

CURRICULUM VITAE

DATE: August 15, 2022

NAME: Merlene Fredericks - James

PRESENT TITLE: Dr

HOME ADDRESS: 23 Brown Street, Maplewood, NJ 07040

TELEPHONE NUMBER/E-MAIL ADDRESS: 201-3498512/ mf960@sph.rutgers.edu

CITIZENSHIP: USA/St. Lucia

EDUCATION:

A. Undergraduate Graduate and Professional

*University of the West Indies
Mona, Jamaica
MBBS (Medicine)*

Date Awarded: July 1, 1997

B. Graduate and Professional

*University of South Florida
Tampa, Florida
MPH (Public Health)*

Date Awarded: May 2, 2008

*University of North Carolina, School of Public Health
Chapel Hill
Certificate in Field Epidemiology*

Date Awarded: December 2009

*University of the West Indies
Mona, Jamaica
DrPH*

Date Awarded: June 23, 2022

POSTGRADUATE TRAINING:

January – December 2003: General Practitioner with 1-year postgraduate experience in Emergency Medicine, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Barbados. (University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus).

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

*Urban Global Public Health
Rutgers School of Public Health
Associate Professor
Spring 2022 (January 2022- present)*

*Adjunct Instructor
Spring 2021 (January-December 2021)*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS:

*Department of Health and Wellness, St. Lucia
Chief Medical Officer
January 2010 to December 2019
Department of Health and Wellness, St. Lucia*

*Senior Medical Officer
April 2006 to December 2009
(April 28, 2009 to May 18, 2009: Acting Chief Medical Officer).*

HOSPITAL APPOINTMENTS:

*Gros Islet Polyclinic and Primary Care Services, St. Lucia
District Medical Officer
January 2004 to March 2006*

*Victoria Hospital and St. Jude Hospital, St. Lucia. Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Barbados.
Senior House Officer (Emergency Room)
January 1999 to December 2003*

*Cornwall Regional Hospital, Jamaica
Medical Intern
July 1997 to December 1998*

OTHER EMPLOYMENT:

High school teacher at the George Charles Secondary school from September 1991-July 1992

CERTIFICATION: Certified in Public Health, inaugural class of 2008, National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE)

MEMBERSHIPS, OFFICES AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES:

*Rutgers Global Health Institute
Core Member
March 2022 - to present*

*American Public Health Association
Member
January 29, 2021 – to present*

*St. Lucia Medical and Dental Association
Member
1999-2020*

HONORS AND AWARDS:

*Valedictorian
St. Joseph's Convent High school
1988*

*Honors in Anatomy
University of the West Indies
1994*

*Outstanding Service
Medical and Dental Council, St. Lucia
December 2019*

BOARDS OF DIRECTORS/TRUSTEES:

Chair, Public Health Board, 2010-2019
Member, Medical and Dental Council, 2009-2019
Member, Allied Health Council, 2009-2019

**SERVICE ON NATIONAL GRANT REVIEW PANELS, STUDY SECTIONS, COMMITTEES:
SERVICE ON MAJOR COMMITTEES:****A. International: 2012-2015**

Member, Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Technical Advisory Committee.

B. National:

Member, Mercy Committee, 2010-2019
Member, Medical School Accreditation Committee, 2010-2019
Member, Steering Committee, 10th European Development Fund, National Indicative Program, 2010-2017
Deputy Chair, National Health Security Committee: 2015-2019

C. Department

Chair, Medical Internship Committee: 2010-2016
Chair, National Perinatal Committee, 2014-2019
Chair, Schistosomiasis Elimination Verification Committee, 2016-2018

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY:

Member, RU Family Council, November 2020 to March 31, 2022
Member, Rotaract Club of St. Lucia, 1999-2002
Volunteer, Interprofessional Education, 2021-2022

TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES:**A. Lecturer**

School of Public Health, UGPH0521J030 Culture and Health
Adjunct Instructor, Spring 2021, Total Enrollment 15. (3 credit hours)

Applied Practice Experience and Capstone Advisor, Summer and Fall 2021
Total Enrollment 47.

PHCO0513J033 Leadership and Management Essentials for Public Health,
Adjunct Instructor, Fall 2021, Total Enrollment 40. (3 credit hours)

School of Public Health, UGPH0521J031 Culture and Health
Associate Professor, Spring 2022, Total Enrollment 9. (3 credit hours)

PHCO0513JWeb Leadership and Management Essentials for Public Health,
Associate Professor, Summer 2022, Total Enrollment 29. (3 credit hours)

Applied Practice Experience and Capstone Advisor, Spring, Summer 2022
Total Enrollment 60.

PUBLIC HEALTH/CLINICAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

2010-2019, Chief Medical Officer. This job entailed policy formulation, program planning, leadership, Public Health legislative enforcement, epidemic and disaster preparedness, management and response, risk communication, supervision of program managers and other health related functions. I managed a budget of approximately 500,000 USD annually and led the national response to influenza, vector borne and vaccine preventable disease epidemics; guided and supervised the implementation of externally funded projects; led multisector legislative review; implemented training partnerships, national health surveys and a perinatal audit.

2006- 2009: Senior Medical Officer. This post involved providing direct supervision to 15 District Medical Officers, who provided primary care, General Practice services to the public, through 33 Health centers, 2 small district hospitals and 1 polyclinic. My responsibilities included developing rosters for placement of the doctors, facilitating their renewal of contracts and leave requests, performing performance appraisals, providing continuous development training for the officers, facilitating their professional development, addressing any conflicts at work, and ensuring their participation in health promotion activities within their communities.

2004-2006: District Medical Officer. Duties included provision of clinical, preventive and public health care services to patients. This job also entailed organizing community health sessions in conjunction with community groups.

1999-2004: Senior House Officer with the Emergency Medical departments of Victoria Hospital in St. Lucia and Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Barbados, providing emergency medical care, including procedures such as insertion of chest tubes, intubations, suture of lacerations and other clinical duties.

GRANT SUPPORT:

B. Co-Investigator/Business Official

1. Funding Organization: President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

Title of award: Cooperative Agreement number UPS003107A - Strengthening the Capacity of the Government of Saint Lucia, Ministry of Health, Human Services and Family Affairs to Expand the HIV/AIDS Strategic Information, Laboratory Testing and Prevention Programs in the Fight Against HIV/AIDS

Inclusive dates of funding: (9/30/2010 – 9/30/2015)

Amount of award: \$460,000.00

PUBLICATIONS:

A. Refereed Original Article in Journal

1. Colley Daniel G., King Charles H., Kittur Nupur, Ramzy Reda M. R., Secor William Evan, **Fredericks-James Merlene**, Ortu Giuseppina, Clements Michelle N., Ruberanziza Eugene, Umulisa Irene, Wittmann Udo and Campbell Jr Carl H. Evaluation, Validation, and Recognition of the Point-of-Care Circulating Cathodic Antigen, Urine-Based Assay for Mapping Schistosoma mansoni Infections. The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Volume 103, p. 42 – 49, Jul 2020.
2. Gaspard J, Usey M, **Fredericks-James M**, Sanchez-Martin M, Atkin L, Campbell Jr C, Corstjens P, van Dam G, Colley D, Secor W. Survey of Schistosomiasis in Saint Lucia: Evidence for Interruption of Transmission. The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Volume 102, p. 827 – 831, Apr 2020

B. Abstracts

1. **Fredericks–James M, Gaspard J, Atkins L.** *Schistosomiasis School Survey in St. Lucia: April 2017– May 2018. Presented at the 64th Annual Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Health Research Conference in 2019 and published in the West Indian Medical Journal Supplement Volume 68 (Supplement 1). Abstract O-35, pg30*
2. **Francois M, Fredericks M.** *Investigation of a Pertussis Outbreak in St. Lucia. Included in the 61st CARPHA Scientific Conference in 2016 and the abstract was published in the West Indian Medical Journal Supplement, Vol 65 (Suppl 3), O-28*
3. **Fredericks –James M, Haiduven D.** *Health Care Workers Knowledge, Attitude and Practices regarding Pandemic Influenza in St. Lucia. Presented at the Caribbean Health Research Council’s 54th annual research conference in April 2009 and the abstract was published in the supplement to the West Indian Medical Journal of that year.*

C. Reports

Ministry of Health, **Fredericks M, Jn Baptiste Nahum.** *Report of the Chief Medical Officer 2012-2014. Online at https://untobaccocontrol.org/impldb/wp-content/uploads/saint_lucia_2018_annex-1_chief_medical_officer_report_2014.pdf*

PRESENTATIONS:

Professional (Clinical/Public Health):

- *Characteristics of Pregnant Women Identified as Near-Miss and Factors Related To Maternal Deaths In Saint Lucia: 2006-2015 (original research findings), November 11, 2021, to UGPH DrPH students*
- *Zika Epidemic in St. Lucia: Reflections of a past CMO, November 19, 2020, to UGPH DrPH students*
- *Measles on a Cruise ship: Presentation to Port, Immigration, Customs, Ship Agents, May 2, 2019*
- *Is St. Lucia Zika Free? Presentation to the Hoteliers, April 24, 2018*
- *Yellow Fever Threat- presentation to the National Health Security Committee, April 4, 2017*
- *Presentation on the CMO’s report: at the report launch session on March 17, 2017. Link referring to the release: <https://www.htsstlucia.org/ncds-leading-killer-according-to-cmo-report/>*
- *Zika presentation to the National Health Security Committee: February 4, 2016. Link reporting on the meeting: <http://www.stlucianewsonline.com/national-health-security-committee-make-zika-a-top-priority/>*
- *Saving women and newborns: interventions to reduce neonatal mortality: Presented on September 14, 2015 at a Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/CLAP) meeting in Panama. Link to presentation: https://www.paho.org/clap/index.php?option=com_docman&view=download&category_slug=document-os-de-noticias&alias=466-implementacion-del-analisis-de-la-muerte-materna-fetal-y-neonatal-en-st-lucia&Itemid=219&lang=en*
- *Ebola Preparedness presentation to Parliament: October 23, 2014. News link reporting on the presentation: <http://health.govt.lc/news/prevention-isolation-follow-up>*