

CHEMICAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

**DAVID J. SULLIVAN, JR.**

The Pew Scholars Program in the Biomedical Sciences

Transcript of an Interview  
Conducted by

David J. Caruso

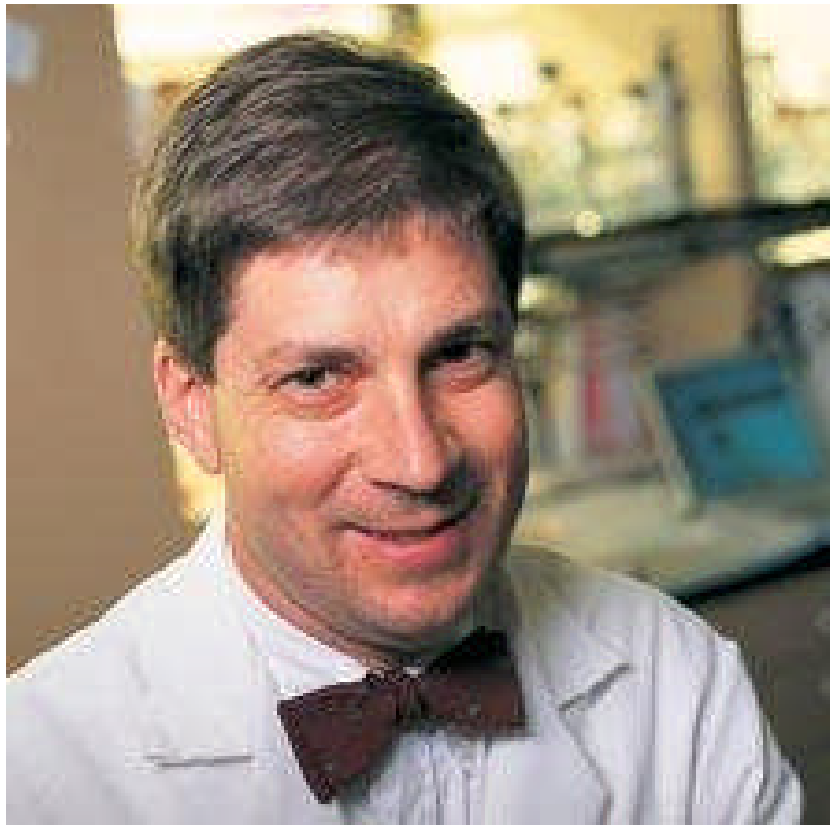
at

Bloomberg School of Public Health  
Baltimore, Maryland

on

28 and 29 November 2007

(With Subsequent Corrections and Additions)



David J. Sullivan, Jr.

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## DAVID J. SULLIVAN, JR.

1961 Born in Altus, Oklahoma on 27 June

### Education

1983 B.A., University of Virginia, Biology  
1988 M.D., University of Alabama, Birmingham

### Professional Experience

	Washington University in St. Louis
1988-1991	Residency, Internal Medicine, Barnes-Jewish Hospital
1992-1997	Fellowship, Infectious Diseases, Barnes-Jewish Hospital
	Johns Hopkins University, School of Public Health
1997-2006	Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology
2006-present	Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology

### Honors

1988	Class Citizenship Award (The Netter Series) for Community Service
1988	MAP Readers Digest Award International Fellowship, Mussoorie, India
1994	Burroughs Wellcome Leadership Award A.M.A.
1997	Healthcare for the Homeless Coalition, St. Louis, Outstanding Volunteer Service
1999	National Foundation of Infectious Diseases New Investigator Matching Award
1997-2000	Burroughs Wellcome Career Award in the Biomedical Sciences
2000-2004	Pew Scholars Award in the Biomedical Sciences
2003	Inventor of the Year Award, Applied Physics Laboratory

## ABSTRACT

**David J. Sullivan, Jr.**'s interview begins with a discussion of his childhood in Birmingham, Alabama during which he was surrounded by a large and supportive family. He cites the importance of his family's Catholicism, strong work ethic, and their emphasis on Scouting in fostering his interests. After deciding to attend the University of Virginia, Sullivan's scientific interests blossomed throughout the 1980s against the backdrop of HIV and other infectious diseases. While undertaking his medical education at the University of Alabama, Birmingham, Sullivan developed an interest in scientific research with clinical applications. Concurrent with his medical education, Sullivan pursued a study of bioethics that he brought to his residency and fellowship work at Washington University in St. Louis. Before moving to St. Louis, Missouri, however, Sullivan worked at a clinic in Mussoorie, India during the last few months of medical school. Throughout the interview, Sullivan described his service work in the community, including his time in India, and even how community service allowed him to meet the Dalai Lama. While in St. Louis, Sullivan worked with Daniel E. Goldberg and concentrated his infectious disease research on the field of Malaria. Continuing his efforts on heme crystallization and Zinc photoporphyrin-9, Sullivan brought his Malaria research to Johns Hopkins University. Shortly after beginning as a principal investigator, Sullivan received a Pew Scholars Program in the Biomedical Sciences award. He described the impact of the award as well as his perceptions of the annual meetings held during his four years as a Scholar. The interview concludes with Sullivan's discussion of biomedical funding, science after September 11<sup>th</sup>, and biomedical ethics in relation to funding.

## INTERVIEWER

**David J. Caruso** earned a B.A. in the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology from the Johns Hopkins University in 2001 and a Ph.D. in Science and Technology Studies from Cornell University in 2008. His graduate work focused on the interaction of American military and medical personnel from the Spanish-American War through World War I and the institutional transformations that resulted in the development of American military medicine as a unique form of knowledge and practice. David is currently the Program Manager for Biomedical Sciences and Technologies at the CHF. His current research interest focuses on the discipline formation of biomedical science in 20<sup>th</sup>-century America and the organizational structures that have contributed to such formation.

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