

## **Dave Wiegman - Informal Bio (11/2015)**

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Dave was born (1943) and raised in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He attended Indiana University where he completed AB, MA and PhD (1973) degrees in Physiology and teacher certification in secondary school science; met and married (1968) Jill; and fell in love with the academic world and decided never to leave – and never did! Jill supported their dreams by teaching elementary school in Bloomington. Dave's research interests at IU included exercise and environmental physiology and the mathematical modeling of physiological control systems. He also developed strong interests in teaching, advising, counseling and the development, administration and leadership of programs in higher education.

In 1973, Dave and Jill moved to Columbia, Missouri, where Dave joined the Microcirculatory Systems Research Group at the Dalton Research Center and the University of Missouri School of Medicine. Research on bat (a primate model) microcirculation (blood flow in small blood vessels) with winter canoe trips to collect hibernating bats from remote caves in southern Missouri followed. Then the research turned to microcirculatory control in rat skeletal muscle (as an experimental model for human muscle). Dave used this model to study the reasons why long-term exercise training has been found to reduce resting blood pressure in hypertensive patients. His research was funded by multiple grants from the National Institutes of Health and by the American Heart Association. The years in Missouri would not be complete without mention of the "Scrubs" basketball team – a team that in eight years notched many "moral" victories – and some real ones. Jill taught 6<sup>th</sup> grade and then worked four years as Executive Director of the Mid-Missouri Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society until Betsey was born (1980). In 1981, Dave, Jill, baby Betsey and the whole research team (four faculty, three postdoctoral fellows and a visiting scientist from China) and their families (25 people in all) packed up and moved to the University of Louisville School of Medicine for outstanding professional and personal opportunities.

Several years after arriving in Louisville, Dave began a "short" academic leadership experience in the Office of the Vice President for Health Affairs / Medical School Dean. That experience lasted 32 years! Dave was blessed with great opportunities, professional advancement and wonderful people to work with (with a final professional staff of ~ 90) and the years flew by. Two sabbaticals in Germany, the arrival of baby Matt (1986), direction of national accreditation reviews of the School, innovative new educational approaches and important advances in the academic programs and diversity efforts of the School highlighted those years. In 2015, Dave made the difficult decision to retire. There were still goals and dreams unattained, but they have been passed on to the next generation.

In the meantime, Dave and Jill continue to enjoy their years as "empty-nesters." This phase of life has provided them with more time together and more opportunities to participate in academic, cultural, social and volunteer activities and to travel the world – 6 continents, 50 countries – and counting! It has been a rich and interesting time of life. Now in his 70s, Dave is thankful for the experiences, opportunities and career he has had and is looking forward to the next stage of life and to pursuing his many other interests in more depth. At latest report Dave is taking classes on UofL's main campus and has joined several international organizations and boards. Dave and Jill are also traveling regularly to see their new grandson.