



Celia DC Christie-Samuels
Jamaica

IAS Treasurer

Celia Christie-Samuels is Professor of Paediatrics, University of the West Indies (UWI) and Consultant Paediatrician (Infectious Diseases, Epidemiology and Public Health), University Hospital of West Indies, Jamaica (1999 to date). She was a member of the IAS Governing Council, representing Latin America and Caribbean (2008 to 2016) and is currently IAS Treasurer (2016 to date). She was educated at UWI (MBBS and DM Paediatrics); Yale University School of Medicine, USA (Post Doctoral Fellowships in Paediatric Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology and in Hospital and Molecular Epidemiology) and Johns Hopkins University, USA (MPH). She was employed as Associate Professor of Paediatrics (1996-1999) and Assistant Professor of Paediatrics (1990-1996), University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, USA; Infectious Diseases Consultant Paediatrician and Hospital Epidemiologist, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Centre and Children's Hospital Research Foundation (1990-1998) and Special Government Employee, Food and Drugs Administration, USA (1997-2001).

Her career highlights included describing epidemic pertussis in highly immunized children in Cincinnati (*N Engl Jour Med* 1994), vaccine failure was confirmed in NIH-sponsored clinical trials and the USA's policy was changed to acellular vaccines. She contributed 1800 Jamaican infants to the international pentavalent rotavirus vaccine trial (*N Engl Jour Med* 2006), which was FDA-approved and WHO-recommended for worldwide use. She implemented and led Jamaica's Perinatal, Pediatric and Adolescent Infectious Diseases Program through the reduction of mother-to-child HIV transmission from 25% to 1% and reduced HIV-attributable morbidity and mortality in the women and their children, who are now entering adulthood (*Ann Public Health Res* 2017). She has commenced funded studies within a multi-country consortium on perinatal and pediatric ZIKA/Chikungunya/Dengue virus infections in Latin America and the Caribbean. She was an Independent Director of the Bank of Nova Scotia and Scotia Jamaica Life Insurance Company Ltd, for nine years, while serving on the Audit and Professional Conduct Review Committees for both financial institutions.

Her awards include Lancet's "Paper of the Year Award" for the best original medical research worldwide, as a co-author, International Pentavalent Rotavirus Vaccine Trial, published in *N Engl Jour Med* (2006); Inaugural "International Leadership Award for Research", Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (2002); "Excellence in Science" - Inaugural Stephen Preblud Award, National Immunization Program, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA for work on the Cincinnati pertussis epidemic (2002); Food and Drugs Administration's Advisory Committee Service Award, for work on their Anti-Infective Drugs Advisory Committee, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, USA (1997-2001); "Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Research", University of the West Indies (2008); Caribbean Public Health Agency for Excellence in Caribbean Health Research (2013); Musgrave Gold Medal for Eminence in Medicine, from the Board of Governors of the Institute of Jamaica, (2014) and Commander of the Order of Distinction, Commander Class, for Outstanding Service to Academic Medicine, Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Child Health and Public Health, National Honors and Awards conferred on "Heroes' Day", by the Governor General of Jamaica.

Her research includes over 200 articles, comprising some 95 research manuscripts and 140 abstracts in peer-reviewed medical journals, most concerning "Pediatric, Perinatal and Adolescent HIV/AIDS".