

# Inside the Core

## Penn CFAR Behavioral Social Sciences Core

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Tiffany B. Dominique, Editor

*"Now is the accepted time, not tomorrow, not some more convenient season. It is today that our best work can be done and not some future day or future year. It is today that we fit ourselves for the greater usefulness of tomorrow."*

—W.E.B. Dubois

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### Want More

To receive additional information on any topic you read about here today or give feedback, please contact Tiffany B. Dominique at 215-746-7352 or email, tybrown@mail.med.upenn.edu

Visit us on the web:

[www.uphs.upenn.edu/aids/cores/bssc/bsscmain.htm](http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/aids/cores/bssc/bsscmain.htm)

## The White House Comes to Penn



As part of a six city tour the White House's Office of National AIDS Policy has hosted forums across the country engaging communities as part of the implementation of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy. The one held at Penn titled "Sustaining the Community Based Response to HIV" seemed surrounded by controversy with many both inside and outside of the academic institution questioning the inclusion of community in the process at the local level in planning this event.

There were those in the community that begged the question what community does this mean— community organizations, the academic community, Persons with AIDS. Does the title alone suggest that the community response is a positive one?

Despite the initial hurdles that

existed the forum appeared to provide some frank discussions yet at times left audience members with more questions that answers to what the future holds in what is clearly seen as an exciting yet uncharted era in HIV/AIDS.

Nurit Shein, Don Blanchon, and others reminded audience members that many of the systems that are in place now exist because we as a community created them not the government. They reminded us that these systems were created to fill the need and it will take that same community will to help shape the future of the implementation process. One audience member clearly agreed stating, "Some of the social ills that existed then have not disappeared and now is an opportunity to ensure that some of our best practices created in HIV get incorporated into the Affordable Care Act. We know how to treat and support our people."

The session was just one of many conversations that will continue across the country, but Paul Kawata, NMAC Executive Director, asked the question, that still requires an answer; "Are you Ready?" ■

## Did you know?

.... As of Sept 16, 2011, VOICE (MTN-003), an HIV prevention trial evaluating two ARV based approaches dropped one of the oral tablets in the study. Go to [www.mtnstophiv.org/mode/3619](http://www.mtnstophiv.org/mode/3619) for more info.

.... Jeff Crowley, Deputy Director of ONAP steps down from his post effective December 2011.

.... That it has been 20 years

since Irvin Magic Johnson retired from the LA Lakers basketball team after announcing his HIV status.

....97% of people on Ryan White AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) waiting lists live in southern states (with Florida accounting for 4,000 of the 9,000+ people on the lists).

....Steve Jobs and Bono collaborated on (PRODUCT) RED .

## Protocols to Watch

- Narratives of Sexuality and Sexual Safety Among Black Emerging Women. (K. Alexander)
- Functional MRI of anti-tobacco public service announcements. (D. Langleben) Contact: (215) 222-3200
- Cancer Care Among Medicare HIV patients. (S. Chhantre) Contact: (215) 746-7348
- Impact of Poor Health and HIV/AIDS on Small Businesses in South Africa. (LW. Chao) Contact: (215) 898-8483

### WANT THE COMMUNITY TO ...

- REVIEW YOUR PROTOCOLS?
- HELP RECRUIT STUDY PARTICIPANTS
- DISSEMINATE YOUR FINDINGS?

### TALK TO THE

### CFAR CAB

at 215-746-7352 or [penn.cfar@gmail.com](mailto:penn.cfar@gmail.com)

## Who tweeted that?

Novel Drug Approach Against HIV Receives Gates Foundation Funding

- CHOP
- UC Merced
- U Miami

Email your responses to win a prize;  
tybrown@mail.med.upenn.edu

**BSS Member  
Announcements &  
Acknowledgements**

Look for funding opportunities:  
[www.uphs.upenn.edu/aids/funding/funding.htm](http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/aids/funding/funding.htm)

**FYI**

October 11, 2011

CFAR CAB meeting  
3535 Market Street  
Ste 4123 12p-2p

November 8, 2011

CFAR CAB meeting  
3535 Market Street  
Ste 4123 12p-2p

Dec. 1, 2011

World AIDS Day  
Penn CFAR CAB Red Ribbon  
Awards  
City Hall, Conversation Hall  
5:30pm-7:30pm

Dec. 2, 2011

Penn CFAR 10th Annual Retreat  
BRB II/III  
421 Curie Blvd  
8:00am-4:30pm

**December 20, 2011  
BSS Core Meeting  
3535 Market St,  
Ste. 640 12p-2p**

IN THE FUTURE  
SBSRN IN NORTH CAROLINA  
March 1-2, 2012  
<http://www.cfarsbsrn2012.com/>  
To register, get updates, etc

## Policy Matters Anyone?

What started as a conference held in Boston a year ago has grown to include quarterly topical webinars and the recent two day education and advocacy training with hopes of expanding.

- \*The Affordable Care Act
- \* Ryan White AIDS Drug Assistance Program
- \*National HIV/AIDS Strategy

These were just a few of the many policies discussed at, "The Forgotten Epidemic: Our Collective Response, Responsibility, and Solutions to the AIDS Crisis in Black America" a two day education and advocacy summit spearheaded by the NAACP. The summit included themes around HIV and Health Equity, Dollars and Sense, National AIDS Strategy and Research Panel, and Advocacy into Action.

Each session clearly identified policy/ legislative agenda items and provided possible points to convey to legislators on Capitol Hill. Each session also had a sense of seeing the light at the end of the tunnel feel. The excitement regarding the National HIV/AIDS Strategy and the knowledge that



community advocates from across the country pushed for such a strategy and recent advances in science had panelists and audience members alike filled with the belief that the end of the epidemic is achievable in the lifetime of those in the room.

The clear charge of this summit and the planned subsequent activities is for the epidemic to be forgotten no more in this community specifically or any other.

Be sure to look for future updates as the NAACP and CFARs begin to strengthen their partnership and resolve in addressing HIV within the Black community. ■

## Where to find

- Assessment Tools  
<http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/aids/cores/bssc/assessment.htm>
- Office of Research Services- to promote the research endeavors at Penn  
<http://www.upenn.edu/researchservices/>
- NIH RePORTER - searchable database of federally funded biomedical research projects. <http://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter.cfm>
- Information regarding the re-competition and restructuring can be found at <http://www.niaid.nih.gov/topics/HIVAIDS/Research/Pages/2013NetworkRestructuring.aspx>
- To post comments about DAIDS future research agenda please visit <http://blog.aids.gov/2010/06/future-priorities-for-niaids-hiv-prevention-research.html>

## In the Community— AIDS Walk Philly 2011



## Tell us what you think!

1. How can the BSS Core improve to meet your needs?
2. Have you used the new software library? Was the process easy to navigate? Was it adequate technical support?

All responses can be emailed to: Tiffany B. Dominique at [tybrown@mail.med.upenn.edu](mailto:tybrown@mail.med.upenn.edu) ■

## Big Ups!

- Early career investigator, Bridgette Brawner, PhD received R25 funding for NIMH pilot project.
- Anne M. Teitelman, PhD, was recently appointed as the Patricia Bleznak Silverstein and Howard A. Silverstein Endowed Term Chair in Global Women's Health ■

## What's on your IPOD?

1. I know I've been changed— Latosha Brown (*what can I say fab voice & great community organizer*)
2. Superfly— Curtis Mayfield (*Really, you know you like it. I'm dancing right now & being transported back to the 70's*)
3. Everyday is a winding road— Sheryl Crow (*Especially if you take Lincoln Drive into work. My own private rollercoaster*)
4. Ghosts of Congo Square—

Terrance Blanchard (*who doesn't need a little haunting this time of year*)  
5. Faithfully— Journey (*Okay so admittedly I just discovered them watching Glee. But at least I did*)  
6. Black and Yellow— Wiz Khalifa (*I know this is Eagles country but what can I say other than the Steelers do have the most Super-bowl wins ever. Just saying*) ■