UCLA-CDU CFAR Open House

UCLA-CDU CFAR grant P30 AI152501

UCLA-CDU CFAR Mission Statement

The Mission of the UCLA-CDU CFAR is to **STOP HIV** in Los Angeles County and beyond.

UCLA-CDU CFAR Vision Statement

Partnership to **STOP HIV** Together:

- Stop new infections
- Stop the need for life-long treatment
- Stop morbidity among people living with HIV
- Stop the disparate burden of HIV disease

UCLA-CDU CFAR AFFILIATES

What will the UCLA-CDU CFAR DO?

LEVERAGE

Leverage currently funded programs

AMPLIFY

Amplify impact through CFAR cores and other services (mentoring, pilot projects, and gatherings)

STRENGTHEN

Strengthen the partnership between institutions and investigators

SUPPORT

Support bidirectional sharing of the expertise at both institutions

UCLA-CDU CFAR COMPONENTS

6 CORES, 1 SWG

Core A: Administrative

Jerome A. Zack, PhD (Co-Director)
Judith S. Currier, MD (Co-Director)
LaShonda Spencer, MD (Co-Director)
Kathie G. Ferbas, PhD (Managing Director, Scientific)
Jina Lee (Managing Director, Operations)

Core B: Developmental

Risa Hoffman, MD (Co-Director)
Omolola Ogunyemi, PhD (Co-Director)

Core C: Centralized Laboratory Support

Dong Sung An, MD (Director)
Jennifer Fulcher, MD (Associate Director)

Core D: Gene Therapy and Humanized Mouse

Scott G. Kitchen, PhD (Director)

Core E: Community Engagement and Clinical Informatics

Dilara Uskup, PhD, PhD (Co-Director)
Aziza Wright, MEd (Co-Director)

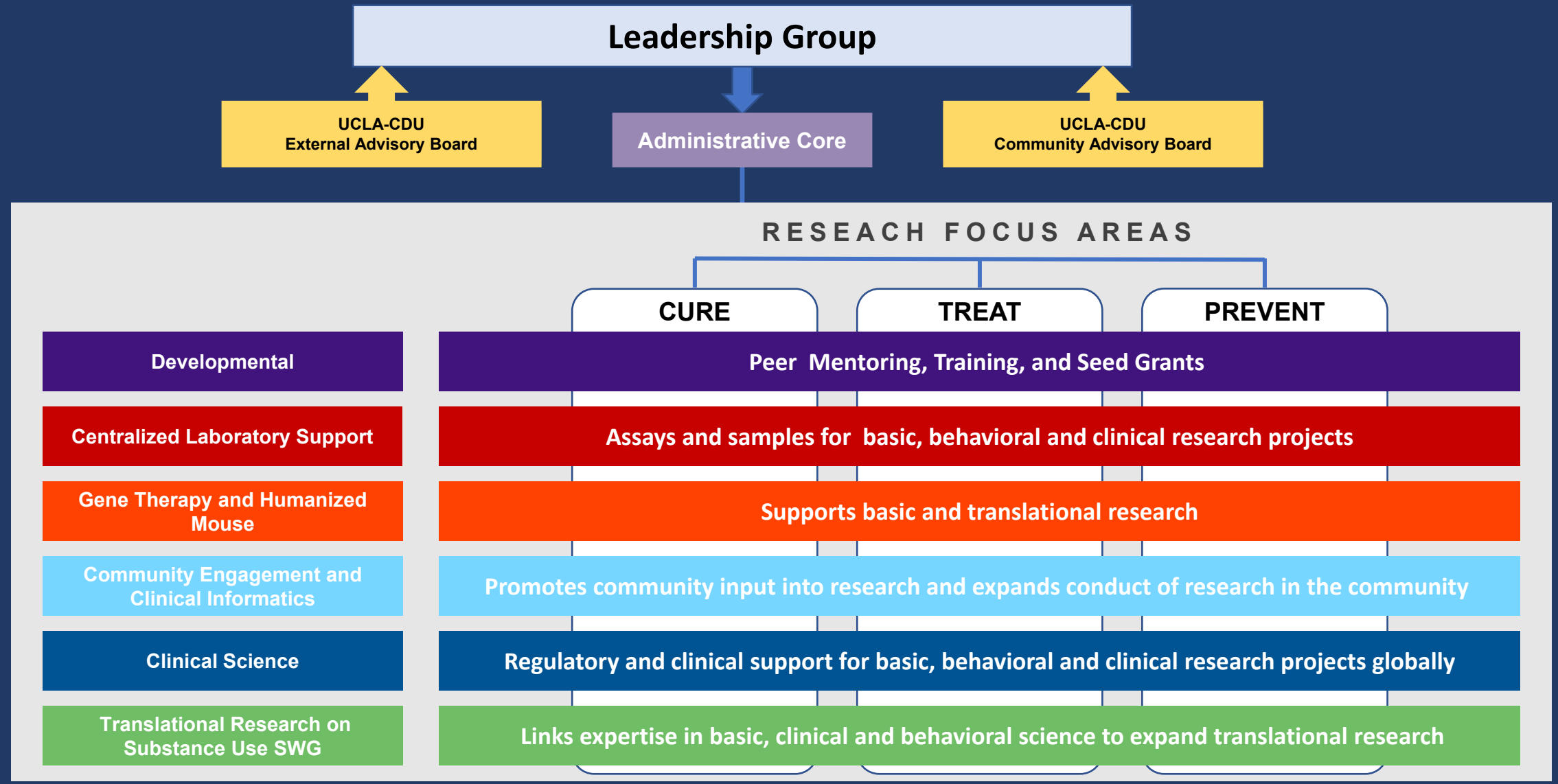
Core F: Clinical Science

Kara Chew, MD (Director)

SWG: Translational Research on Substance Use

Pamina Gorbach, DrPh (Director)
Steve Shoptaw, PhD (Co-Director)
Gigi Simmons, PhD (Co-Director)

UCLA-CDU CFAR INTEGRATION



Community Engagement and Clinical Informatics Core

Core's purpose

The Mission of the UCLA-CDU CFAR is to

STOP HIV

Los Angeles County and beyond through the partnership of community members & institutions.

Core's purpose

Community members are experts in the community, community outreach, and audience for dissemination of information. Community is the key to **STOP HIV**.

Katz, D., Preventing Chronic Disease, 2004

UCLA CDU CFAR
CENTER FOR AIDS RESEARCH

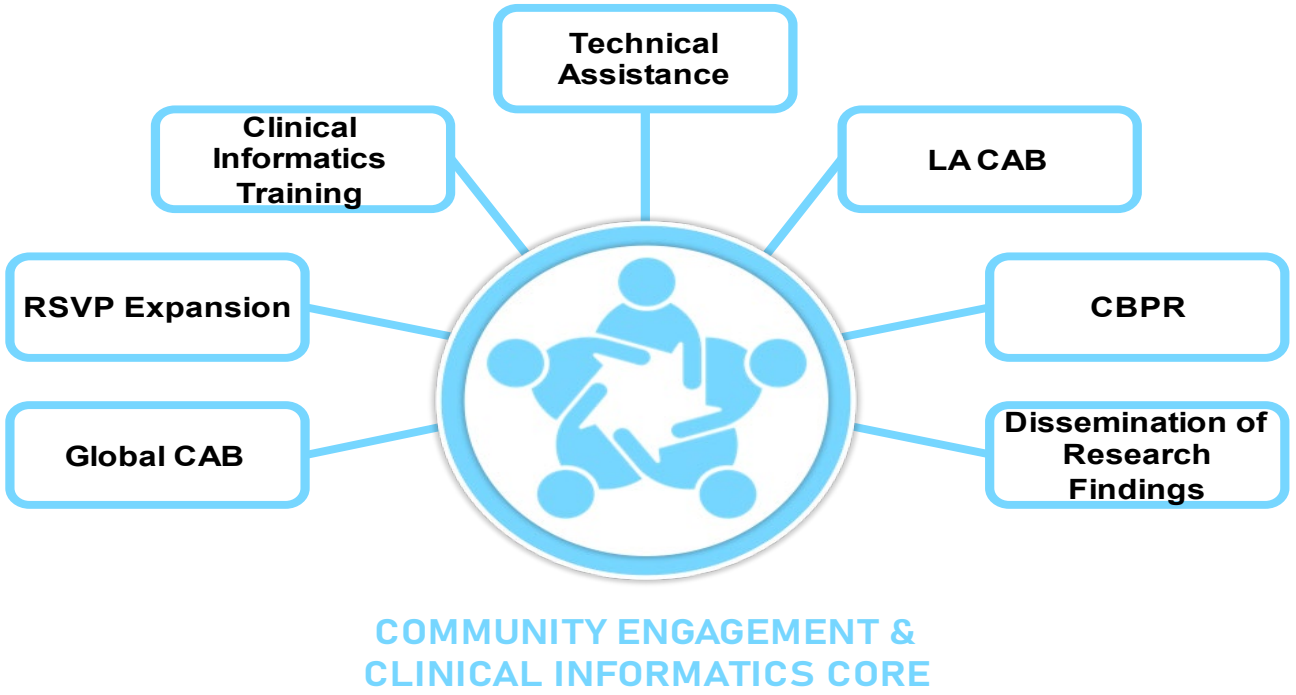
CORE LEADERSHIP

- Professor Aziza Lucas-Vernado, MEd
  Director, Division of Community Engagement
  Co-Director, UCLA-CDU CFAR Core E
  Assistant Professor, Vice-Chair
  Department of Preventative & Social Medicine

- Professor Dilara Üsküp Morgan
  Co-Director, UCLA-CDU CFAR Core E
  Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine

CORE COMPONENTS

Figure 3. Key Tasks of the Community Engagement & Clinical Informatics Core



UCLA CDU CFAR
CENTER FOR AIDS RESEARCH

CORE AIMS

AIM 1: To provide training and technical assistance (TA) in Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) to support productive collaborations between CFAR investigators and community partners.

- Establish quarterly “Meet and Greet” forums between CFAR investigators and community and global partners to identify mutual research interests.
- Work with the Administrative and Developmental Cores to connect Early-Stage Investigators (ESI) and underrepresented racial minoritized (URM) investigators to identify funding opportunities with community partners, thereby increasing collaborative CBPR research proposals in HIV prevention and treatment research.
- Establish an annual “HIV Community Health Research Forum” to present findings to the community and expand our network of community partners

AIM 2: To expand CBPR to populations disproportionately impacted by HIV in Los Angeles and globally through the strategic use of Community Advisory Boards (CABs) and a research registry (RSVP).

- Institute two CABs to work with the Administrative and Developmental Cores to identify new areas of need and to help shape RFAs for pilot projects to ensure they advance health equity.
- LA CAB will focus on impacted local communities ensuring that research is responsive to their interests and needs.
- Global CAB will support CFAR researchers interested in global health and inform our thinking about stopping the HIV epidemic in communities across Africa, Latin America, and the US.

CORE AIMS

AIM 2 (continued): To expand CBPR to populations disproportionately impacted by HIV in Los Angeles and globally through the strategic use of Community Advisory Boards (CABs) and a research registry (RSVP).

- Provide access to and inform diverse participants about research studies using an expanded research registry (RSVP).
- Leverage RSVP to increase the participation of under-represented populations in clinical trials.
- Maintain ongoing communication with people in the registry to disseminate information on scientific advances and to assess community priorities and concerns related to research.
- Promote the activities of the CFAR throughout the broader LA community in collaboration with the Administrative Core through the use of social media platforms.

AIM 3: : To create infrastructure to conduct Clinical Informatics-supported research with community medical providers in Los Angeles to support analysis of EHR data and to inform best practices that are responsive to patients' and providers' changing needs.

- Provide clinical data extraction and retrieval, guidance on HIPAA-compliant data storage media, as well as data management training and support to community medical providers.
- In collaboration with the Developmental Core and the Centralized Laboratory Support Core, engage community investigators to develop rapid evaluation and pilot projects with CFAR investigators.
- Establish processes to support the submission of R-level proposals based on pilot data.
- By promoting advanced CBPR practices, the CECIC will expand and transform how HIV research is conducted in Los Angeles and globally. We will foster a new generation of partnerships between ESI and URM investigators, and community-based organizations to decrease HIV incidence and improve care outcomes.

CORE-E WILL ACCOMPLISH GOALS BY

- Promoting funding opportunities and support collaborations for submission of competitive CBPR proposals
- Convene a yearly Summer Institute in CBPR and Clinical Informatics
- Provide ongoing technical assistance in CBPR and Clinical Informatics
- Establish new collaborations and research opportunities with community clinics and medical providers
- Expand the RSVP research registry (with the Clinical Science Core)
- Develop a local and a global community advisory board (CAB), and
- Provide Clinical Informatics services to community clinics and medical providers in Los Angeles (LA).

CPPR SUMMER INSTITUTE

- Hosted an all-day in person and virtual community partnered participatory research summer institute for UCLA & CDU investigators, affiliates, providers, clinicians, community members & partners, students, and faculty.
- Second annual conference Fall 2024

UCLA CDU CFAR
CENTER FOR AIDS RESEARCH

E4 CFAR CAB CONFERENCE

- **Educate** - To provide medical updates regarding HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention, Community Advisory Board best practices, and current and past research studies.
- **Engage** - To provide networking opportunities for potential study participants, researchers, and community stakeholders around HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention best practices.
- **Empowe**r - To leverage resources and opportunities for active recruitment of potential study participants, focus group participants, and CAB members.
- **Elevate** - To better understand the barriers associated with bringing underserved community members, researchers, potential study participants, focus group participants, CAB members, and stakeholders together to advance HIV/AIDS research in a meaningful way.

THE CLARION CALL “NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US” !!!

Clinical Science Core

UCLA-CDU CFAR Clinical Science Core

- Mission:
  - To support the translation of preliminary data and ideas into clinical and behavioral studies that advance HIV science and lead to interventions with quantifiable impact on the HIV epidemic. The Core aims to achieve this by reducing barriers to the development and implementation of studies. Both domestic and global research initiatives are supported.

- Specific Aims:
  - To provide support and training to investigators in the regulatory approval and implementation aspects of biomedical, behavioral, and basic translational studies in HIV
  - To facilitate clinical and translational research in HIV by increasing access to research participants and generating new scientific and community collaboration

Core Faculty and Staff

Kara Chew, MD, MS
Core Director

Stephanie Buchbinder, MPH
Core Manager

Risa Hoffman, MD, MPH
Core Faculty

Ian Holloway, PhD, LCSW
Core Faculty

Aleen Khodabakhshian, MD
Core Clinical Coordinator

Ste'von Afemata
Core Laboratory Coordinator

Kevin Pizarro
Outreach Coordinator

Core Services: Support for Developing and Implementing Studies

- Regulatory Submissions
  - Assistance/guidance preparing IRB initial submissions, amendments, continuing reviews, and post approval reports
  - Guidance on Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) and clinicaltrials.gov submissions
- Grant/Proposal Support
  - Assistance with study design and proposal development
  - Identification of collaborators/resources for the proposed work
  - Provision of letters of support
- Study Implementation
  - Consultation on protocol readiness, identification of investigator needs and linkage to resources including statistical, data management, laboratory, and regulatory/monitoring support
  - Recruitment support

Core Services: Linkage to Research Populations – Recruitment and Biospecimens

- Research Study Volunteer Project (RSVP)
  - Diverse registry of >700 volunteers with and without HIV interested in participating in HIV-related studies
  - Investigators can request use of RSVP to recruit participants for IRB-approved studies
  - Grant applications supported by demonstrating feasibility of accessing the target study population through RSVP (LOS)
- Samples to Aid Researchers To Upend HIV (START UP)
  - Registry of volunteers with HIV interested in donating blood for HIV-related studies
  - Investigators can request blood samples (whole blood, plasma, serum, or PBMCs) – on demand blood collection (max 50 mL per visit) for specific research projects
- Consultation on proposals using data and sample repositories for NIH-funded cohorts of people with and without HIV (such as MACS/WIHS CCS, ACTG, HPTN, VACS, mSTUDY, IMPAACT, ACSR, and others)

Educational Programming

- Clinical Discovery Seminar series
  - Quarterly seminars to introduce researchers to new science conducted by peers, HIV networks, and available data and samples, to foster new proposals and collaborations

- Training Workshops
  - Biannual training workshops on regulatory, implementation, and other essential aspects of conducting and disseminating research involving human participants
  - New Implementation Science training series to begin in May 2024

Core Contact Information

- Core email address: cfarclinicalcore@mednet.ucla.edu
- Visit our website: https://cfar.ucla-cdu.org/cores/clinical-science-core/

Centralized Laboratory Support Core

UCLA CDU CFAR Centralized Laboratory Support Core

The Core provides supports for researchers to carry out virologic, immunologic, and microbiome/genomics studies.

Specific Aims:

1. Provide comprehensive laboratory services to assess HIV-1 infection and immune responses.
2. Provide expertise in the design, implementation, and analysis of studies examining HIV-1 infection.
3. Support clinical HIV-1 research through CAP/CLIA-certified laboratory services.
4. Provide training in relevant laboratory techniques to clients.

Core Laboratory Leadership and Staff

- Core Director: Dr. Dong Sung An, M.D., Ph.D
- Core Faculty: Jennifer Fulcher, M.D., Ph.D
- Lab Manager: Art Catapang

Core Material Services

The UCLA CLS (Virology) Core can provide labs with:

- Whole blood samples
- Peripheral Blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) isolated from whole blood (fresh or frozen)
- Subset cell isolation (ex. monocytes)

All samples are acquired from donors in collaboration with the UCLA Blood and Platelet Center

Core Technical Assay Services

- ddPCR (droplet digital) assay
  - Biorad QX200 ddPCR system
  - Applications: viral and cellular RNA and DNA quantifications
- HIV-1 P24 antigen ELISA
- Provide technical support for researchers implement core technologies in respective research goals

Services Offered by Request

- Virology Services
- Immunology and Mucosal Services
- Microbiome and ‘Omics Services
- CAP/CLIA-certified Laboratory Services
- Access to core instrumentation/laboratory bench space

How to Contact Us

- Art's email: acatapang@mednet.ucla.edu
- Art's phone: (310)206-8597
- Location
  Biomedical Sciences Research Building, Room 162
  615 Charles E. Young Drive South
- Website: https://cfar.ucla-cdu.org/cores/centralized-laboratory-support-core/
- PBMC Ordering form: https://forms.gle/SVqmvvxdYVhrd1Up8

Developmental Core

SPECIFIC AIMS

Aim 1: Organize activities that support faculty interactions and mentorship

Aim 2: Coordinate and support faculty recruitment to UCLA and CDU

Aim 3: Administer a pilot grant funding program

Aim 4: Fundraising efforts to supplement the activities of the above aims

THE TEAM

Risa Hoffman, MD, MPH
Co-Director

Omolola Ogunyemi, PhD
Co-Director

Kathie G. Ferbas, PhD
Managing Director, Scientific

Jina Lee
Managing Director, Operations

Raphael Landovitz, MD
Mentoring Faculty

Nina Harawa, PhD
Mentoring Faculty

ONGOING EVENTS

BIWEEKLY MULTI-DISCIPLINARY HIV SEMINAR SERIES

Showcases two presentations by researchers investigating HIV/AIDS and other viruses: typically trainees or ESI describing their work in progress.

- Every other Tuesday, in-person at UCLA BSRB 154, from 9am to 10am.

HIV GRAND ROUNDS, in collaboration with UCLA CHIPTS

Monthly seminar series features renowned researchers, clinicians, community members, policy makers, and leaders in HIV prevention and treatment sharing important developments in HIV-related research.

- 3rd Tuesday of every month, from 11am to 12pm

PEER MENTORING POD MEETINGS FOR EARLY-STAGE INVESTIGATORS (ESIs)

Quarterly gatherings to cultivate a tight-knit community of peer support for ESIs while providing exposure to faculty members from diverse backgrounds.

- Discussion topics: manuscript preparation, navigating collaborations, fund management, and faculty advancement strategies.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR TIME SENSITIVE ACTIVITIES

ACCEPTED ON A ROLLING BASIS

Core B: Developmental

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION ASSISTANCE

Support for recruiting new faculty (supplemental start-up funding) or retaining existing faculty.

- In 2023, Dr. Laura D'Anna was recruited to CDU
  - Focus on health disparities, social discrimination, and health outcomes

TRAVEL GRANTS

<u>DOMESTIC TRAVEL</u> ($1,000 max/award)

For UCLA-CDU CFAR award recipients with a currently active project or a project that has ended within the last 12 months – for travel to present at scientific meetings or other meetings focused on developing new collaborations

<u>INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL</u> ($3,000 max/award)

Funds travel to initiate new international HIV research projects.

- In 2023, Dr. Charisse Ahmed, PhD, RN (Postdoc, National Clinician Scholars Program) was awarded for *Rise Up! Program in Zambia*, for travel to Zambia to support a collaborative study and foster meaningful partnerships on the ground.

<u>ALSO, available from Core A:</u>

- Core Vouchers
- Rapid Response Awards
- Incubator Awards

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

PILOT PROJECTS

Fund HIV-related research with an emphasis on supporting ESIs and established investigators who are new to HIV research ($60,000 per grant for one year); Encourage collaboration and lay the groundwork for future funding opportunities.

FY22 ROUND –8 applications awarded

17 applications received, and applicants were a mix of ESIs (13) and non-HIV (4) researchers.

- Variety of epidemiologic, clinical-translational, and basic science research projects

FY23 ROUND –8 applications awarded

12 applications received, applicants were a mix of ESIs (8) and non-HIV researchers (14)

NEW!

FY24 NEW –**Multi-PI and Cross-Institutional HIV Research Pilot Projects: UCLA and CDU**

→ Maximum request per application: $80,000 Direct Costs

→ Each application must include a multi-PI framework and cross-institutional collaboration, with **one** principal investigator from UCLA and **one** from CDU, with at least one designated as an Early-Stage Investigator (ESI) or a seasoned researcher new to HIV research.

→ Timeline:
- 05/15/24: LOI Due
- 05/22/24: Notification of LOIs approved for full submission
- 07/26/24: Applications due
- 10/01/24: Earliest start date

ALSO, available from Core A:
- Wilbert C. Jordan Community Faculty Award
- CFAR Administrative Supplements

QUESTIONS?

<u>Contact Us:</u>

Risa Hoffman rhoffman@mednet.ucla.edu

Lola Ogunyemi lolaogunyemi@cdrewu.edu

Raphael Landovitz rlandovitz@mednet.ucla.edu

Nina Harawa nharawa@mednet.ucla.edu

Jina Lee jinalee@mednet.ucla.edu

Kathie Ferbas kferbas@mednet.ucla.edu

Administrative Core

SPECIFIC AIMS

Aim 1: Provide scientific leadership and governance based on strategic planning to support the breadth of research and clinical care at UCLA and CDU

Aim 2: Provide HIV specific biostatistical consultation and support services to CFAR members

Aim 3: Provide a central source of up-to-date information and prompt assistance for Core Directors, Executive Committee Members, CFAR researchers, UCLA and CDU Faculty and community partners

Aim 4: Provide effective and timely evaluation of CFAR activities and report progress to UCLA and CDU Institutional Officials, the Leadership Group, the Executive Committee, the External Advisory Board and NIH participating Institutes and Centers

The Team

Judith Currier, MD
Co-Director, UCLA

LaShonda Spencer, MD
Co-Director, CDU

Jerome Zack, PhD
Co-Director, UCLA

Kathie G. Ferbas, PhD
Managing Director, Scientific, UCLA

Jina Lee
Managing Director, Operations, UCLA

Rina Lee-Cha
Administrative

Andrea Jones
Administrator, CDU

Rachel Reiss
Communications Specialist

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dong Sung An, MD, PhD
UCLA, Professor of Nursing

Debika Bhattacharya, MD
UCLA & VA, Assoc. Clin. Professor, Infectious Diseases

Eric Daar, MD
Harbor-UCLA, Professor and Chief, HIV Medicine

Lynnea Garbutt
CAB Representative

Nina Harawa, PhD
UCLA, Professor, GIM & HSR
CDU, Professor, Medicine

Raphael Landovitz, MD, MSc
UCLA, Professor, Infectious Diseases

Lejeune Lockett, PhD
CDU, Assist. Professor, Health & Life Sciences

Matthew Mimiaga, PhD
UCLA, Professor, Epidemiology

Steve Shoptaw, PhD
UCLA, Professor, Family Medicine, CHIPTS Director

Jay Vadgama, PhD
UCLA, Professor, Internal Med.
CDU, Professor

Otto Yang, MD
UCLA, Professor, Infectious Diseases

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

FOR TIME SENSITIVE ACTIVITIES *(ACCEPTED ON A ROLLING BASIS)*

VOUCHERS FOR CFAR AND CFAR-AFFILIATED SERVICES (max $2,500/request)
Reserved for Early-Stage Investigators with limited or no funding.

- Vouchers for Biostatistical Support from the UCLA CTSI Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Research Design (BERD) program and the UCLA Department of Medicine Statistics Core (DOMStat)
- Vouchers for UCLA Flow Cytometry Core services to utilize services in support of pilot data experiments. For use of specialized equipment in the Flow Cytometry Core (i.e. Helios CyTOF Mass Cytometer or a need for sorting of HIV infected cells).
- Vouchers for CFAR Core C (Centralized Laboratory Support) services (including instrumentation) for obtaining pilot data for grant submission.

RAPID RESPONSE AWARDS (max $5,000)
To fund projects that require a rapid response and addresses emerging areas of HIV research. The purpose of these awards is to support collaborations and innovative ideas, including feasibility studies and gathering preliminary data, to meet the rapidly changing needs in the field.

INCUBATOR AWARDS (max $10,000)
For any faculty member to hold meetings, think tanks, conferences, seminars, workshops, etc. designed to forge new collaborations in innovative arenas relevant to HIV disease.

ALSO, available from Core B:
- Recruitment/Retention Assistance
- Travel Grants

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

WILBERT C. JORDAN COMMUNITY FACULTY AWARD FOR HIV RESEARCH ($10,000 over a 2-year period)
For CDU faculty and collaborators of faculty working in the field of HIV. To support HIV researchers, promote HIV science, foster networking, and support capacity building in HIV research by providing timely and crucial resources.

CFAR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPLEMENT AWARDS ($100,000 to $200,000 for 1-2 years)
The NIH CFAR Program Office annually announces calls for NIH CFAR Administrative Supplements and/or Special Supplements, providing supplemental funding for specific HIV research areas across all CFAR sites.

ALSO, available from Core B:
- Pilot Projects

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT US

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General Q&A