

# American Academy of Health Behavior

## 2008 Research Laureate, Elbert D. Glover

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**Introduction of Elbert D. Glover, the 2008 Research Laureate by Bruce Simons-Morton. presented**

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Research Laureate is the American Academy of Health Behavior's (AAHB) highest award, bestowed to AAHB Fellows who have demonstrated lifetime research achievement, impact, and recognition. Past Laureates include Larry Green, Brian Flay, John Elder, Cheryl Perry, Steve Sussman, and Herb Severson. By any standard, this is a very impressive list of awardees. As the proud 2007 recipient of the award, it is my distinct honor and privilege to introduce Elbert D. Glover as the 2008 AAHB Laureate. It is entirely fitting that Glover, as he is generally known, be so recognized given his many achievements, research impact, national and international reputation, and also because he is the founder of the AAHB and has been a driving force in its development and maturation over the years.

Glover is a Texas-trained health educator, having earned a BA degree from Texas Tech University, MA degree from Texas A&I, and PhD at Texas Woman's University, one the first male admitted to that program. Early in his career he taught at a number of Texas universities, including Texas A&M, Texas Woman's University, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, Texas Christian University. He also served as a faculty member at the University of Kansas and Oklahoma State University, where he served briefly as Chairman of the Department of Health Education. He worked for a time in the Oklahoma Health Systems Agency, before going back to academia at East Carolina University before moving on to Pennsylvania State University, and then in 1990 to West Virginia University (WVU),

the site for his greatest research contributions to date.

For over a decade and a half at WVU Glover nurtured an impressive program of research evaluating smoking cessation aids. As a Professor in the Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry and the Department of Family Medicine, he founded and was the Director of the Addiction and Psychiatric Medicine Research Center. He also founded and served as director of several other research centers, including the Clinical Trials Research Center and the Tobacco Research Center. He also served as Associate, Center for Addictions. Over the years Glover conducted an impressive number of trials evaluating the smoking cessation effectiveness of a range of pharmacologic adjuncts. Notably, he conducted an impressive series of trials evaluating alternatives to tobacco products in various nicotine forms, including nicotine gum, nicotine patch, nicotine oral inhaler, nicotine nasal spray, and nicotine sublingual tablet. He studied the smoking cessation utility of many other agents and in two particularly important studies established the utility of the anti-depressant, bupropion, and the partial agonist, varenicline as a smoking cessation aids.

Glover has been grandly productive, having published over 200 papers and many chapters and reports. He has been an author of published papers in prestigious journals, including the *New England Journal of Medicine* and the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. He has given some 700 national and international presentations, including 400 or so grand rounds to medical providers about

smoking and the role of medical professionals in smoking cessation. He serves on the editorial and review boards of a dozen or more scientific journals. Of course, he is the Editor-in-Chief of the *American Journal of Health Behavior*, the American Academy of Health Behavior flagship journal. He has received many other prestigious awards in recognition of his achievements, including the American Association of Health Education Scholar Award in 2003 and the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Scholar Award in 2004.

In 2005, Glover became the Chairman of the Department of Public and Community Health Education at the University of Maryland (UM), where he is contributing importantly to the advancement of the school into the top tier of public health schools. Not surprisingly, at the UM he established and is the director of the Center for Health Behavior Research where he carries on with his prolific research on smoking.

Many of us know Glover as the founder and main force behind the establishment of the American Academy of Health Behavior. While many others have contributed to the growth and development of the Academy, there is no question that it was Glover's idea and that he has been the driving force since its inception. For that, all members of the Academy are greatly appreciative.

Glover is a special person who rose from Texas humble roots to become a giant in the field. Glover has blazed an unusual trail of achievement, having continued throughout his career to develop new research skills and apply state-of-the-art methods to his research. He has reached far and succeeded beyond usual expectations by bundling his boundless energy, taking risks, and accepting no barriers to achievement. Glover is well known as an independent intellect and a fountain of creative ideas about important topics. Please join me in honoring Elbert D. Glover as the 2008 American Academy of Health Behavior Research Laureate.