

Keith Wailoo, Ph.D., Biosketch October 2009

Keith Wailoo is Martin Luther King Jr., Professor of History at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, where he is jointly appointed in the Department of History and in the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research. He is also Founding Director of the Center for Race and Ethnicity at Rutgers. Before joining Rutgers in July 2001, he taught in the Department of History and in the Department of Social Medicine (in the Medical School) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He received his Ph.D. in 1992 from the University of Pennsylvania in the History and Sociology of Science, and holds a 1984 Bachelors Degree from Yale University in Chemical Engineering.

Professor Wailoo, a leading figure in the history of disease, health, and medicine, has written award-winning books and accepted prestigious recognition for his work on such topics as sickle cell disease; race, science, and medicine; the history of technology and disease; and the problem of inequality in American health and medical care. His books include: The Troubled Dream of Genetic Medicine: Ethnicity and Innovation in Tay-Sachs, Cystic Fibrosis, Sickle Cell Disease (coauthored with Stephen Pemberton) (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006); Dying in the City of the Blues: Sickle Cell Anemia and the Politics of Race and Health (University of North Carolina, 2001); and Drawing Blood: Technology and Disease Identity in Twentieth-Century America (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997).

He is also the editor of A Death Retold: Jesica Santillan, the Bungled Transplant, and Paradoxes of Medical Citizenship (with Julie Livingston and Peter Guarnaccia, UNC Press, 2006), a multi-disciplinary retrospective analysis of an infamous medical error and the controversial death of an undocumented immigrant girl at Duke University Medical Center in 2003. Wailoo also co-edited, with Mark Schlesinger and Timothy Jost, *Transforming American Medicine* (August-October 2004) a double issue of the *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law* offering a retrospective examination of the transformation of the American health care system over the past 20 years. His articles have appeared in the British medical journal *Lancet*, in the *Bulletin for the History of Medicine*, in the *Journal for the History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*, and the *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law*. In 2005-2006, Wailoo served on the Institute of Medicine Committee on Increasing Rates of Organ Donation, contributing to its 2006 report, Organ Donation: Opportunities for Action.

Wailoo is currently completing several projects. A forthcoming book, How Cancer Crossed the Color Line: The Transformation of Health and Race in a Nation Divided (2010, Oxford University Press), explores the cultural transformation of ideas about cancer in 20th century America. A second book is Over-Prescribed/Under-Medicated: The Cultural Politics of Pain in America, examining the history of controversies over pain relief in relation to liberal and conservative trends in medicine and society over the past half century. Wailoo is also co-editor of several forthcoming multidisciplinary volumes. Among them is: Katrina's Imprint: Race and Vulnerability in America (Rutgers University Press, 2010) (a wide-ranging study of what the events in New Orleans teach us about the complex nature of vulnerability, resilience, and recovery). A second is, The HPV Vaccine and Sexual Risk: Citizens and States at the Crossroads of Cancer Prevention (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010), a global examination of the cultural, scientific, and political turmoil that have emerged recently across the globe around the marketing, use, mandating of human papillomavirus vaccines for girls – in the name of cervical cancer prevention. A third edited volume, Genetics and the Unsettled Past: The Collision of

DNA, Race, and History examines the implications of new genetics for reshaping ideas about race and the past, as manifested in medicine, in the courts, and in the genealogy business. He is also at work on a history of drugs and drug controversies, a book stemming from a course he has taught for several years at Rutgers University.

Wailoo, the recipient of numerous awards for his scholarship, was elected in 2007 to the Institute of Medicine, one of the U.S. National Academies where he is also a member of the Health Sciences Policy Board. In 1999, he received the prestigious James S. McDonnell Centennial Fellowship in the History of Science, a \$1,000,000 award to support his research and academic conferences on the biomedical sciences and their cultural, social, and political impact in America. The fellowship has supported research, funded graduate students' studies, and sponsored conferences on topics ranging from pain medicine to the politics of racial health. Dr. Wailoo's research has also been supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Investigator Award in Health Policy, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the Burroughs-Wellcome Fund. In 2006-2007, he was a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford. In 2009-2010, Wailoo is Visiting Professor at Princeton University, affiliated with its Center for African-American Studies, the Program in the History of Science, and the Center for Health and Wellbeing in the Woodrow Wilson School.

Book Awards: Wailoo has received many awards for his scholarship.

Dying in the City of the Blues received:

the 2002 Lillian Smith Book Award for Non-Fiction, presented by the Southern Regional Council for carrying on Smith's legacy of elucidating questions of racial justice and inequality, and promoting human understanding;

the 2005 William H. Welch Medal for best book in the history of medicine, awarded by the American Association for the History of Medicine;

the 2002 Susanne Glasscock Humanities Book Prize for Interdisciplinary Scholarship awarded by the Melbern Glasscock Center at Texas A&M;

the 2002 American Political Science Association Award for Best Book published in the area of Public Policies, Social and Legal Dimensions of Ethnic and Racial Politics in the U.S. from the Section on Race, Ethnicity, and Politics;

the 2006 Community Service Award by the Sickle Cell/Thalassemia Patient Network for public service to patients and families of those coping with these disorders; and was designated an Honor Book by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities in 2003.

Drawing Blood, received the Arthur Viseltar Award from the American Public Health Association in 1996.

The Troubled Dream of Genetic Medicine received the 2006 Association of American Publishers book award in History of Science, presented by the Professional and Scholarly Publishing Division.