



MEDIA ADVISORY

May 20, 2008

Larry Parker, Public Relations/Communications Coordinator

212-961-1000 x314 (office)

732-887-3505 (cell)

larry@weact.org

FIND OUT HOW GENETICS AFFECT YOUR HEALTH HERE IN NORTHERN MANHATTAN

Biology Professor From CUNY to Address Research Into Interaction of Genes, Environment

NEW YORK – WE ACT for Environmental Justice, a leading advocate for environmental justice for two decades, Libraries For the Future (LFF) and the New York Public Library are proud to sponsor the concluding event in an ongoing “community conversation” about genetics and genetic research.

Dr. Doris Withers, professor of biology and education at Medgar Evers College (part of CUNY), will speak at the George Bruce Branch Library in Harlem on Wednesday, May 28 starting at 6:15 p.m. Dr. Withers will discuss how genetics affects everyone’s health – particularly in low-income communities and communities of color. The event will include audience participation and discussion.

The event wraps up a series of six community meetings throughout New York, as well as a conference on genetics sponsored by WE ACT and LFF. Topics to be covered May 28 include the basics of DNA, the double-helix protein that contains human genes; the Human Genome Project; and genetic diseases, including how the environment can bring out such illnesses.

NOTE TO MEDIA: If you are unable to cover this, *please include it in your community calendars.*

WHAT: “Genetics and You: A Community Conversation About Your Genes”

WHEN: Wednesday, May 28, 2008, 6:15 p.m.

WHERE: George Bruce Branch, New York Public Library, 518 West 125th Street, Harlem

WHO: Dr. Doris Withers, biology professor at Medgar Evers College, is the guest speaker.

WHY: To learn how genetics and the environment affect your health, both positively and negatively.