

Allen Dearry, Ph.D.

Dr. Allen Dearry is Associate Director for Research Coordination, Planning, and Translation, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), National Institutes of Health (NIH). In this capacity, he facilitates effective collaboration and interaction between various programs supported by extra- and intramural mechanisms to achieve efficient translation of research findings into public health and the practice of medicine. Dr. Dearry oversees the NIEHS Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation; Office of Communications and Public Liaison; Office of Technology Transfer; Library and Information Services; publication of Environmental Health Perspectives; and a number of Institute outreach and educational activities, including town meetings that are held across the country to gather public input. Previously, Dr. Dearry initiated numerous NIEHS programs in translational environmental health research, including health disparities, environmental justice, children's environmental health, community-based participatory research, and K-12 environmental health science education. All of these programs are recognized nationally and internationally, both for their contribution to the knowledge base in biomedical science relating to environmental health as well as for their novel approach to community-university partnership and resultant impact on public health. Dr. Dearry has been honored to receive a number of NIEHS and NIH awards, as well as two DHHS Secretary's Awards for Distinguished Service for providing outstanding leadership on issues related to possible health effects of exposure to Pfiesteria toxins (1998) and for generating a public health and research response to the World Trade Center disaster (2002). Before coming to NIH, Dr. Dearry received a Ph.D. in Anatomy from the University of Pennsylvania, was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of California, Berkeley, and then an Assistant Professor of Cell Biology and Ophthalmology at Duke University Medical Center. Dr. Dearry played a key role in cloning the gene for the human D1 dopaminergic receptor; he has two US patents for this and subsequent investigations.