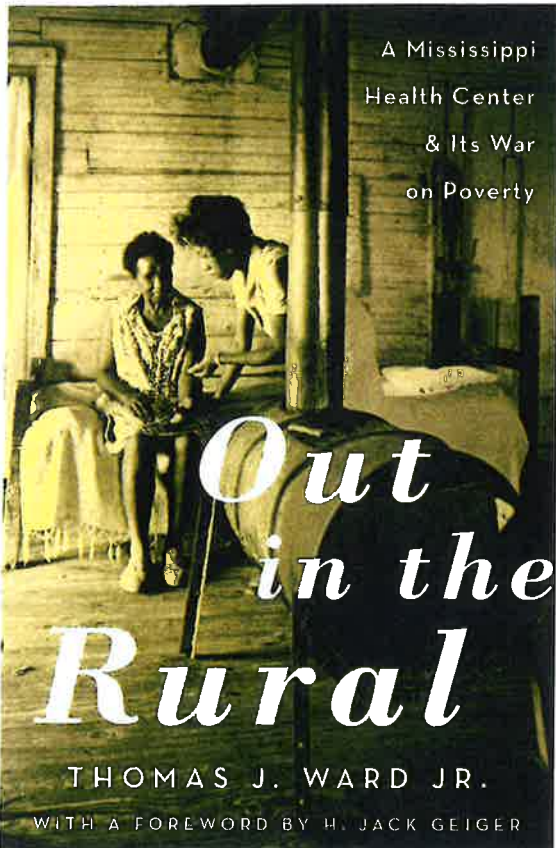


CUNY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

November 17, 2016



OUT IN THE RURAL:  
A MISSISSIPPI  
HEALTH CENTER &  
ITS WAR ON POVERTY

A GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH & HEALTH POLICY





# AGENDA

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## WELCOMING REMARKS

**Ayman El-Mohandes, MBBCh, MD, MPH**  
Dean, CUNY Graduate School of Public Health  
and Health Policy

**Feygele Jacobs**  
President and CEO, RCHN Community Health Foundation

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## AUTHOR'S PRESENTATION

**Thomas J. Ward, Jr, PhD**  
Professor and Chair, Department of History,  
Spring Hill College, Mobile, AL

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## ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

**H. Jack Geiger, MD, MSc, ScD (Hon)**  
Founder and Project Director of the Tufts-Delta  
Health Center, Arthur C. Logan Professor Emeritus,  
Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education

**Monica Sweeney, MD, MPH, FACP**  
Vice Dean for Global Engagement and Clinical Professor  
and Chair of the Department of Health Policy  
and Management in the School of Public Health at  
SUNY Downstate Medical Center

**Warria Esmond, MD**  
Medical Director, Settlement Health, New York, NY

**Daniel R. Hawkins, Jr**  
Sr. Vice President, Public Policy and Research,  
National Association of Community Health Centers

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## RECEPTION AND BOOK SIGNING

## GUEST OF HONOR & PANELIST



### **H. Jack Geiger, MD, MSc, ScD (Hon)**

Dr. Geiger is the Arthur C. Logan Professor Emeritus of Community Medicine, City University of New York Medical School. He has previously served as Professor and Chair of Community Medicine at Tufts University and SUNY-Stonybrook medical schools, and Visiting Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School.

His professional career has been devoted to the problems of health, poverty, and civil and human rights. In 1965, he initiated the community health center model in the U.S., combining primary care, public health interventions, and community development and empowerment initiatives, and he directed the first two centers, in the Mississippi Delta and urban Boston—the prototypes for what is now a national network providing comprehensive primary care to over 25 million low income people. He is a founding member and past president of two organizations awarded the Nobel Peace Prize: Physicians for Social Responsibility (1985) and Physicians for Human Rights (1998). He was a founding Member and the national program coordinator of the Medical Committee for Human Rights, a co-founder of one of the earliest chapters of CORE (the Congress of Racial Equality) and, over the seven decades beginning in 1942, the initiator of multiple campaigns to end racial segregation and discrimination in hospitals. He has also led missions to document war crimes and other human rights Violations in South Africa, the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Iraq, Serbia, Bosnia and Kosovo.

## AUTHOR



### Thomas J. Ward, Jr, PhD

Thomas J. Ward Jr. is professor and chair of the history department at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, where he teaches a variety of courses in American history. A native of Annapolis, Maryland, Dr. Ward received his BA at Hampden-Sydney College, his MA at Clemson University, and his doctorate at the University of Southern Mississippi. Before coming to Spring Hill College in 2007, Dr. Ward taught at Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Ward has written numerous articles on African-American history and the history of medicine in the American South. In 2003, the University of Arkansas Press published his first book, *Black Physicians in the Jim Crow South*. His most recent work, *Out in the Rural: A Mississippi Health Center and its War on Poverty* will be released by Oxford University Press in late 2016.

Dr. Ward is currently working on a book project on the marriage equality lawsuit in Alabama. He lives in Spanish Fort, Alabama, with his wife and three sons.

## PANELIST



### **Daniel R. Hawkins, Jr**

Dan Hawkins is Senior Vice-President for Public Policy and Research at the National Association of Community Health Centers, Inc. (NACHC), where he provides NACHC's membership with federal and state health-related policy research, analysis, advocacy, and leadership. Since Dan joined NACHC in 1981, federal support for health centers has grown from \$350 million to \$5.1 billion annually, and the number of people served by health centers has grown from 5 million to over 25 million. Prior to joining NACHC, Dan served as a VISTA volunteer, Director of a migrant and community health center located in south Texas, and as an assistant to HHS Secretary Joseph Califano during the Carter Administration. He has written numerous articles and monographs on health care issues, and has provided testimony before several Congressional Committees. Dan has lectured on health policy topics at the George Washington University and several other universities, and has been interviewed frequently by major newspapers and radio/television networks. He has been named one of America's most influential health policy makers.

## PANELIST



### **Monica Sweeney, MD, MPH, FACP**

Dr. Sweeney serves as vice dean for global engagement, clinical professor and chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management in the School of Public Health at SUNY Downstate Medical Center. During Dr. Sweeney's 17-year tenure as the vice president for Clinical Affairs at a Federally Qualified Health Center, she made the delivery of quality care and the reduction of health disparities top priorities. She also served as the president of the Clinical Directors Network and as president of the Medical Society of the County of Kings.

In the fight against HIV/AIDS, Dr. Sweeney's most recent position was as the assistant commissioner for the Bureau of HIV/AIDS (BHIV) Prevention and Control in the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. As commissioner she expanded and added many new initiatives, including a major expansion of HIV Testing and linkage to care. Her service on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS resulted in new initiatives to control the disease locally, nationally and globally.

Dr. Sweeney is the immediate past chair of the SUNY Downstate Council, and served on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA). She also served as co-chair of the Physician Advisory Council of the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute.

Dr. Sweeney is the recipient of numerous awards locally and nationally.

## PANELIST



### **Warria Esmond, MD**

Dr. Esmond has served as the Chief Medical Officer of Settlement Health since 2004. As a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), the organization is a safety net provider to the residents of the East Harlem community and beyond. Settlement Health provides culturally sensitive, high quality care to its patients – where 50% are best served in a language other than English and almost 28% are uninsured. As Chief Medical Officer, in addition to managing programs that benefit the patients of the center, Dr. Esmond continues to work on transforming clinical care in a patient centric, team based model. She has led the health center through EMR implementation, Joint Commission accreditation, Patient Centered Medical Home recognition and now DSRIP.

Prior to joining Settlement Health, Dr. Esmond spent 13 years with the North Shore-LIJ Health System, Glen Cove campus, as Director of Woman Care and as a clinical instructor for the Family Medicine Residency Program.

She is a graduate of Cornell University and Cornell University Medical College, (now known as the Weill Medical College of Cornell University). She completed an OB/GYN residency at The Brookdale Hospital Medical Center.



## REVIEW

### Publishers Weekly

*Out in the Rural: A Mississippi Health Center and Its War on Poverty*

Thomas J. Ward, Jr. Oxford Univ., \$34.95 (224p)  
ISBN 978-0-19-062462-0

Ward (*Black Physicians in the Jim Crow South*), chair of the history department at Spring Hill College (Ala.), celebrates the nation's first rural community health center and its groundbreaking mission to provide medical care and be "an instrument of social change" in the impoverished Mississippi Delta region. In this densely packed chronicle, Ward covers the growth of the Tufts-Delta Health Center from a small health clinic in 1967—opening amid skepticism from both black and white communities—to its unique role as a medical center and organizer of programs addressing rampant malnutrition, poor maternal and child healthcare, unsafe drinking water and sewage disposal, and hunger. Woven throughout are vivid portraits of the clinic's founders, including H. Jack Geiger, the "father of community health"; community organizer John Hatch; environmental services director Andrew James; and farm expert L.C. Dorsey. Ward argues that the center's true measure of success is its enduring legacy as one of the first of "more than 1,200 community health centers in the U.S." Ward shows that "in both practical and symbolic terms, the Tufts-Delta Health Center was a radical assault on both the medical and social status quo"—and that story is as urgent today as it was a half century ago. (Dec.)

<http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-19-062462-0>



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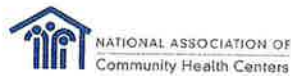
### **Milken Institute School of Public Health**

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

**The Geiger Gibson Program in Community Health Policy** is a special initiative of Milken Institute School of Public Health at the George Washington University. Named after Drs. H. Jack Geiger and Count Gibson, pioneers in community health practice and tireless advocates for civil and human rights, the program aims to develop the next generation of community health leaders. [publichealth.gwu.edu/projects/geiger-gibson-program-community-health-policy](http://publichealth.gwu.edu/projects/geiger-gibson-program-community-health-policy)



**The RCHN Community Health Foundation** is a not-for-profit foundation established to support community health centers through strategic investment, outreach, education, and cutting-edge health policy research. The Foundation's gift to the Geiger Gibson Program supports health center research and scholarship. [rchnfoundation.org](http://rchnfoundation.org) and [chcchronicles.org](http://chcchronicles.org)



Founded in 1971, the **National Association of Community Health Centers** (NACHC) is a non-profit representing the nation's network of more than 1,400 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), which expand healthcare access by serving more than 25 million people through nearly 10,000 sites in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam. [nachc.org](http://nachc.org)



*H. Jack Geiger and Thomas J. Ward*

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