

Dennis Barry Gillings

Doctor of Science

A consummate teacher, researcher, and businessman, Dennis Barry Gillings has earned success at every turn of his career. Today he serves as chairman of Quintiles Transnational Corporation, a global company he co-founded while he was Professor of Biostatistics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Quintiles is recognized today as the world leader in providing full-service contract research, sales, and marketing services to pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device industries.

Born in London, England, Dr. Gillings was educated at the University of Exeter (B.S., 1966, Ph.D., 1972) and Cambridge University (Diploma in Mathematical Statistics, 1967). He came to the United States when recruited by Professor Bernard Greenberg to the faculty of the School of Public Health's Department of Biostatistics. As a faculty member, Gillings worked with students in the Biometric Consulting Lab, directed a number of doctoral dissertations, and gained a reputation as a first-rate consultant and collaborator with colleagues across the health sciences schools at Carolina. Gillings has authored or co-authored more than 100 publications in his field and has continued his scholarly work in the years since his departure from the faculty.

As an outgrowth of his consulting work while on our faculty, Gillings co-founded Quintiles Corporation in 1982. For six years he balanced his management responsibilities at Quintiles with his faculty duties, but in 1988 he resigned his faculty appointment to devote his full attention to Quintiles. Today his company employs more than 10,000 staff who are qualified in biostatistics, pharmacology, medicine, data management, life sciences, and laboratory services. The company operates through 70 units in 25 countries around the world with its corporate headquarters in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina

Dennis Gillings remains a generous benefactor of Carolina and an active participant in its life. He is a member of the Advisory Council of the School of Public Health, the Graduate Education Advancement Board, and the Board of Visitors. He exemplifies the best in the increasing inter-dependence of the world of science and the world of business.