

Speaker: Henry W. Foster, M.D.



Dr. Henry W. Foster, Jr., Founder of the "I Have A Future" program, was nominated by President Bill Clinton to become the U.S. Surgeon General. Upon his induction into the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences in 1972, Dr. Foster went on to serve as professor and chairman of Meharry's Department of OB/GYN. Dr. Foster spent five years as senior program consultant for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and directed its Program to Consolidate Health Services for High Risk Young People (1981-86).

From this program, he developed the "I Have A Future" program to reduce teen pregnancy.

With his genuine compassion for and dedication to improving perinatal outcome, Dr. Foster has served on numerous boards, committees and councils. The March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation; American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; the Nashville Davidson County Obstetrical and Gynecological Society, where he became the first African American to serve as president; and the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) are just some of the organizations and boards he has served on. In appreciation for his work, Dr. Foster is the recipient of the Appreciation Award for Research and Teaching in Sickle Cell Anemia, First White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities Faculty Award for Excellence in Science and Technology, among many others.

Dr. Foster received his undergraduate education at Morehouse College and his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Arkansas in 1958. He conducted an internship at Detroit Receiving Hospital for one year, spent two years as a medical officer in the U.S. Air Force and upon discharge, conducted residency training in General Surgery in Malden, MA (1961-62). Dr. Foster completed his residency training in OB/GYN at Meharry in 1965.

During his career, Dr. Foster has continued to find time to write more than 100 publications and abstracts as well as contribute chapters to textbooks and develop audio/visual educational materials. He has conducted more than 25 formal university lectureships and his professional expertise has been sought across the globe.

 **Washington**
WASHINGTON · UNIVERSITY · IN · ST · LOUIS
School of Medicine

The Homer G. Phillips Lecture Series

Honoring
The Late Dr. Andrew Spencer
Former Chief of Surgery
Homer G. Phillips Hospital

"America and Social Justice: A Medical Perspective"

Speaker: Henry W. Foster, M.D.

Friday, October 23, 1998
Eric P. Newman Education Center
320 S. Euclid Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110

6:00 P.M.
Cocktails
Foyer

7:00 P.M.
Dinner
Great Rooms A & B

8:00 P.M.
Program
Great Rooms A & B

Program

Will Ross, M.D...... **Opening Remarks**

Associate Dean & Director
of Diversity Programs

Lisa Hammonds..... **Introduction of Jack Kirkland**

Associate Director
of Diversity Programs

Jack Kirkland, MSW..... **Introduction of Dr. Henry Foster**

Professor of Social Work
George Warren Brown
School of Social Work

Henry W. Foster, M.D...... **"America and Social Justice:
A Medical Perspective"**

Professor and Chairman of
Meharry Medical College's
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology

Jacqueline Dilworth, M.D...... **Remarks**

President of the Mound City Medical Forum

James P. Crane, M.D...... **Presentations**

Associate Vice Chancellor
for Clinical Affairs

The Homer G. Phillips Lecture Series

This lecture series is named in honor of the historic Homer G. Phillips Hospital in St. Louis. At a time in American society when people of color were restricted from most medical training programs, the Homer G. Phillips Hospital became the premier training ground for African American medical professionals – many of whom remained to deliver high quality health care in the St. Louis area and who later assumed prestigious positions throughout the nation. Washington University School of Medicine shared in that legacy by providing support personnel for medical education, research and patient care at Homer G. Phillips.

Honoree: The Late Andrew Spencer, M.D.



A native Midwesterner, Andrew Spencer was born in Indiana. In high school he was recognized as a scholar athlete, excelling in basketball and football, leading his team to the All State Conference. He attended college at Indiana University where he majored in Anthropology and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He remained at Indiana University where he attended medical school and sought a career in general surgery. He was a surgery resident at Homer G. Phillips Hospital from 1954 – 1959 where he was described as one of the superior residents.

During his residency he conducted original research in wound healing and vascular lesions with members of the Washington University School of Medicine Department of Surgery. After the untimely death of Dr. William H. Sinkler, Chief of Surgery at Homer G. Phillips Hospital, Dr. Spencer was named Chief of Surgery. In that capacity he worked intimately with Dr. Carl Moyer, Chief of Surgery at Washington University, and continued as chief from 1960 until Homer G. Phillips closed in 1979. As director of the surgery training program, he was responsible for training a legion of stellar surgeons, and continued to work closely with African American surgeons who trained at Homer G. Phillips and practiced in St. Louis, including Drs. Caldwell Gaffney, Walter Washington, Eugene Mitchell, Leslie Bond, Frank Richards, and James Whittico.

Dr. Spencer's colleagues described him as "personable", "introspective", and "incredibly smart." He enjoyed reading novels and was fond of classical music and opera. Dr. Spencer passed earlier this year, leaving behind a widow, Mrs. Evelyn Spencer, and an extended immediate family. He will be remembered as a legend in the annals of African American medical pioneers and America's finest surgeons.