



Paulette R. Dillard, Ph.D. President

Dr. Paulette R. Dillard has a rich teaching history having taught biology for over 20 years at various institutions. Prior to her appointment as the 18th President of Shaw University, she served as Interim President and Vice President for Academic Affairs. During her tenure at Shaw University, she has served as the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Department Chair for Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and as an Associate Professor of Biology. She also served as Coordinator of undergraduate research infrastructure, and Co-Director of the academic enrichment programs for the National Institutes of Health National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) funded Research Infrastructure in Minority Institutions (RIMI) project.

An avid researcher, Dr. Dillard and Shaw University student research interns spent six weeks in Kingston, Jamaica conducting a study examining the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of Jamaican men of African descent who were diagnosed with prostate cancer. This study was of interest to her as her postdoctoral research was focused on prostate cancer and its disparate impact on men of African descent. She has also worked as a visiting researcher at the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences in Research Triangle Park, published her research in peer reviewed journals, and presented at national and international conferences.

Dr. Dillard has over 25 years of experience in the field of clinical diagnostic medicine. She began her career as a bench scientist, and quickly ascended to the management ranks being one of only a few women senior executives, and even fewer women of color to reach the rank of Vice President and General Manager in the 1980s. Her ascension and success led her to strive to use her position as one of the few African American women executives to inspire young people to achieve. She has served on the Board of the Nashville Center for Black Family Life, which provided after school programs for children and youth as well as workshops to teach family life skills, and on the Hospital Corporation of American Center for Nonprofit Management Board to assist non-profit agencies funded by United Way with financial management. She has also

mentored various students as an Executive in Residence at Paine College, Barber Scotia College and Middle Tennessee State University.

Dr. Dillard currently serves on the Board of the Carolina Small Business Development Fund, the Dorothea Dix Conservancy and has been involved with the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center and the LaunchRALEIGH initiatives since inception. She also is on the Board of the Capital City Club and serves on the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce Board of Advisors.

Dr. Dillard grew up in Mount Airy, North Carolina. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology at Barber Scotia College in Concord, North Carolina and received a Master of Science degree in biology from Tennessee State University. She went on to earn an MBA from the Jack Massey School of Business at Belmont University and a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from Clark Atlanta University (CAU), Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Dillard was married to the late Reverend Moses C. Dillard, Jr., a renowned musician, preacher, and social activist. She is a member of First Baptist Church, Wilmington Street in Raleigh, North Carolina.