



# SAMUEL P. MARTIN III, MD MEMORIAL Lecture

## In Pursuit of Equity

*Race, Novel Drugs, and Health in the U.S.*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2021**

12:00–1:00 p.m. ET

**PRESENTED BY**

**Utibe R. Essien, MD, MPH**

*Co-sponsored by Penn LDI, the Division of General Internal Medicine, the National Clinician Scholars Program, and the Penn Master of Science in Health Policy Research Program.*



### ABOUT THE SPEAKER

#### **UTIBE R. ESSIEN, MD, MPH**

Dr. Essien is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh, and a general internist and health disparities researcher in the VA Pittsburgh Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion. His research focuses on racial and ethnic disparities in the use of novel therapeutics in the management of chronic diseases including atrial fibrillation. Dr. Essien has recently applied this research framework to the COVID-19 pandemic, rapidly becoming an expert in the health disparities that are disproportionately affecting minority communities with COVID-19.

Dr. Essien's work has been featured in *JAMA* and the *NEJM*, and he has been interviewed by a wide range of media outlets, including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *NPR*. Dr. Essien's leadership in advancing health equity during COVID-19 led him to be named among the "Top 50 Experts to Trust During a Pandemic" by *Medium*, and he was recently recognized by *Business Insider* as one of "30 Leaders under 40 Transforming Healthcare."

Dr. Essien earned his medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City and his Masters of Public Health degree from the Harvard School of Public Health. He completed residency and a research fellowship in Internal Medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

### PROGRAM

#### **WELCOME REMARKS**

**Rachel M. Werner, MD, PhD**, Executive Director, Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics; Robert D. Eilers Professor, Medicine and Health Care Management, Perelman School of Medicine and the Wharton School

#### **INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER**

**Judith Long, MD**, Chief, Division of General Internal Medicine, and Sol Katz Professor of Medicine, Perelman School of Medicine; Co-Director, Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion, Philadelphia VA Medical Center

#### **LECTURE**

**Utibe R. Essien, MD, MPH**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh, and General Internist and Health Disparities Researcher, VA Pittsburgh Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion

#### **AUDIENCE Q&A**



**Penn LDI**

LEONARD DAVIS INSTITUTE of HEALTH ECONOMICS



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## ABOUT SAMUEL P. MARTIN, III, MD

Dr. Martin joined the Penn faculty in 1970 after a distinguished academic career at Duke University, where he was a Markle Scholar and later a professor, and at the University of Florida at Gainesville, where he was the School of Medicine's first chair and subsequently Provost for Health Affairs. At the age of 39, he created Duke's residency program. He built the University of Florida's School of Medicine, and while there was the first to create the hospital ward manager and merge the medical chart, putting doctors' and nurses' notes on the same page.

Dr. Martin spent more than a quarter of a century at Penn, where he championed innovative programs and careers for students in health, management, and social sciences. He was founding director of both the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars Program for young physicians and the Dana Scholars Program for medical students. He helped establish the MBA Program in Health Care Management department at the Wharton School and developed the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics into a major health services research entity. In the late 1970s, with his wife Dorothy, he envisioned and helped launch Penn's first thematic college house: The Ware College House for Health and Society. It was in the close circle of these premier programs at Penn that Martin made perhaps his greatest and most cherished contribution as a mentor for an entire generation of physician leaders in academic medicine and public policy.

It is a little-known fact that most of the world's first doctors to receive MBAs in the 1970s and 1980s did so at the University of Pennsylvania under Martin's leadership and vision. Considered one of the last of the post-World War II generation of great leaders in American medicine, Martin physically and spiritually dominated the contemporary health care scene at Penn, as well as throughout the nation and world. In memory of this extraordinary leader and mentor, this lecture is given by a medical scholar or health care leader whose work exemplifies Martin's influence in the field. Dr. Martin himself believed that American medicine had underachieved in harnessing its vast resources to serve the health care needs of the nation. He devoted his entire career to addressing how his chosen profession might do a better job of it.

*This lecture honors  
the legacy of a man  
whose vision was  
to develop a new  
breed of leaders and  
thinkers in American  
medicine—men  
and women whose  
training in more than  
the clinical practice of  
medicine would equip  
them with new ways of  
looking at the world.*