

## **Greetings: National Cancer Institute**

### **Mr. Simons**

Dr. Vicki Shavers from NCI is a major supporter of prostate cancer research, along with the DOD. The Prostate Net and NCI together will be able to make a difference. I thank Dr. Shavers for the support.

### **Dr. Vicki L. Shavers**

Good morning. I would like to extend a further word of welcome on behalf of the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, and the Division of Cancer Prevention of the National Cancer Institute, or the DCCPS and DCP of NCI. [laughter] On a more serious note, no matter how you refer to these two divisions, we have a very strong belief in the importance of this conference.

As you know, there is considerable controversy surrounding the appropriate use of prostate cancer screening and treatment. Despite the disproportionate burden of prostate cancer borne by Black men, very little is known about how inconsistencies and recommendations, practices, and policies specifically affect Black men. Furthermore, there is a continued need to investigate the factors that contribute to the prostate cancer burden of Black men. This conference is both important and timely. It provides an opportunity for the intellectual exchange to help facilitate our understanding of the factors that contribute to prostate cancer disparities, and to inform on future interventions. I trust that each of you will share your knowledge and open dialogue with the conference speakers and with other attendees, and that you will share what you learn with others when you return home.

### **Mr. Simons**

Some people in attendance here include Dr. Theresa Miller with the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program out of the DOD, who has been a long-time advocate in ensuring that minorities are represented not only in the study of prostate cancer but in participation of research on prostate cancer; she has been very vocal in terms of bringing in more minority researchers. Mr. Theodore Mitchell [phonetic] from the Centers for Disease Control, heads up the CDC prostate cancer program, and Colonel Robert Porter is with our co-sponsor, 100 Black Men.