



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY ON HYPERTENSION IN BLACKS ELECTS NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

**Atlanta, GA – September 20, 2005.** The International Society on Hypertension in Blacks, Inc (ISHIB) a unique, professional medical society that developed the first ever guidelines for treating hypertension in African Americans, appointed Kenneth A. Jamerson, MD, University Michigan as vice president. ISHIB Board also elected four new Trustees: Brent M. Egan, MD Medical School of South Carolina; James R. Gavin III, MD, PhD, Emory University School of Medicine; David S. Kountz, MD, FACP, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School; and Janice P. Lea, MD, Emory University Hospital. President, Charles L. Curry, MD, FACP, Howard University School of Medicine and Secretary/Treasurer, Shawna Nesbitt, MD, MS, University of Texas at Southwestern Medical Center will complete another term on the executive council. Board members were elected during the 20<sup>th</sup> annual interdisciplinary conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico, July 15-18, 2005.

“As chief staff officer of ISHIB, I am pleased with the election and look forward to working with our newly appointed board members” stated Christopher T. Fitzpatrick. “All of these individuals have been part of the development and growth of the organization at various levels. As each individual brings a wealth of expertise in the health care field that will help stimulate the growth of ISHIB.” Fitzpatrick continued “In 2006, ISHIB will celebrate its 20th year anniversary as an organization providing professional education, research and community programs. The organization will be able to capitalize on their leadership ability to help provide direction during our strategic and revitalization process.”

Dr. Kenneth Jamerson succeeds Janice Douglas-Baltimore, MD, as ISHIB Vice President. Douglas-Baltimore served the organization for over 16 years and elected Vice President for 4 terms, after retiring this year. Douglas provided leadership in the development of the landmark clinical guidelines for treating hypertension in African Americans and has served in several leadership capacities in terms of program development, strategic alliances, and scientific initiatives. Albert Amoah, MD, PhD, FWACP; FAAN and James Sowers, MD, FACP, FACE served the organization for over 18 years. Dr. Alicia Georges, EdD, RN has been a member of ISHIB since 1991 and served as Secretary-Treasurer and also the co-chair of the Scientific planning committee of the Interdisciplinary conference in 2002, in Miami Florida. She has served and chaired various Society councils and committees including the Strategic Planning, Executive Committee, and Public Education Council. Georges represented ISHIB in the NBNA Capital Day on the Hill 2001–2002 and established collaborations with NBNA in joint symposia at the NBNA Annual Conference.

## **About ISHIB**

ISHIB is a unique, professional, medical organization providing education, advocacy, and research on high blood pressure and related risk factors in ethnic populations. ISHIB was founded in Atlanta, Georgia in 1986 to respond to the problem of high blood pressure among ethnic groups. Today its organizational scope includes diabetes, stroke, lipid disorders, renal disease, and other health disparities as they affect all ethnic populations. ISHIB continues to address the challenges of cardiovascular disease in ethnic populations through an annual international interdisciplinary conference, regional continuing education programs, and community events. Each year, its international interdisciplinary conference presents advancements in the treatment and prevention of diseases related to hypertension. In addition to US conference locations, other sites for the conference have included Toronto, London, the US Virgin Islands, Kenya, Cameroon, and Brazil.

For more Information visit: [www.ishib.org](http://www.ishib.org)

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