University of Toronto [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Ph.D.

University of Toronto [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.S.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1974 to 1976]

Post-Doctoral Centennial Fellowship

John Hopkins University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1976 to 1986]

Associate Professor, Biology

City University of New York [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1986 to 1988]

Professor of Biology

Hunter College [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1988 to 1998]

Program Coordinator, Center for Study of Gene Structure and Function

Hunter College [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1998 to ?]

Director, Center for Study of Gene Structure