

Patricia Matthews-Juarez, PhD

Patricia Matthews-Juarez, PhD, Vice President, and Professor, has extensive experience in medical education, research training, administration and management. She was the founding associate vice-president for the Office of Faculty Affairs and Development at Meharry Medical College, and before that served as the founding associate dean for Faculty Affairs and Development in the College of Medicine at Meharry. 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 was the founding director of the Research Center on Health Disparities, Equity, and the Exposome, University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, Tennessee and Professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine.

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.

Dr. Matthews-Juarez is published in the areas of cultural competency, environmental health disparities, and African American women and breast cancer. In addition to her publications, she has published a commissioned study on Black Schools and HRSA entitled: An Assessment of historically Black medical schools' participation in HRSA; and two pocket guides for health professionals entitled: Cultural Competence in Cancer Care, *A Health Professional's Passport* for the US Department of Health and Human Services/Health Resources and Services Administration.

She has served on several federal, state, and local boards and committees. She 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.

Dr. Matthews-Juarez has received several prestigious awards among them are the Dorothy I. Height Award for Community Leadership/Baylor College of Medicine, the Lifetime Achievement Award/Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, the Garon Gammons' Humanitarian Award/Martin Luther King/Drew Medical Center, Los Angeles, California and the Zeta Phi Beta Distinguished Women Award for Excellence, Memphis, Tennessee.

She holds a BA degree in psychology from Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee; a MSW degree from the School of Social Work, New York University, New York, New York; and the PhD in social policy from Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts.

Dr. Matthews Juarez is married to Paul D. Juarez, PhD and they have two married children, Erin Juarez Duran and Kristin Juarez Tapias.