



**VANDERBILT CUTTING-EDGE DISCOVERY**

---

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ADVANCES

**ANDRÉ CHURCHWELL, M.D.**

**LINDA SEALY, PH.D.**

---

SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

4:00 P.M.

208 LIGHT HALL



SPONSORED BY:  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

---

Upcoming Discovery Lecture:

**JOANNE LYNN, M.D., M.A.**

*Director, Altarum's Center for Elder Care and Advanced Illness, Altarum Institute*

*Member, Institute of Medicine*

*September 22, 2016, 2016*

*208 Light Hall / 4:00 P.M.*

---

VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER



## **ANDRÉ CHURCHWELL, M.D.**

**LEVI WATKINS JR., M.D. CHAIR**

**SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR DIVERSITY AFFAIRS**

**PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE, RADIOLOGY AND  
RADIOLOGICAL SCIENCES, BIOMEDICAL  
ENGINEERING**

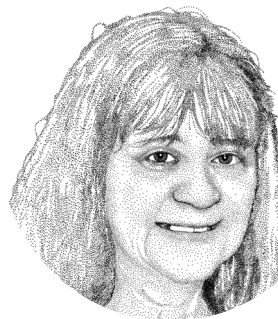
Dr. Churchwell graduated from the Vanderbilt School of Engineering magna cum laude in 1975, winning the Biomedical Engineering Student Program Award the same year. He received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 1979, and completed his internship, residency, and cardiology fellowship at Emory University School of Medicine. While in Atlanta, he was the first African American chief medical resident at Grady Memorial Hospital (1984-1985).

Dr. Churchwell has received numerous awards over the course of his career. In 1986, while at Emory, he received a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Minority Medical Faculty Development Award. He received the J. Willis Hurst Award for Best Clinical Teacher in 1991 from Emory, and in 2004, was named the Emory University School of Medicine Resident Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award winner.

In 2005, Dr. Churchwell was named the Walter R. Murray, Jr. Distinguished Alumnus by the Association of Vanderbilt Black Alumni. In 2010, he was awarded The Distinguished Alumnus Award of Vanderbilt School of Engineering, and along with his physician brothers Kevin and Keith, received the 2011 Trumpet Award for Medicine.

In 2012 and 2013, he received one of the first Distinguished Faculty Awards from The Vanderbilt University Organization of Black Graduate and Professional Students (OBGAPS), and from 2010-2013 he has been awarded the Professional Research Consultants' Five-Star Excellence Award. Dr. Churchwell has been named one of the nation's top cardiologists in "The Best Doctors in America" for the past ten years.

He has served in numerous groups, editorial boards, and committees. In 2015, he was appointed to the Board of Trustees for Cumberland University, and most recently, he was endowed with Vanderbilt's Levi Watkins, Jr., M.D. Chair in honor of his efforts in the area of diversity.



## **LINDA SEALY, PH.D.**

**DIRECTOR, INITIATIVE FOR MAXIMIZING  
STUDENT DIVERSITY**

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, MOLECULAR PHYSIOLOGY  
AND BIOPHYSICS, CANCER BIOLOGY, AND CELL AND  
DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY**

Dr. Linda Sealy received her undergraduate degree summa cum laude in Chemistry from Illinois Wesleyan University prior to completing a Ph.D. degree in Biochemistry from the University of Iowa. She completed postdoctoral research with J. Michael Bishop and Harold Varmus at the University of California, San Francisco where she was a Damon Runyon Walter Winchell Cancer Fund Fellow, before joining Vanderbilt in 1986.

In her own laboratory at Vanderbilt, Dr. Sealy has trained nine Ph.D. students, including two underrepresented students and several postdocs. The Sealy Lab was a pioneer in the study of C/EBPbeta, a transcription factor with pivotal roles in both oncogenic Ras transformation and oncogene-induced senescence. Dr. Sealy has a long history of research contributions in the areas of transcriptional regulation, oncogene characterization (first demonstrated ErbB is an oncogene) and chromatin structure and histone modifications (first discovery of a histone deacetylase inhibitor).

Dr. Sealy has been actively involved in addressing disparities in Ph.D. degrees in biomedical sciences awarded to underrepresented minorities for over 20 years. Beginning with involvement in post-baccalaureate, bridges, and summer courses designed to prepare students for the Ph.D., these programs set the stage for the NIH-funded IMSD graduate program that began in 2007 with Sealy as co-director. In 2013, she assumed directorship of the program.

Through the IMSD program and others, Dr. Sealy has taught and/or mentored nearly 100 underrepresented students at all ages of their pregraduate/graduate training. She has been recognized for her leadership in promoting diversity in graduate education, including the Distinguished Faculty Award from the Organization of Black Graduate and Professional Students and the Levi Watkins Jr. Faculty Award for Promoting Diversity at Vanderbilt. She is a member of the Fisk-Vanderbilt Bridge Program Internal Advisory Board and a member of the review panel for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Gilliam Fellowships for Advanced Study to enhance diversity. She is a faculty mentor for pregraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in "Lighting the Pathway," an NSF-funded program to increase the number of Native American faculty. Dr. Sealy is a voting citizen/enrolled member of the Chickasaw tribe in Oklahoma.