



Kristi Wilson Hill, Ph.D.

Dr. Hill was commissioned as an officer in the United States Army through the ROTC program at Hampton University. Designated a distinguished military graduate, she went on to serve on active duty for nearly five years after earning her baccalaureate degree. Dr. Hill was medically retired from the military and thereafter returned to school to complete her graduate studies.

Upon completion of post-doctoral work as an NIH Fellow, she joined the faculty of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Medical College of Virginia (MCV), as Research Director of the Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation and Research Center. In that role, Dr. Hill was responsible for overseeing the Center's research portfolio, which included myriad Federal and privately funded research, development and demonstration projects focusing on clinical and rehabilitation intervention and psychosocial adjustment issues. During her seven-year faculty tenure at MCV, Dr. Hill also taught extensively at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

In 2001 Dr. Hill began her career in Federal service when she joined the staff of the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR). As a rehabilitation research administrator she managed the Small Business Innovation Research Program, served as a science and technology advisor, and contributed to the monitoring and scientific oversight of a \$100 million national and international research portfolio.

While at NIDRR, Dr. Hill also served as Special Assistant to the Director for International and Interagency Affairs. She has had significant experience fostering collaboration and negotiating cooperative research partnerships with international research entities and other Federal research entities.

As a scientist and research administrator Dr. Hill has presented to diverse audiences. She has published in peer reviewed journals, and contributed to book chapters and the development of educational tools and training materials for research and clinical professionals, consumers, and rehabilitation service providers. Dr. Hill has served on the editorial boards of several peer reviewed journals and publications.

In 2005, Dr. Hill was selected to lead the Office for Small Business Programs at the U.S. Department of Education, where she has oversight and responsibility for the implementation of all small business initiatives. She has demonstrated much success in promoting and advancing opportunities for small business participation at the Department. Under her leadership, the percentage of contract and grant awards to small firms has tripled at the Department.

As a service-disabled veteran and above-knee amputee, Dr. Hill has embraced every opportunity mentor many new amputees, advocate at the grassroots level for programming and services in her community, and worked tirelessly to educate the public about the unique and varied issues facing individuals with disability. In her spare time, Dr. Hill is an avid reader and swimmer. Through all of her experiences, Dr. Hill is most proud of her work over the last 18 years as an advocate, mentor and motivational speaker. She views herself as a role model for veterans and women with disability.