

Edwin C. Marshall, O.D., M.S., M.P.H.
Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs
Indiana University

For over three and a half decades, Dr. Edwin C. Marshall has been a volunteer, leader, and relentless advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion. His professional career has centered primarily on issues of health care access and equity, integrating the domains of public health practice, teaching, research, and service into a life course of devotion to the health care needs of the underserved. His portfolio of public service is closely tied to his parallel roles as educator, administrator, clinician, and public servant, navigating a career that successfully blurs the boundaries of academia and community.

One of his earliest professional accomplishments occurred a year after graduation from optometry school with the 1972 founding of the Community Eye Care Center, the IU School of Optometry's first off-campus clinic designed specifically to serve the vision and eye care needs of the community's underserved population. Dr. Marshall was its first Director and architect of its evolution into one of the School's premier sites of clinical education and practice. His reach expanded nationally to the Executive Branch in 1987 when Dr. Otis Bowen, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), appointed him to a four-year term on the National Advisory Council on Health Professions Education. As a Councilor, Dr. Marshall chaired the Committee on Minority Manpower Initiatives.

Congressional enactment of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) led to Dr. Marshall's 1998 appointment with the Governor's Advisory Panel on the Indiana Children's Health Insurance Program, where he helped compose the benefits and cost-sharing features that shaped the enabling legislation for the Indiana SCHIP. A firm believer in the advantages of collaboration and with the assistance of a grant from the Indiana State Department of Health, Dr. Marshall initiated the Indiana Rural Health Partnership in 2000 to create a safety net of optometric services for uninsured and underserved rural residents.

Dr. Marshall was the second optometrist in history to be appointed as a U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Primary Care Policy Fellow, affording him the opportunity to work on national policy issues under Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala. Upon completion of the USPHS Fellowship in 2000, Dr. Marshall was drafted by the Indiana State Health Commissioner to be the founding Chair of the Indiana Minority Health Advisory Committee, eventually serving as advisor to three different state health commissioners. Under his leadership, the Committee produced two epidemiologic reports, two statewide videoconferences, and Indiana's first epidemiologic-based, data driven strategic plan to eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities. The plan has since become a model for other state health plans and has been incorporated into Indiana's overall health agenda.

In 2002, he was elected President of the Indiana Public Health Association, a position he used to establish and fortify effective avenues of communication in building bridges between resources, services, and the people who need them. A year later, Dr. Marshall became the first optometrist in the 132 year history of the American Public Health Association elected to Chair the Executive Board of the oldest and largest organization of public health professionals in the world. As Chair of the Executive Board and as a member of *The Nation's Health* Editorial Advisory Committee, Dr. Marshall played a major role in constructing the nation's public health agenda and positioning it as top national priority.

In 2004, the IU School of Medicine invited Dr. Marshall to become a member of the Advisory Board of the Indiana Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) to help expand outreach and enhance access to quality health care in medically underserved communities. In 2005, he developed the "Eye Care about my ABCs" program, which has been integrated successfully into communities throughout the state to elevate public awareness and communication about the

importance of proper eye care for people with diabetes. He was elected to the Prevent Blindness Indiana Board of Directors in 2006 and elected Co-Chair of the legislatively mandated Interagency State Council on Black and Minority Health in 2007.

Dr. Marshall is a founding member of both the Vision Care Section of the American Public Health Association (APHA) and the IU School of Medicine's Department of Public Health. He was a member of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) Roundtable on Health Literacy and Patient Safety, which worked to address health illiteracy and its effect on errors in health care practice. Dr. Marshall chairmanship of the Diversity Task Force for the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry recently led to the development of the association's first set of Curricular Guidelines for Culturally Competent Eye and Vision Care. He also has worked closely with the Indiana Minority Health Coalition to bring greater emphasis on the "business case for health."

Dr. Marshall is a past President of the Indiana Optometric Association (IOA) and the National Optometric Association (NOA) and the current Chair of the National Commission on Vision and Health. For over 20 years he has served as the NOA Executive Director, working closely with other health care leaders on state and national policy issues. As a member of the National High Blood Pressure Education Program Coordinating Committee of the National Institutes of Health, he contributed to the writing of the *Seventh Report of the Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation and Treatment of High Blood Pressure* (JNC 7). He currently serves in a similar capacity as a member of the National Eye Health Education Program Planning Committee of the National Eye Institute, advancing the vision objectives of Healthy People 2010.

Completing his third three-year term as a member of the Board of Directors of Bloomington Hospital, Dr. Marshall currently serves as a member of the hospital's Audit and Compliance Committee. As a member of the Indiana Commission on Excellence in Health Care's Data and Quality Subcommittee, the Indiana Chronic Disease Advisory Council, the Indiana Diabetes Advisory Group, the Health Commissioner's Health Strategy Roundtable, and the Indiana Health Care Professional Development Commission, which was created by the General Assembly to look at the distribution/need mix of health care professionals in Indiana, Dr. Marshall has been and continues to be a significant contributor to the state's agenda for enhancing the structure and quality of its health care system.

Dr. Marshall is a Distinguished Practitioner in the National Academies of Practice. He is a past recipient of the Tony and Mary Hulman Health Achievement Award in Public Health and Preventive Medicine from the Indiana Public Health Foundation, the State Health Commissioner Award for Excellence in Public Health, the Distinguished Service Award from the Vision Care Section of the American Public Health Association, the Distinguished Hoosier Award from the Office of the Governor, the Indiana Optometrist of the Year Award from the Indiana Optometric Association, the National Optometrist of the Year Award from the American Optometric Association, and the Person of Vision Award from Prevent Blindness Indiana.

As an Indiana University Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs, Dr. Marshall has broad responsibility throughout the University for programs, services, and activities that promote excellence in a diverse society. Advancing academic and societal engagement within Indiana University and its constituent communities, the Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs serves as a central collaborator, catalyst, and advocate for the education of students, faculty, staff, and administrators on the importance of diversity, equity, and multiculturalism as an economic, social, and cultural imperative in university life, community development, and personal growth.

Prior to being named an IU vice president in 2007, Dr. Marshall was the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Student Administration at the Indiana University School of Optometry. He also is Professor of Optometry and Adjunct Professor of Public Health at the Indiana University School of Medicine.