
Patricia Matthews-Juarez, PhD.

Project Director, Vice President Office of Faculty Affairs and Development; Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine; Director, Research Training Core, Health Disparities Research Center of Excellence at Meharry Medical College



Dr. Matthews-Juarez was the founding associate vice president for the Office of Faculty Affairs and Development at Meharry Medical College, and prior to that she served as the founding associate dean for Faculty Affairs and Development in the College of Medicine at Meharry. Dr. Matthews-Juarez has extensive experience in medical education, research training, administration and management. She served as the Administrator for the Meharry-Morehouse-Drew Consortium Cancer Center, co-authored the first national grant for the National Black Leadership Initiative on Cancer. She has served on several federal, state, and local boards and committees. She currently serves as national chair of the Intercultural Cancer Council and chair of the Environmental Health Information Outreach Program/National Library of Medicine. She is a fellow of the National Primary Care Access and the Community-based Medical Education Committees of the Coastal Research Group, Granite Bay, California. She continues to be invited to serve on academic committees focusing on primary care training and medical education by national organizations and agencies.

Her academic work includes significant contributions to the development of a diverse and culturally competent primary care workforce who stay and work in medically underserved communities across the United States. She has also contributed to the development of national cadre of junior faculty in health disparities research. Currently, she participates in collaborative transdisciplinary and translational teams of scientists interested in analyzing secondary data sets, using GIS, combinatorial and spatio-temporal analytics to explore health disparities and the role of epigenetics in chronic diseases and health disparities. As a social behavior scientist, she is contributing to a new way of thinking about how to address and eliminate health disparities through understanding the impact of environment on genes and individuals living in vulnerable communities from public health, environmental health, and community engagement perspectives.