



Summary 2007-08

King Davis, Ph.D.

King Davis holds the Robert Lee Sutherland Endowed Chair in Mental Health and Social Policy at the University of Texas at Austin, School of Social Work. From 2003-2008, he served as Executive Director of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health. He received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the University of Texas at Austin in February 2001. In February 2002, he received the lifetime achievement award from the Council on Social Work Education. King was a professor of Public Mental Health Policy and Planning at the Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond Virginia, from 1984-2000. From 1998-1999, he was the holder of the William and Camille Cosby Chair at Howard University, Washington D.C. Also in 1998, King was appointed to the Libra Chair in the School of Business and Public Policy at the University of Maine, and was a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Washington University in St. Louis in 1999. He taught at Norfolk State University School of Social Work from 1974 to 1984.

King was awarded the Ph.D. from the Florence G. Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University in 1971. His doctoral work focused on the linkages between fund raising, non-profit organizations, and communities of color. He holds the masters and bachelor's degrees in social work (concentration in mental health) from California State University in Fresno California.

King's professional background and experiences are varied. He is a former Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services. King was appointed Commissioner by L. Douglas Wilder, Governor of Virginia, and served from 1990 to 1994. As Commissioner he held responsibility for executive leadership and management of a statewide behavioral health care system, comprised of 17 hospital facilities and 40 community service agencies. He managed a total annual budget of \$700 million and 17,000 staff.

As Commissioner, King was responsible for providing and coordinating advice to the Governor, Secretary of Health and Human Resources, and legislators on all matters pertaining to the mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse status of the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

From 1985-1987, King served in the position of Galt Visiting Scholar, where he held full professorships at each of Virginia's three medical schools and departments of psychiatry. As Galt Scholar, King was responsible for developing and implementing collaborative education models between public universities and the Department of Mental Health.

King is a Viet Nam era veteran, and was honorably discharged in 1969 at the rank of Captain. During his U.S. Army duty, he was Chief of Social Work Services for a 500 bed acute care medical hospital and responsible for administration of CHAMPUS, the military health care program. King has served on a number of local, state, and national boards and commissions. He has written and published numerous articles, and reports on mental health, managed health care, fund raising, and social justice. His book on The Color of Social Policy was published early in 2004. He recently served on the Surgeon General's Workgroup on Mental Health, Culture, Race and Ethnicity and helped write the draft report on cultural competence for the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health (2003). His most recent article on cultural competence appeared in the fall 2007 issue of the American Psychologist.