

Professor Emeritus Harold Ramkissoon

A Profile

Professor Emeritus Harold Ramkissoon has had a very distinguished academic career moving from the rank of Lecturer to Emeritus Professor, in the process being the first West Indian to be given a Personal Chair in Mathematics at The University of the West Indies. He has been the recipient of prestigious Fellowships from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (Germany), the Fulbright Foundation (USA) and the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (Italy). Professor Ramkissoon has been an Invited Scientist at a number of Centres of Excellence including Cambridge University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Princeton University, Gottingen University, the Indian Institute of Science and the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and has published four books and over ninety papers in internationally peer-reviewed journals.

Professor Ramkissoon has been the recipient of numerous awards/honours including the First CARICOM Science Award (jointly with the late Dr. Raymond Wright of Jamaica), The Chaconia Gold Medal (the second highest National Award of Trinidad and Tobago), The Academic Gold Medal of Simón Bolívar University (Venezuela) and the Key to the City of Havana (Cuba). In addition, he was elected to membership in a number of scholarly organizations including Fellow of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS), Foreign Fellow of both the Cuban and Venezuelan Academies of Sciences and Member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. In 2011 he received Doctor of Science, *honoris causa* from The University of Technology in Jamaica.

He has played and continues to play a pivotal role in the development of science and technology in the region and beyond, having served in a number of capacities including President of the Caribbean Academy of Science, President of the Caribbean Scientific Community, Executive Member of the Association of Academy of Sciences of the World (IAP), Executive Member of the Inter American Network of Academies of Sciences (IANAS), Executive Secretary and President Emeritus of CARISCIENCE (affiliated to UNESCO) and Board Member of UNESCO's International Basic Sciences Programme.

Professor Ramkissoon serves on the Board of UNESCO International Centre for South-South Cooperation (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), the Council for the Academy of Sciences of the Developing World (Trieste, Italy) and its Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil). He is a former Independent Senator of the Trinidad and Tobago Government.