Dexter Voisin is the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel Dean in Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. Before this appointment, he was dean of the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work and the Sandra Rotman Endowed Chair in Social Work at the University of Toronto. He also held a full professor tenured appointment at the University of Chicago for two decades and was director of the STI/HIV Intervention Network (SHINE) and co-director of the Chicago Center for HIV Elimination (CCHE) at the University of Chicago.

His research examines how structural, racial and interpersonal violence impact health behaviors and outcomes among minority populations. He has authored more than 170 peer-reviewed publications and secured more than 11 million dollars in funding from the NIH and the W. T. Grant Foundation.

His research has informed health policy in Illinois and he was appointed to two Illinois State boards by Governor Quinn. In addition, he is a board member of the Society for Social Work and Research and a Fellow of the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare.

He earned his PhD and master’s in philosophy from Columbia University, and his master's in social work from the University of Michigan. Numerous national and international media members have frequently cited his expertise and research findings.


The phonetic spelling of “Voisin,” which means “neighbor” in French, is waz-zin or vwah-zan. Listen to the phonetic pronunciation here.