



AIDS 2006

Time to Deliver • Passons aux actes

Plenary Speaker Bios

MONDAY, 14 August

Current Challenges in the Global Response

(8:45, Session Room 1)

Julie OVERBAUGH, PhD, USA

HIV transmission and pathogenesis: A viral perspective

Dr. Julie Overbaugh is a Member and Associate Program Head at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle. Her work focuses on various aspects of HIV-1 transmission and pathogenesis, and is noted for its emphasis on translational research. She has worked closely with the Kenya/Seattle collaborative group for the past 12 years, including on a number of studies of mother to child transmission of HIV-1. Her group's studies have demonstrated that viruses which evolve over the course of infection are more pathogenic, in part because they have escaped neutralizing antibody control. Her group has also demonstrated that viruses transmitted to women tend to be more genetically diverse than those transmitted to men, particularly in women with sexually transmitted diseases or women who use hormonal contraceptives. Her recent work has highlighted that HIV-1-positive women continue to be at risk for re-infection. Dr. Overbaugh served as Chair of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant review panel on the molecular biology of HIV-1, Editor for *Journal of Virology*, organizer of several international meetings, and a member of the NIH Office of AIDS Research advisory committee. She received an Elizabeth Glaser Scientist Award and an NIH Merit award.

Chris BEYRER, MD, MPH, United States

HIV epidemiology update and transmission factors: Risks and risk contexts

Dr. Chris Beyrer is Associate Professor in the Departments of Epidemiology and International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He is the Director of Johns Hopkins Fogarty AIDS International Training and Research Program and founder and Director of the Center for Public Health and Human Rights at Johns Hopkins. He also serves as Senior Scientific Liaison and Chair of the Injecting Drug Use Working Group of the HIV Vaccine Trials Network. Dr. Beyrer obtained his medical degree from the State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY, and did his public health and infectious diseases training at Johns Hopkins. He currently has research and/or training activities in Thailand, China, Burma, India, Laos, Malawi, Uganda, Ethiopia, South Africa, Brazil, Russia, and the United States. Dr. Beyrer has published extensively on HIV/AIDS epidemiology and prevention research, HIV vaccine research, and public health and human rights and authored the 1998 book *War in the Blood: Sex, Politics and AIDS in Southeast Asia*. He served as a consultant to the World Bank Institute, World Bank Thailand Office, National Institutes of Health Office of AIDS Research, Levi Strauss Foundation, U.S. Military HIV Research Program, Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, Open Society Institute, Royal Thai Army, and numerous other organizations.

Anand GROVER, India

The Jonathan Mann Memorial Lecture: Human rights and social vulnerabilities

Anand Grover is a practicing lawyer in the Bombay High Court in India and Director of the Lawyers Collective HIV/AIDS Unit (LCHVAU). He is co-founder of LCHVAU and drafted, along with LCHVAU, the proposed HIV law in India. Grover has either assisted or argued several well-known cases in the field of public interest law relating to housing, environment, sex discrimination and sexual harassment, animal rights, and management take over by workers. He argued the first HIV case in India involving the challenge to Goa Public Health Amendment Act, the first HIV case in India relating to employment law in the Bombay High Court, several cases relating to the rights of sex workers, the first patent opposition in India, and the *Mumbai Bar Dancers* case.

Grover was a member of the drafting group of the *International Guidelines on Human Rights & HIV/AIDS*. He is a member of the *Reference Group on Human Rights*, which is advising UNAIDS Executive Director Dr. Peter Piot and the National AIDS Council of India. He is also a member of the National Advisory Board for the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative in India and serves on the National Board for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's *Avahan: India AIDS Initiative*.

Louise D. BINDER, Canada

From programme to policies - Now: Positive changes for women and girls

A lawyer by training, Louise Binder was diagnosed with HIV in 1993. She served as Board Member and Co-Chair of the Toronto People with AIDS Foundation until 1998, and is currently Vice-Chair of the provincial women's AIDS organization, Voices of Positive Women. In 1997, Binder helped to found the Canadian Treatment Action Council, and since its inception has served as its Co-Chair. She is also Co-Chair of the federal Ministerial Council on HIV/AIDS; a member of the Community Advisory Committee of the Canadian HIV Trials Network; a member of the HIV/AIDS Ethics Committee of the University of Toronto; one of the founding members of the recently formed Blueprint for Action on Women and HIV/AIDS; and Chair of the Canadian Advisory Committee for the HIV+ Children's Hospital Project, which is led by the Canadian Society for International Health. Ms. Binder has been a strong advocate on HIV-positive women's issues and was a founder of the First National Women's Conference in Canada. In recognition of her leadership and community service, Ms. Binder received the Ontario Network Award and the Canadian AIDS Society Leadership Award, among many others.

TUESDAY, 15 August

Prevention: Proven Approaches and New Technologies

(8:45, Session Room 1)

Cristina PIMENTA, PhD, Brazil

Conceptual frameworks and HIV/AIDS prevention paradigms

Dr. Cristina Pimenta has served as Executive Director of the Brazilian Interdisciplinary AIDS Association (ABIA) in Rio de Janeiro since 2002. She has worked as an international HIV/AIDS prevention consultant for 15 years, and has extensive experience in programme implementation and monitoring of public policies. Between 1996 and 2000, and again from 2005 to 2006, Dr. Pimenta was head of the Prevention Unit for the Brazilian National AIDS Programme. She has published numerous articles on HIV prevention among youth and women, and on harm reduction. Dr. Pimenta has a degree in psychology from the University of Maryland, a Master's Degree in Education from George Mason University and a PhD in Collective Health from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.

Gita RAMJEE, PhD, South Africa

Microbicides and other prevention technologies

Prof. Gita Ramjee is the Director of the HIV/AIDS Lead Programme for the South African Medical Research Council (MRC) and Director of MRC's HIV Prevention Research Unit. Her research focuses on HIV prevention and women-initiated prevention options such as microbicides, as well as treatment and care research in HIV-positive populations. Prof. Ramjee currently serves as the Principal Investigator on three Phase III and one Phase IIB microbicide trials, one Phase III trial of the vaginal diaphragm and a trial to test the effectiveness of short-course antiretroviral therapy at HIV-1 seroconversion. She and her team of 240 researchers and support staff are involved in the testing of five out of six microbicide products that have reached this advanced stage of development.

Prof. Ramjee is a long-standing contributor to the International AIDS Conference, having served as committee member and reviewer of abstracts. She was also Co-Chair of the recent Microbicides 2006 Conference in South Africa and is a Track Chair for the 4th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention: IAS 2007 in Sydney. She received her PhD at the University of Natal, South Africa, and was awarded Distinguished Visiting Professorship by the Tamil Nadu Medical University in India in 2005.

Francoise BARRÉ-SINOUSSE, PhD, France

Dynamics of HIV/AIDS vaccine research: From dream and nightmare to reality and hope

Prof. Françoise Barré-Sinoussi is Director of the Regulation of Retroviral Infections Unit (formerly the Retrovirus Biology Unit) at the Institut Pasteur in Paris, and has been involved in retrovirology research since the early 1970s. She is recognized in particular for her contributions to the identification and characterization of HIV in the 1980s. Prof. Barré-Sinoussi is first author of the publication (in *Science* in 1983) that first reported the discovery of a retrovirus later named HIV, in a patient at risk of developing AIDS. Prof. Barré-Sinoussi became responsible for her own laboratory at the Institut Pasteur in 1998 and initiated research programmes on viral and host determinants of HIV/AIDS pathogenesis. Between 1988 and 1998, she was also involved in collaborative programmes on HIV vaccine research, using primate models. Today, her research focuses on innate regulations of HIV/SIV infection.

Prof. Barré-Sinoussi is author or co-author of more than 200 original publications and of more than 120 articles in book reviews. She has received 10 national or international awards for her contributions to HIV/AIDS. Along with her research activities, Prof. Barré-Sinoussi has strongly promoted the integration between HIV/AIDS research and actions in resource-limited countries, and is involved in capacity development, training and technology transfers on-site in Africa and Asia.

Alex WODAK, MD, Australia

Global harm reduction efforts to control HIV among injecting drug users: Current status

Dr. Alex Wodak has been Director of the Alcohol and Drug Service at Sydney's St. Vincent's Hospital since 1982. His responsibilities include hospital care of alcohol and drug dependent patients, teaching and research. He helped establish the first needle syringe programme and medically supervised the injecting centre in Australia when both were pre-legal. Dr. Wodak was President of the International Harm Reduction Association (1996-2004) and is President of the Australian Drug Law Reform Foundation. He has worked on HIV control among injecting drug users, often for the World Health Organization or UNAIDS, in

developing countries in Asia, South America and the Middle East. Dr. Wodak has also been involved extensively in research in prisons and published more than 200 scientific papers.

WEDNESDAY, 16 August

Advancing Treatment and Universal Access: A Report on State-of-the-Art and Progress

(8:45, Session Room 1)

Julio MONTANER, Canada

Re-evaluating the cost-effectiveness of HAART - The case for expanding treatment access to curb the growth of the epidemic

Dr. Julio Montaner is the Acting Director and Director of Clinical Activities of the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, and Co-Director of the Canadian HIV Trials Network. He is also the Director of the AIDS Research Programme and the Immunodeficiency Clinic at St. Paul's Hospital (SPH), holding the Endowed Chair in AIDS Research at the University of British Columbia (UBC), the first initiative of its kind in Canada. In addition to his work at UBC and SPH, Dr. Montaner was an AIDS National Health Research Scholar from 1987 until 1997. Dr. Montaner is President-Elect of the International AIDS Society and will assume the office of President in 2008.

One of Dr. Montaner's key early contributions to the field includes landmark research that led to the adoption of systemic corticosteroids as adjunctive therapy for AIDS-related *Pneumocystis carini* pneumonia (PCP), which became standard practice in the management of severe AIDS-related PCP. He then focused his attention on the development of aerosol pentamidine as a preventive strategy against PCP and atovaquone as a novel preventive and therapeutic agent against PCP. He has published over 250 papers on multiple aspects of HIV research.

Ruth NDUATI, MBCHB, MMED, MPH, Kenya

Children and AIDS

Prof. Ruth Nduati is Associate Professor of Paediatrics, Epidemiologist and Consultant Paediatrician for the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, Faculty of Medicine, College of Health Sciences, University of Nairobi. She is a member of the Kenya Paediatric Association, the Ghent International Working Group on prevention of mother to child transmission (MTCT) of HIV, and member of the World Health Organization strategic and technical advisory committee for HIV/AIDS. Prof. Nduati's areas of professional interest include research on prevention of MTCT of HIV, especially through breastfeeding, and the translation of research into standards of care for children.

Agnès BINAGWAHO, MD, Rwanda

Prevention and universal access

Dr. Agnes Binagwaho is Executive Secretary of Rwanda's National AIDS Control Commission. She is a member of the Expert Panel of the Country Coordinating Mechanism in Rwanda for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and Chair of the PEPFAR Steering Committee in Rwanda. Dr. Binagwaho is also a member of several boards and foundations combating AIDS and infant mortality. As part of the Millennium Development Goal Project, Dr. Binagwaho coordinated the Task Force on HIV/AIDS and Access to Essential Medicines.

By training, Dr. Binagwaho is a paediatrician specializing in emergency paediatrics and the treatment of HIV/AIDS in children and adults. She continues to practice part-time in Kigali. She has presented at international conferences and published on the subject of paediatric HIV/AIDS and

mother to child transmission, and has participated in developing standards of care for the treatment of HIV/AIDS in Rwanda. A Rwandan citizen, Dr. Binagwaho obtained her medical training in Belgium and France.

Kevin DE COCK, MD, United States

From "3 by 5" to universal access

Dr. Kevin M. De Cock is Director of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Department of HIV/AIDS, a post to which he was appointed after serving six years as Director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Kenya. In his new role, Dr. De Cock will oversee all of WHO's HIV/AIDS-related work, focusing on initiatives to assist developing countries in scaling up their treatment, prevention, care and support programmes.

Dr. De Cock is an infectious disease specialist, with expertise in HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, liver disease and tropical diseases such as yellow fever and viral hemorrhagic fevers. He previously served as the Director of the CDC's Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, Surveillance and Epidemiology in Atlanta. As an American citizen born in Belgium and educated in the United Kingdom, Dr. De Cock received Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery and MD degrees from the University of Bristol and a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from the Liverpool University School of Tropical Medicine. He is also a Visiting Professor of Medicine and International Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

THURSDAY, 17 August

Time to Deliver: The Price of Inaction

(8:45, Session Room 1)

Mark HEYWOOD, South Africa

The price of political denial

Mark Heywood is a Senior Researcher and Head of the AIDS Law Project (ALP) at the Centre for Applied Legal Studies, University of the Witwatersrand, and National Treasurer of the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) in South Africa. He is an editor of *HIV/AIDS and the Law: Resource Manual*, has published more than 100 articles on legal, ethical and human rights questions linked to HIV/AIDS, and consulted for UNAIDS, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Labor Organization and the Office of the High Commission on Human Rights.

Mr. Heyward assisted in the drafting of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Code on AIDS and Employment (1996) and the World Health Organization/UNAIDS Guidance on Disclosure, Partner Notification and AIDS Reporting (1999). He was involved in drafting the United Nations International Guidelines on HIV and Human Rights (1996) and the UNAIDS manual on HIV/AIDS and human rights for Members of Parliament (1999). At ALP, he has been involved in successful public impact litigation on the rights of PLWHA, including the case brought by TAC against the South African Government on mother to child transmission of HIV, which also led to a ground-breaking judgment in South Africa's Constitutional Court. Mr. Heyward holds a BA (Hons) from Oxford University in English Language and Literature and studied for an MA in African Literature at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Alexandra (Sasha) VOLGINA, Russian Federation

Poverty and development

Sasha Volgina has been living with HIV since 2000, when she was diagnosed after years of injecting drug use. In 2003, Ms. Volgina formed Frontaids, the first treatment activist group

in Russia. FrontAids's direct radical actions became known internationally and influenced state policy on national funding for antiretroviral therapy treatment in Russia. She emerged as a leader of the self-support group SVECHA (CANDLE) and became its Director in 2005.

Ms. Volgina's first mass media and public speaking experience was in late 2003 when she participated in *Right for Life*, a programme co-organized by SVECHA. At the time, she was forced to make her presentation wearing a mask to avoid hostility and discrimination. Since then, she has disclosed her HIV status for the Transatlantic Partners Against AIDS (TPAA) mass media campaign, *HIV concerns everybody*. In September 2005, Ms. Volgina received MTV's *Staying Alive* award in recognition of her contribution to the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Ms. Volgina has organized more than 20 workshops across the Russian Federation devoted to self-support groups, treatment, the work of community-based organizations and advocacy. She is one of the leading experts in care and treatment and organizing care for active drug users living with HIV in Russia, and a vocal advocate for the equal rights for PLWHA/IDUs in their access to quality healthcare.

Musimbi KANYORO, PhD, Kenya

The AIDS pandemic: Transforming religion, politics and civil society

Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro is the General Secretary of the World YWCA, the largest women's voluntary membership movement committed to the mission of developing the leadership of women and girls for social change. Each year, over 25 million women and girls have access to YWCA programmes provided by 122 national YWCAs. Through her leadership, the World YWCA has prioritized HIV/AIDS, with a focus on women and girls' leadership in prevention, care and treatment literacy.

Dr. Kanyoro is a member of the Leadership Council of the Global Coalition on Women and HIV and AIDS. She is also part of a consortium of CEOs of youth organizations that are currently working on youth empowerment for HIV prevention. Dr. Kanyoro has received national and international awards for her leadership and public advocacy on behalf of women, girls and children. She has authored and edited more than 10 books and published over 50 articles in books and journals.

Kerrel MCKAY, Jamaica

Youth and the future

Born and raised in Portland, Jamaica, Kerrel McKay grew up in a single parent home with her mom and sister. At a very early age she cared for her sick father, who later died from AIDS-related illnesses. After her father died, she was encouraged to start a youth group, today called the Portland AIDS Committee youth group. The group became the first youth group on the island to respond to the growing rate of HIV/AIDS in the country and has mobilized thousands of young people, many of whom are still advocating change today.

Since then, Ms. McKay has represented young people and adults affected and infected by HIV at the local, national and international levels, including representing UNICEF's country office in Jamaica at different conferences and functions. She has also been involved in efforts to provide home-based care and support for people infected and affected by HIV, and with reaching both the young and old with HIV/AIDS information.

Ms. McKay is a teacher by profession, but is currently employed by the Ministry of Health in Kingston, Jamaica, where she is an outreach officer in their HIV/AIDS response programme. She is currently the President of the Portland AIDS Committee adult group.