

# Lasker Lessons in Leadership

## Linda Fried, MD

Dean, Mailman School of Public Health and DeLamar Professor of Public Health Practice; Senior Vice President, Columbia University Medical Center Mailman School of Public Health



Dr. Linda P. Fried, MD, MPH, is a leader in the fields of epidemiology and geriatrics who has dedicated her career to the science of healthy aging and understanding the transition to a world where greater longevity benefits people of all ages. An internationally renowned scientist, she has done seminal work in defining frailty as a medical condition and illuminating its causes and the potential for prevention as keys to optimizing health for older adults.

Under Fried's visionary leadership, the Mailman School continues to be a leader in transforming the health of populations and is one of the top five NIH-funded schools of public health. Fried led the School to build the nation's first program on climate and health and a multidisciplinary program that delivers economic evidence on the value of prevention. Fried opened the Columbia Center for Aging and elevated Columbia's leadership role in research, policy and programming to support healthy cities. As a leader in public health education, she was the chief architect of an innovative new public health curriculum that emphasizes a life-course approach to prevention of disease and disability. As dean, Fried is invited annually to participate in the World Economic Forum and remains a highly cited expert in policy and practice for creating healthier societies that benefit all from the youngest to the oldest.

Fried is also the designer and co-founder of Experience Corps, a program that puts senior volunteers to work in public schools in 19 cities. Acting as tutors and mentors, the older volunteers help boost students' academic performance while bolstering their own health through continued activity and community interaction. Fried led a randomized, controlled trial of this innovative intervention to determine its efficacy in preventing physical disability and cognitive decline among older adults, while raising child literacy – providing evidence for the potential win-wins of an aging society.

Before coming to Columbia in 2008 as Dean of the Mailman School, Fried founded the Johns Hopkins Center on Aging and Health, directed the Program in the Epidemiology and Biostatistics of Aging and the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology, and held joint appointments in the schools of medicine, nursing, and public health.

Fried is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2000 U.S. Woman Physician Scientist of the Year. In 2003 she was named one of the Top 100 Women in Maryland and, in 2004, the U.S. Congress named her a Living Legend in Medicine. She received the U.S. Bridge Builders Award in 2008 and is the recipient of the American Federation for Aging Research's Irving Wright Award, the 2008 American Geriatrics Society Henderson Award, the Alliance for Aging Research's inaugural 2011 "Silver Innovator Award," their 2012 Silver Scholar Award, and Foundation IPSEN's 2012 Longevity Prize, all in recognition of career contributions to aging research. That same year, Fried was profiled by The New York Times as one of 15 world leaders in science. Based on the number of publications cited between 2002 and 2012, global publisher Thomson Reuters named her "one of the most influential scientific minds." In 2015, Fried was the Ralph and Lorraine Lubin Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Department of Healthcare Policy and Research at Weill Cornell Medical Center. Most recently, she was named to the PBS Organization's "Next Avenue 2015 Influencers in Aging," a list of thought leaders who are changing how we age and think about aging in America.

Fried is a member of numerous editorial and advisory boards. Fried is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine, as well as the Association of American Physicians. She is a member of the MacArthur Network on an Aging Society and the World Economic Forum's Council on an Aging Society and their Global Task Force on Social Protection. In December 2015, she was named to the Milken Institute's newly created Center for the Future of Aging Advisory Board.

- See more at: <https://www.mailman.columbia.edu/about/dean-linda-p-fried/biography#sthash.CXv1OCWk.dpuf>