

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Wayne Bowen

PERSON

Bowen, Wayne Darrell, 1952-

Alternative Names: Wayne Bowen;

Life Dates: November 11, 1952-

Residence: Cumberland, Rhode Island

Work: Providence, Rhode Island

Occupations: Biologist

Biographical Note

Biology and Pharmacology Professor Wayne Darrell Bowen was born to (mother) and (father) in 1952. As a child, Bowen knew early on that he was interested in pursuing a career in science, and indeed, he went on to earn his B.S. degree in Chemistry from Morgan State College, in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1974. Bowen then pursued a graduate degree with a major in biochemistry and a minor in neuropharmacology, graduating from Cornell University with his Ph.D. degree after completing a thesis on the biochemical process of cholesterol synthesis. Bowen went on to do his postdoctoral work from 1980 to 1983 at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), a research institute of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) located in Bethesda, Maryland, where his work centered on opiate receptor biochemistry. From 1983 to 1991 Bowen taught courses in endocrinology, introductory biology, and biochemistry at Brown University as an Assistant Professor of Biology. During his time at Brown, Bowen also founded the macromolecular biochemistry facility on campus, which provided campus and surrounding medical facilities with synthetic peptide compounds. From 1991 until 2004, Bowen served as tenured chief of the Unit on Receptor Biochemistry and Pharmacology at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases in Bethesda, Maryland, working in the Drug Design and Synthesis Section of the Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry. During his time as Chief, Bowen continued to lecture for undergraduate students at Brown University, serving as both Adjunct Professor of Molecular Biology, Cell Biology, and Biochemistry as well as Adjunct Professor of Neuroscience. During a corresponding period, from 1999 to 2004, Bowen also chaired the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology of the NIH Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences Graduate School. In 2004, Bowen returned to the task of educating future scientists as a full-time Professor of Biology at Brown University, teaching in the Department of Molecular Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biotechnology. Bowen was then appointed Chair of his department in 2007. His

research at Brown focuses on the potential for developing new treatments for disease through the understanding of sigma receptors, specifically treatment for neurological disorders and cancer. Bowen has served as President of the Black Scientists Association at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in 2001 and is a member of the Society for Neuroscience, the American Association for Cancer Research, and the International Brain Research Organization/World Federation of Neuroscientists. He has also received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Student and Teacher Internship Program at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and NIH as well as an Award of Appreciation from the Science and Engineering Fair at Morgan State University. In addition, he was also awarded a Certificate of Recognition from the NIH Speakers Bureau and a Special Recognition Award from the Undergraduate Scholarship Program at NIH, as well as numerous research grants.

Related Entries

Morgan State University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

B.S.

Cornell University [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Ph.D. degree in biochemistry

Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson Elementary [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

Baltimore City College [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

William H. Lemmel Middle [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

[EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1977 to ?]

[EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1988 to ?]

Smith, Kline and French [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1948 to ?]

Medical Chemist

Cornell University [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1975 to 1976]

Teaching Assistant

National Institute of Mental Health (NIH) [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1995 to ?]

NIH Postdoctoral Staff Fellow

Brown University [EMPLOYEEOf]

[from 1988 to ?]

Professor and Chair

National Institute of Health (NIH) [EMPLOYEEOf]

[from 199109 to 200409]

Chief, Unit on Receptor Biochemistry and Pharmacology

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Black Scientists Association [MEMBEROf]

[from 1993 to 1998]

President

American Association for Cancer Research [MEMBEROf]

[from 1989 to ?]

Council Member - Minorities

International Brain Research Organization [MEMBEROf]

[from 2002 to ?]

Member

Society for Neuroscience [MEMBEROf]

[from 1988 to ?]

Member

American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) [MEMBEROf]

[from 1984 to ?]

Past member

International Narcotics Research Conference Member [MEMBEROf]

[from 2002 to ?]

Past member

New York Academy of Sciences [MEMBEROf]

[from 1992 to ?]

Past member

American Chemical Society (ACS) [MEMBEROf]

[from 1984 to ?]

Past member

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) [MEMBEROf]

[from 1989 to 1991]

Peer Review

Neuropharmacology and Neurochemistry Review Committee - NIMH/NIH [MEMBEROf]

[from 1992 to 1992]

