



## **2021 Alumni Professional Achievement Award Gregg Davis '92**

---

The Alumni Professional Achievement Award recognizes significant contributions alumni have made to their fields while exemplifying high moral and professional ethics.

Dr. Gregg Davis '92 is being honored with the 2021 Alumni Professional Achievement Award for his outstanding accomplishments in helping the world understand and fight the COVID-19 virus.

Davis graduated from Winthrop in 1992 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. He also earned a Master of Science with a concentration in Evolutionary Biology from Northern Arizona University in 1996; a Master of Public Health in Hospital and Molecular Epidemiology from the University of Michigan School of Public Health in 2008; and a Ph.D. in Epidemiological Sciences with a concentration in Infectious Diseases Epidemiology, also from the University of Michigan School of Public Health, in 2013.

Davis has worked as a research associate for Tera Biotechnology, Inc.; in research labs in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Maryland; and in various labs/departments in the University of Michigan's School of Public Health.

After earning his Ph.D., Davis moved to Baltimore and joined the Antibiotic Resistance Action Center at the George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health, where he used DNA sequence data to understand how the overuse of antibiotics in agriculture leads to antibiotic resistance in the bacteria that cause human infections such as sepsis and urinary tract infections. He also lectured within the institute, and his publications and research have appeared in Michigan, California, Canada, Australia and more.

In 2016, he became director of the institute's Public Health Research Laboratories, helping expand the school's laboratory capacity and research portfolio. As SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus that causes COVID-19, emerged, Davis took on two important roles: he joined George Washington University's COVID response committee, developing policies and procedures aimed at protecting the university community; and returned to the lab, working with colleagues to culture SARS-CoV-2, develop molecular diagnostic tests for the virus, and build research and clinical laboratory capacity.

Currently, as the senior director of systems engineering at biotech startup Curative, Inc. – which focuses on COVID-19 testing – he's helped build laboratory capacity and scale COVID-19 testing across the nation. With this work, Davis hopes what they've learned will lead to creating a more efficient healthcare system capable of handling future challenges.