

## GENERAL BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

### Dr. Samuel F. Sears

Samuel F. Sears, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Departments of Psychology and Cardiovascular Sciences at East Carolina University. He also serves as the Director of Doctoral Studies in the Department of Psychology.

Dr. Sears is considered by many as the world authority on the psychological care and quality of life outcomes of patients with implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) patients. He has published well over 150 articles in the medicine and psychology research literatures and provides lectures all over the world on a regular basis. Recently, Dr. Sears created a smart phone app, called "ICD Coach" that is the first ever app for cardiac patients focused on successful coping. His presentations have been well-received throughout the USA and internationally.

Dr. Sears was awarded the O. Max Gardner Award in 2013. This annual award is given by the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina system to the faculty member who "has made the greatest contribution to the welfare of the human race" in the past year. The award is considered the highest honor bestowed to a faculty member in the UNC system.

Dr. Sears continues to practice and teach health psychology in cardiology clinics at the East Carolina Heart Institute at East Carolina University since 2007. He previously served as an Associate Professor at the University of Florida from 1995-2007. Dr. Sears received his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. (1995) in clinical health psychology from the University of Florida.



