

Dr. Benjamin P. Sachs MB.BS; DPH

Background is in clinical medicine, public health-health policy and finance -business administration with extensive executive experience in physician and hospital management

- *Senior Lecturer Harvard Medical School Massachusetts General Hospital Department of Obstetrics and gynecology (2014-)*
- *Interim Dean University Virgin Islands School of Medicine (May 2014-)*
- *Senior Vice President of Tulane University and Dean, School of Medicine James R. Doty Distinguished Professor and Chair (2007- 2013)*
- *President of the Beth Israel-Deaconess Physician Organization (1999-2007)*
- *The Rosenfield Professor Harvard Medical School & Harvard School of public Health (1997-2007)*
- *Chair of department Ob/Gyn - Beth Israel-Deaconess & HMS (1989-2007)*

In November of 2007, after 29 years at Harvard, drawn by the post Katrina challenges, I joined Tulane University as SVP and Dean of the School of Medicine. My goals were to help the recovery of the university and to take advantage of the post storm crisis to fundamentally, redesign the medical school and the city's healthcare system. Hurricane Katrina caused \$900m in damages to Tulane University and Tulane University Hospital. Tulane was forced to declare financial exigency and in 2006 one-third of the medical school faculty left. Today, both Tulane and healthcare in New Orleans have experienced major turnarounds because of the dedicated and courageous faculty and administrators who returned after the storm and a new leadership team. In 2013, all three missions, the school of medicine are much stronger than pre-Katrina. Furthermore, the school has led a revolution in access and quality of care in the region.

Regional healthcare Reform: Tulane is playing a major leadership role in regional healthcare reform by improving both the access to and the quality of care in New Orleans. Prior to Katrina, most uninsured people (23%) received their care in the emergency room of Charity hospital. In 2011, approximately 200,000 people received their care through largely new community-based clinics. We have helped raise the funds to build three major neighborhood health centers, designed to care for 60,000 people per annum.

In 2012, with HRSA's approval, we merged Tulane's program with a consortium of 10 FQHC's (Access Health) in southern Louisiana; a primary care base with about 250,000 patient encounters per annum. In 2010, Kathleen Sebelius (secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services) wrote, "This week, the federal Department of Health and Human Services entered into a partnership with Louisiana and New Orleans that will place the city on the cutting edge of a new health care delivery system. It seems fitting that New Orleans and its people, who have shown the nation how to survive unthinkable tragedy, can now set an example for strengthening the nation's health care system into the future" (Times Picayune 9.23.10).

Tulane School of Medicine (2007-2013):

- LCME 2011: Tulane was awarded an 8 year review cycle - 1st time in school's history.
- Leadership Recruitment: 20 new leaders, including 11 new department chairs.
- Faculty 2012: FT 521 & PT 1527, a 50% increase in last 5 years.
- Finances: the medical school, Tulane National Primate Research Center and the faculty practice plan have operated in the black for 5 years.
- Applications to medical school: increased 45%, approximately (10,000). The 2015, 2016 classes average MCAT (32-33) and GPA (3.6) scores are the highest in the history of Tulane (pre-storm MCAT 27).
 - New educational programs
 - 7 year MD program post-high school which includes 1 year of public service.
 - 3.5 year program for PhD's to get MDs, begins January 2013.

- To lower the cost and improve the quality of education, we introduced online courses, multidisciplinary team based learning and problem-solving and “Just-In-Time” learning.
- Entrepreneurship: medical student course to learn about technology transfer followed by annual competition

Crisis management: lessons learnt from Hurricane Katrina were tested in 2008 in the face of the city’s evacuation for Hurricane Gustav, Hurricane Isaac and response to the gulf oil spill.

Federal & Louisiana State Governments: Since Katrina, all the hospitals in New Orleans, including Tulane University Hospital, have been financially stressed. I have been working with the federal and state governments to begin to resolve this healthcare crisis as well as build a new VA hospital (\$1 billion) and a University Medical Center the replacement of Charity Hospital (\$1.2 billion), both Tulane teaching hospitals. *An MOU was signed in December 2012 to resolve this crisis in greater New Orleans.*

Harvard Medical School (1978-2007)

Before joining Tulane University, I held several senior administrative positions at Harvard Medical School (HMS) and the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC), including Department Chair, Obstetrics and Gynecology at BIDMC - HMS, the Harold H. Rosenfield Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology, and professor at the Harvard School of Public Health (1989-2007). I was also the elected President of the BIDMC Physician Organization, an organization of 1,500 physicians for three terms, six years (1999-2007).

At BIDMC, I helped create the research team, led by Dr. Ananth Karumanchi that discovered the probable cause of preeclampsia, one of the leading causes of maternal and infant mortality and morbidity worldwide. The team also developed a new diagnostic test that is currently being evaluated in the USA and internationally by the World Health Organization. This research has been widely published, including in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, *Nature Medicine*, and the story told in *The New Yorker*.

In 2007, the BIDMC’s Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology received the *John M. Eisenberg national award for patient safety and quality from The Joint Commission - National Quality Forum*. This award recognized the group’s groundbreaking approach to reducing medical errors using Crew Resource Management / team training. Today, this program forms the basis for AHRQ’s national program TeamSTEPPS (Funding: Department of Defense and Harvard’s Risk Management Foundation).

International Health Experience

I have been involved in international healthcare initiatives, including fundraising for and the development of women’s and children’s health centers in Philippines, Armenia and Ukraine. The center in Dnieperpetrovsk Ukraine provides free care to 20,000 women and children per annum. In addition I have worked extensively in Central and South America, Middle East and Asia.

Background

I was born in London UK and received my medical degree (MB.BS) from Imperial College (St. Mary’s) London. I received a degree in public health from the University of Toronto and completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology and a fellowship in Maternal-Fetal Medicine at the Brigham & Women’s Hospital (HMS). In addition, I was a visiting scientist at the Centers for Disease Control in 1980 and completed the PMD program (business management) at the Harvard Business School in 1987.

My wife is Tina Sachs, is an artist. I have two sons from a prior marriage and a step daughter; Alex is a chemical engineer Jon a medical student and Adeline in grade school. My interests outside of medicine and family are: community service, music, especially classical and jazz, running and high- altitude trekking.

Community organizations and service awards include:

- Governor Massachusetts: Community Service Award health program for minority women (1996)
- CJP Greater Boston (philanthropic organization): Circle of Excellence Award (1999)
- CJP Greater Boston (philanthropic organization): Lewis Millender Community of Excellence Award (2000)
- President State of Israel: Recognition Award (2002)
- USA Department of Defense: Award of Excellence (2004)
- Meltzer Leadership Award BIDMC: "Leading Constructive Lasting and All Embracing Change" (2004)
- Hadassah: Humanitarian Award (2004)
- Dnieperpetrovska Medical Academy Ukraine: Honorary membership (2007)
- Blue Cross Blue Shield Healthcare Excellence Award (2007)
- The Joint Commission Eisenberg national award for patient safety innovation (2007)
- The Rex Organization Pro Bono Publica (2008-)
- Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society
- AAMC Spencer Forman Award – Tulane School of Medicine (2010)
- AAMC Council of Deans Administrative Board (2011-2013)
- Society of Medical Administrators (SOMA) membership (2011-)
- New Orleans Council for Community and Justice: Weiss Awards (2011)
- Louisiana Cancer Research Center – board chair: Funded by the state, a new 32,000sq of laboratory building opened in 2012, funded by the state. (2008-13)
- New Orleans Bio- Innovation Center – board chair: A technology business incubator for bioscience entrepreneurship in the New Orleans area. (2010-2013)
- AAMC Board of Directors (2012-)