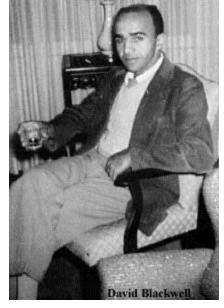# Summary of Major Accomplishments

David Blackwell

By the age of 22 Blackwell had earned his Ph.D. in mathematics. He earned this Ph.D. in only five years after high school. He then became a Full Professor at Howard University where he made a name for himself. He published more than twenty papers during his tenure. He then joined the faculty at Berkeley where he became known worldwide as a distinguished scholar and a gifted teacher. Blackwell chaired the Department of Statistics and published more than 50 papers while at Berkley. In 1954 he gave an invited address in probability at the International Congress of Mathematicians in Amsterdam.

He has received honorary Doctorate of Science degrees from twelve institutions:

➢ Harvard
➢ Yale
➢ University of Illinois
➢ Howard University
➢ Carnegie-Mellon
➢ University of Southern California
➢ Michigan State
➢ Syracuse

- ➢ Southern Illinois
- ➢ University of Warwick
- ➢ National University of Lesotho
- ➢ Amherst College

He has been selected president for the following:

- ➢ Institute of Mathematics Statistics
- ➢ International Association for Statistics in Physical Sciences
- ➢ Bernoulli Society

Blackwell has served as Vice President for the following associations:

- ➢ International Statistical Institute
- ➢ American Statistical Association
- ➢ American Mathematical Society.

"Two of the highest honors he earned upon him have been his election to the National Academy of Science (first and only African-American Mathematician elected) and his election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Additionally he holds memberships in numerous professional organizations, including being a life member of NAM." (Houston)

Blackwell is highly sought as a visiting scholar or guest lecturer by both national and international universities. "In 1979 Blackwell won the von Neumann Theory Prize (the Operations Research Society of America)" (madd web page). He retired with over 80 papers and two books, one is called Theory of Games and Statistical Decisions.

References

Ambruso, Kathleen. "David Harold Blackwell" 4-30-01.
http://www.maa.org/summa/archive/blackwl.htm

Williams, Scott W. "David Harold Blackwell". **3/29/99. 4-30-01.**
http://www.math.buffalo.edu/mad/PEEPS/blackwell_david.html

Williams, Scott W. "Who are the Greatest Mathematicians?" 4-30-00. 4-30-01. http://www.math.buffalo.edu/mad/madgreatest.html