

Medicine, Public Health, and Anti-Racism Activism: The Life of Dr. Virginia M. Alexander (1899-1949)

VANESSA NORTHINGTON GAMBLE, MD, PHD



Thursday,
February 25
4:00 pm

[Register here.](#)

*This event is free and open
to the Tufts community.*

Vanessa Northington Gamble, MD, PhD is University Professor of Medical Humanities at the George Washington University. She is the first woman and first African American to hold this prestigious, endowed faculty position. She is also Professor of Medicine and Professor of Health Policy and American Studies. In addition, she is Adjunct Professor of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing.

Throughout her career Dr. Gamble has worked to promote equity and justice in American medicine and public health. A physician, scholar, and activist, she is an internationally recognized expert on the history of race and American medicine, racial and ethnic disparities in health and health care, and bioethics. She is the author of several widely acclaimed publications on the history of race and racism in American medicine and has been a member of several national boards and committees. She chaired the committee that took the lead role in the successful campaign to obtain an apology in 1997 from President Clinton for the infamous United States Public Health Syphilis Study at Tuskegee. Dr. Gamble's many honors include membership to the National Academy of Medicine, the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society, and an elected Fellowship with the Hastings Center. She is also the 2021 recipient of the Distinguished Graduate Award from the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

A proud native of West Philadelphia, Dr. Gamble received her B.A. from Hampshire College and her MD and PhD in the history and sociology of science from the University of Pennsylvania.