

Updated May 2025



Dr. Wilmot James joined Brown University in March 2023 as Professor of Practice in Health Policy, Services and Practice and Senior Advisor for Pandemics and Global Health Security at the School of Public Health. Prior to his appointment, he was a Senior Research Scholar at the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy (ISERP) in the College of Arts and Sciences at Columbia University. Dr. James conducts research on pandemic prevention and response, biosecurity, non-proliferation, vaccine manufacturing and take up. He co-chairs the National Frameworks sub-working group of the G7-led Global Partnership's *Signature Initiative to Mitigate Biological Threats in Africa*, chairs the London based Wellcome Trust's *Climate Impact Awards Advisory Committee*, serves on a selection panel for the *Schmidt Science Fellows Post-Doctoral Program*, is a member of the Advisory Committee to the *Mirror Biology Dialogue Fund*, serves on the Executive Board of the World Economic Forum's *BRIDGE* initiative and on the advisory boards to *Resolve to Save Lives* and *Beacon* (Biothreats Emergence, Analysis and Communication Network). Dr. James co-convened the Schmidt Futures supported Columbia-Witwatersrand Vaccine Safety and Confidence-Building (VacSafe) Working Group. He was a Member of Parliament (South Africa) between 2009 and 2017 and served as spokesperson on schools, higher education, science and technology, trade and industry, and health. He served as chairman of the Democratic Alliance (South Africa's second largest political party) between 2010-2016. He was a member of the Board of Trustees for the Ford Foundation between 1996 and 2008. Dr. James is the author and/or editor of 17 books that include the policy-oriented *Vital Signs: Health Security in South Africa* (2020, Brenthurst Foundation) and a co-edited (with the late Kader Asmal and David Chidester) collection of Nelson Mandela's presidential speeches *Nelson Mandela in His Own Words* (Little Brown & Co. 2003 and 2017).

