

DC CENTER FOR AIDS RESEARCH AWARDS 101

January 27, 2023

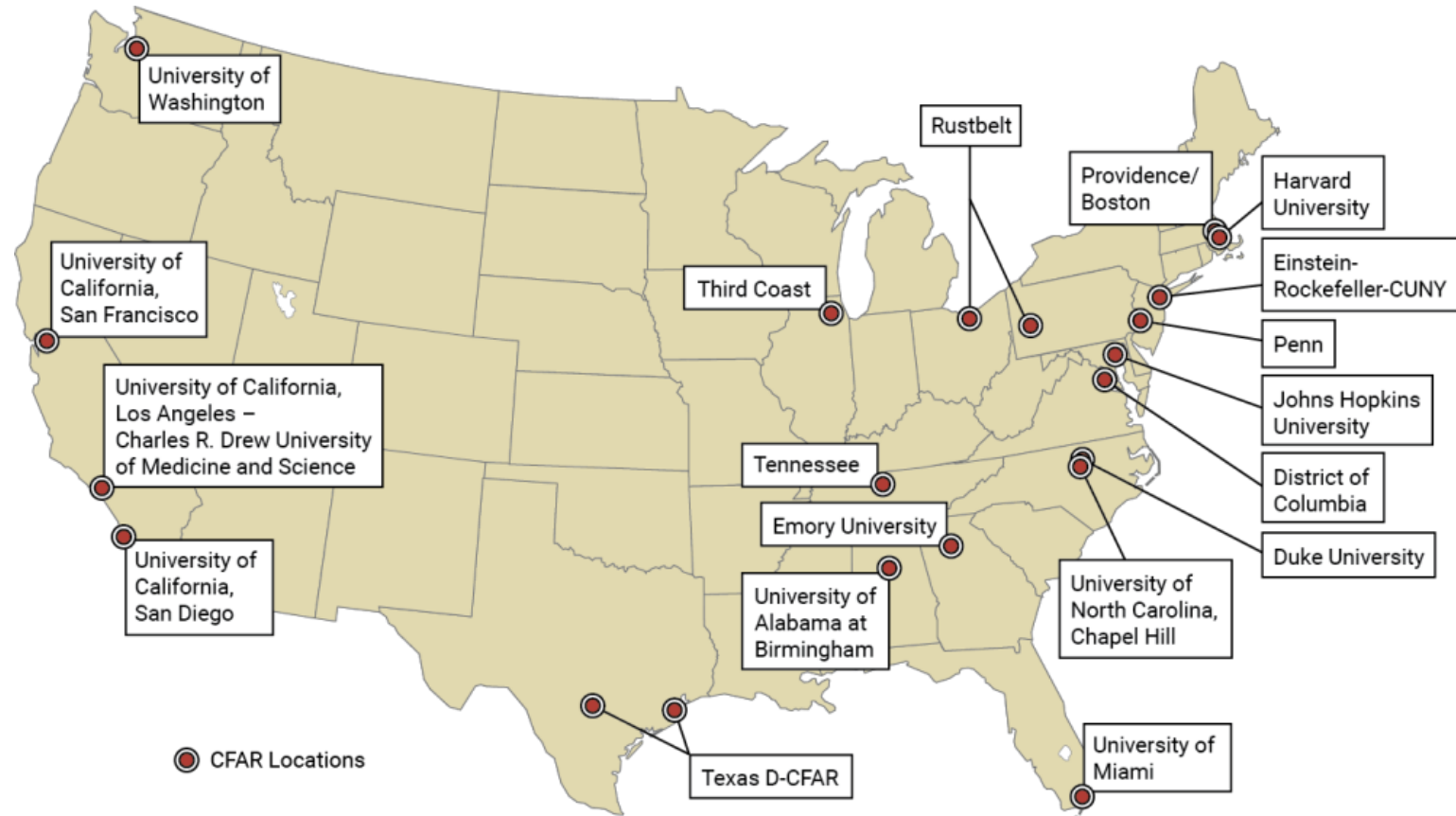
Welcome and agenda

- **Welcome & Introductions**
- **DC CFAR Overview**
- **Research Awards Program Overview**
- **Open Discussion & Questions**
- **Closing at 4:00 PM**

INTRODUCTIONS

OVERVIEW OF THE DC CFAR

NIH-Funded Centers for AIDS Research in the US



Network of 19 CFARs in the U.S. that address the NIH CFAR mission of supporting “a multi-disciplinary environment that promotes basic, clinical, epidemiologic, behavioral, and translational research in the prevention, detection, and treatment of HIV infection and AIDS.”

DC CFAR Mission and Specific Aims

- **Mission:** to intensify our multi-institutional effort to promote and support research that contributes to ending the HIV epidemic in Washington, DC and beyond in partnership with government and community.
- **Specific Aims:**
 - Providing scientific leadership and institutional infrastructure to advance HIV research among the nine collaborating DC CFAR institutions.
 - Stimulating and supporting innovative and consequential HIV research in the basic, clinical, prevention and social and behavioral sciences while promoting an interdisciplinary approach to addressing the NIH high priority scientific HIV focus areas.
 - Driving the development and recruitment of early stage, new, and women and minority HIV investigators.
 - Enhancing communication and fostering meaningful new collaborations between DC CFAR investigators and academic, government, community and clinical partners.

DC Center for AIDS Research 2010-2023

Mission: Intensify our multi-institutional effort to support research that contributes to ending the HIV epidemic in Washington, DC and beyond in partnership with government and community.



275 current members

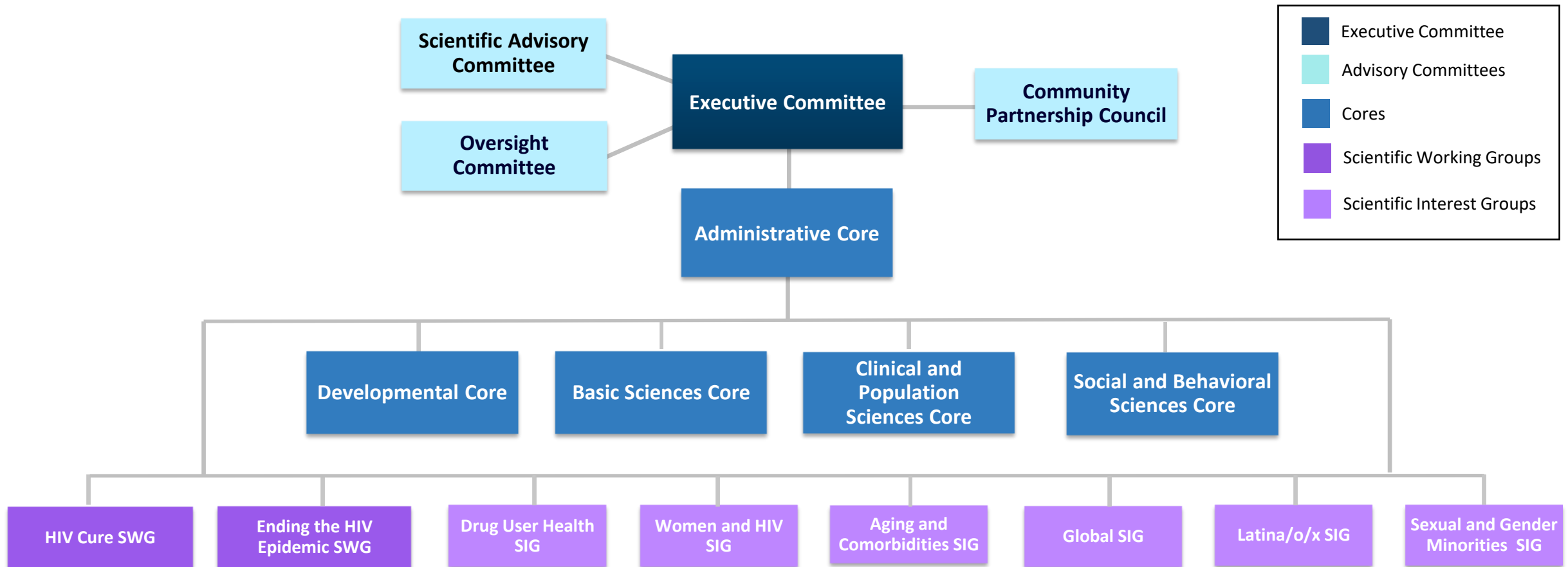
79 pilot awards for \$3.3M

36 supplemental awards for \$14.4M

134 new HIV investigators recruited

139 NIH HIV awards received

DC CFAR Organizational Chart



DC CFAR Executive Committee

Administrative



Alan Greenberg
(GW) Director



Manya Magnus
(GW) Co-Director



Gary Simon
Co-Director Emeritus



Michael Bukrinsky
(GW) Director



Sylvia Silver
(GW) Co-Director



Anthony Wutoh
(HU) Co-Director



Kim Blankenship
(AU) Co-Director



Mark Burke
(HU) Co-Director



Jonathon Rendina
(WW)

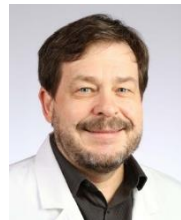


DeMarc Hickson
(UHU)

Developmental

Inst. Representative

Basic Sciences



Sergei Nekhai
(HU) Director



Sanjay Maggirwar
(GW) Co-Director



Alberto Bosque
(GW) Co-Director



Marta Catalfamo
(GU) Assoc. Director

Clinical and Population Sciences



Seble Kassaye
(GU) Director



Sam Simmens
(GW) Co-Director



Marc Siegel (GW)
Assoc. Director



Natella Rakhmanina
(CN) Scientific
Advisor



Debra Benator
(VA) Scientific
Advisor

Social and Behavioral Sciences



Deanna Kerrigan
(GW) Director



Maria Cecilia Zea
(GW) Co-Director



Lisa Bowleg
(GW) Co-Director



David Huebner
(GW) Co-Director



Nina Yamanis
(AU) Assoc. Director

HIV Cure SWG



Rebecca Lynch
(GW) Lead



Alberto Bosque
(GW) Co-Lead

EHE SWG



Amanda Castel
(GW) Lead



Clover Barnes
(DC Health) Co-Lead



Major DC CFAR Activities

- Stimulate and support research in **NIH HIV Research Priority Areas**
- **Pilot Awards and Mentoring Programs** for early stage and new investigators
- **Core services** - lab, clinical, epidemiology, biostatistics, and behavioral
- Encourage and support **recruitment** of HIV investigators to DC
- Support of multi-institutional **NIH grant applications**
- **Tracking** of services, grants and publications
- Promote **community-engaged research**
- Citywide and Core/SWG **seminars and symposia**
- **Website, Social Media and Weekly Update**

Administrative Core – Core A



Alan Greenberg (GW)
Director



Manya Magnus (GW)
Co-Director



Brandi Robinson (GW)
Administrative Director



TBD
Center
Associate



Vivian Kirkham(GW)
Program Assistant

Leadership and governance

- Greenberg (PI)
- Strategic planning and decision-making
- Convenes EC, OC, SAC and CPC meetings
- Leads/supports recruitment efforts

Multi-disciplinary science

- Organize citywide events, SWGs, SIGs and Inter-CFAR activities

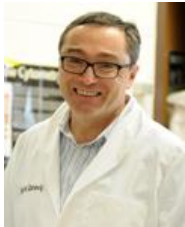
Administrative oversight and fiscal management

- Grants awarded to/managed within Core A
- Creates overall annual budgets (in consultation with the Cores)
- Issues sub-awards

Collaboration and communication

- Promote scientific programming
- NIH program officers and NIH grants management
- CFAR institutions' business offices
- Website, Weekly Update, Social Media and Special Announcements

Developmental Core – Core B



Michael Bukrinsky (GW)
Director



Sylvia Silver (GW)
Co-Director



Anthony Wutoh (HU)
Co-Director



Kim Blankenship (AU)
Co-Director



Mark Burke (HU)
Co-Director



Lorena Segarra (GW)
Senior Research
Program Manager



Vivian Kirkham (GW)
Core Manager

Core Objectives & Aims

- To promote and support innovative, collaborative, and multidisciplinary HIV research that is pertinent to the epidemic in Washington, DC
- To lead a dynamic mentoring program for early stage and transitioning HIV investigators with an emphasis on women and underrepresented minorities
- To provide educational and networking activities that promote multidisciplinary and cross-institutional collaboration in HIV research

Research Awards Program

- Pilot: Early Stage and New Investigators awards – up to \$50K
- Rapid Response: COVID-HIV, MPX-HIV awards – up to \$25K
- Academic-Community Partnership: Early Stage and New Investigator and Community Member awards – up to \$50K
- Transitioning: Established Investigators awards – up to \$100K

Microgrants

- Competitive, small grants, \$2,500 - \$5,000
- Core services (all CFAR investigators) and publication fees, poster printing, travel to scientific conferences (pilot award and NIH supplement recipients)

Mentoring Program

- Developing and implementing research ideas
- Grant application and manuscript preparation

Education and Training

- Grant Writing Workshops
- Research Seminars (Benchside to Community Seminars, Shared Seminars)
- Journal Club Webinars
- My Path to Independence in HIV Research

Basic Sciences Core – Core C



Sergei Nekhai (HU)
Director



Sanjay Maggirwar (GW)
Co-Director



Alberto Bosque (GW)
Co-Director



Marta Catalfamo (GU)
Assoc. Director



Vivian Kirkham (GW)
Core Manager

High-impact laboratory services

- Virologic and molecular services
- Immunological services
- Sequencing services
- Imaging services

Training investigators in techniques and assays

- Core Providers Day
- Lab Open Houses
- Seminar Series
- Resources for training opportunities

Consultations

- Manuscript preparation
- Grant application support

Clinical and Population Sciences Core – Core D



Seble Kassaye (GU)
Director



Sam Simmens (GW)
Co-Director



Marc Siegel (GW)
Assoc. Director



Vivian Kirkham (GW)
Core Manager

Comprehensive clinical, epidemiological, and biostatistical research services

- Consultations
- Manuscript preparation
- Study design
- Biostatistical analysis

Access to longitudinal HIV Cohorts for research and collaborations

- DC Cohort
- MACS-WIHS Combined Cohort Study (MWCCS)
- Study of Treatment and Reproductive Health in Women (STAR) Cohort

Events

- CPS Core Conversations

Social and Behavioral Sciences Core – Core E



Deanna Kerrigan (GW)
Director



Lisa Bowleg (GW)
Co-Director



Maria Cecilia Zea (GW)
Co-Director



David Huebner (GW)
Co-Director



Nina Yamanis (AU)
Assoc. Director



Allison O'Rourke (GW)
Core Manager

Services supporting development of new grant applications

- Peer review sessions
- Consultations
- Statistical analysis
- Manuscript preparation

Networking and building collaborations

- Mixers, mini-conferences, virtual coffee hours

Education, training, and resources

- Social and Behavioral Instruments (SABI) database

Community-engaged research

- Best practices for researcher-community collaboration and disseminating results

Community Partnership Council (CPC)



George Kerr III (GW)
CPC Chair
Community
Coordinator

- Community Partnership Council (formerly the Community Advisory Board)
 - Prominent members and leaders of the DC HIV community
 - Leaders of various DC HIV community-based organizations (CBOs)
 - Representatives of the HIV research CABs of DC CFAR institutions
- The CPC's active participation is one of the hallmarks of the DC CFAR
 - Participate in DC CFAR CPC meetings
 - Review and provide input on articles and publications
 - Review pilot award applications
 - Participate in pilot award consultation calls
 - Review and provide input on research applications
 - Participate in and present at meetings and conferences
 - Assist in the implementation of research studies
 - Engage with the community on CPC and related activities
 - Provide the unique perspective of the various communities represented on the CPC

OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH AWARDS PROGRAMS

Traditional Pilot Awards Program

- Aims to provide pilot funds on a competitive basis to HIV/AIDS investigators to assist them in the development of their NIH-funded research careers
 - Scope includes basic, clinical, epidemiologic, social, behavioral, and prevention HIV/AIDS science
 - Two RFA cycles per year – Spring & Fall
 - Awards up to \$50,000
 - Faculty investigators at 9 participating DC CFAR institutions are eligible to apply as PI
 - The funds are provided to support early stage or new/transitioning investigators, with an emphasis on women and underrepresented minorities
 - Applications reviewed by 3 peer reviewers and 1 CPC member
- RFA to be released on January 30
 - Pre-submission is required to submit a full application
 - Special consideration will be given to applications in the focus areas of the DC CFAR Scientific Working Groups (SWGs) and Scientific Interest Groups (SIGs)
 - Applications also strongly encouraged with other large NIH-funded HIV studies in DC including the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study/Women’s Interagency HIV Study Combined Cohort Study (MACS/WIHS CCS), and the DC Cohort
 - Co-sponsorship with the DC Cohort - information session will be hosted on Jan. 31 at noon.

Recent Pilot Award Recipients



Derek Dangerfield, George Washington University; Fall 2022

Designing a Shared Decision-Making Tool to Improve PrEP Initiation Among Black Sexual Minority Men



Kellan Baker, Whitman-Walker Institute; Spring 2022

Developing Best Practices for Integrating HIV Prevention into Gender-Affirming Care for Transgender Adults



Donaldson Conserve, George Washington University; Fall 2021

Developing Confirmatory HIV Testing and Linkage to Care Intervention Strategies for Men in Tanzania

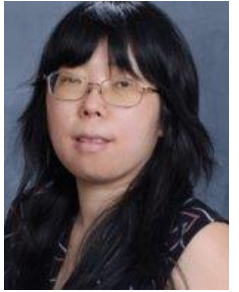
Lee Campbell, Georgetown University; Fall 2021

Identifying the effects of contemporary opioids on HIV proviral transcription and neuronal functionality



Yan Wang, George Washington University; Spring 2021

Substance use, mental health problems, and HIV outcomes among female sex workers



Ruth Kanthula, Georgetown University; Fall 2020

Prevalence of subclinical atherosclerosis among female adolescent and young adults with perinatally acquired HIV infection



Recent Award Recipients New to HIV



Michael Thomas, Howard University;
Fall 2022
Novel Strategy to Develop Ad-based HIV-1 vaccine

Mark Laubach, American University;
Spring 2021
Effects of HIV1 Tat and Antiretroviral Therapy on the Rodent Frontal Cortex



Georges Haddad, Howard University;
Fall 2021
Effects of cART on the Heart

Alexander Zestos, American University;
Spring 2021
Assessments of potential impacts of cognitive deficits on drug use and their implications for HIV intravenous drug users



Transitioning Investigator Awards Program

- Aims to provide a two-year pilot on a competitive and invitation-only basis to senior faculty
 - Scope includes basic, clinical, epidemiologic, social, behavioral, and prevention HIV/AIDS science
 - Awards up to \$100,000
 - Faculty investigators at 9 participating DC CFAR institutions are eligible to apply as PI
 - The funds are provided to support established investigators who have served as the PI on a non-HIV/AIDS-related R01 NIH award or equivalent, who have not received an NIH award for HIV/AIDS research, and who are interested in applying their scientific expertise within the HIV/AIDS field
 - Applications reviewed by 3 peer reviewers and 1 CPC member
- Call for concepts and instructions released on January 23
 - Applicants should submit a one-page concept sheet and NIH biosketch
 - Concept sheets should include the proposed title, a list of any co-investigators and/or HIV mentors, specific aims, background, approach, and significance of expected findings or results
 - Concept sheets are due to Lorena Segarra, at lsegarra@gwu.edu, by 5:00 pm ET on February 13
 - The Developmental Core will review the concept sheets and identify applicants to submit full applications
 - Full applications are due April 19

Transitioning Investigator Award Recipients



**Patrick Forcelli, Georgetown University;
Spring 2019**

*Impact of SIV/SHIV infection and ART
therapy on brain structure and connectivity in
infants*

**Marjorie Gondre-Lewis, Howard
University; Fall 2018**

Linking Genetic Risk for Addiction and HIV



QUESTIONS?

CONTACT US!

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Lorena Segarra lsegarra@gwu.edu

Vivian Kirkham vkirkham@gwu.edu