



The AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) Network is the largest HIV/AIDS clinical trials organization in the world. We currently have 34 domestic & 25 international sites.



## DAIDS Chief of HIV Research Retires

### **Congratulations to Dr. Carla Pettinelli for Over Four Decades of Service to HIV/AIDS Research!**

On May 31, 2017, Dr. Carla Pettinelli will retire from the Federal Government after more than 40 years of service. Until her retirement, Carla was the Chief of the HIV Research Branch, Therapeutic Research Program at DAIDS. She has been involved with the ACTG Network since its inception; contributing to the formation of the Network back in 1986, and she was one of the three original DAIDS medical officers for our clinical trials. Dr. Pettinelli has been on the front lines of patient care and clinical research from the early days of the HIV pandemic, developing clinical trials that have led to the eventual discovery of highly active ART therapy.



Dr. Carla Pettinelli and Dr. Daniel Kuritzkes

During her retirement party on May 11, Dr. Daniel Kuritzkes, ACTG Network Principal Investigator, presented Dr. Pettinelli with a congratulatory plaque on behalf of the ACTG Network recognizing her many contributions over the years.

"All of us across the ACTG Network are forever grateful to Carla for the extraordinary contributions she has made to HIV therapeutics as well as her commitment to the ACTG

Network as a member of the Scientific Agenda Steering Committee and Executive Committee," said Dr. Kuritzkes.

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## 2017 Annual ACTG Network Meeting Update

### **The 2017 Annual ACTG Network Meeting is Just a Few Weeks Away**

The 2017 Annual ACTG Network Meeting will be held Sunday, June 25 through Thursday, June 29 in Washington, DC, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel. The meeting includes Principal Investigators, Site Investigators and Site Coordinators, Research Nurses, Laboratory Technologists, Pharmacists, Data Managers, Community Representatives, Specialty Laboratory Directors and representatives from the Leadership and Operations Center, Network Coordinating Center, Statistical and Data Management Center and DAIDS. To view the most up-to-date agenda, [click here](#).

Please note that the session-specific agendas will be available on the website mid-June. An important reminder message about meeting details will be distributed approximately one week prior to the meeting.

Registrants with questions related to lodging should contact [actg.meetings@fstrf.org](mailto:actg.meetings@fstrf.org).

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## Join the Conversation at the 2017 Annual Meeting via Twitter

### **GCAB Members will be Live Tweeting at the Annual Meeting with Official #ACTG2017**

Not able to attend the 2017 Annual ACTG Network Meeting, but want to keep up with the latest research being presented? This year, for the first time, two members of our Global Community Advisory Board (GCAB) will be live Tweeting all week long providing research updates and news from the meeting. Please follow the ACTG Network [@ACTGNetwork](#)

Morénike Giwa Onaiwu is the GCAB Co-Chair and a local GCAB member at our Houston AIDS Research Team site. She has been involved with the ACTG Network for over seven years and currently serves on the Community Scientific Subcommittee (CSS). Please follow her [@SaveRyanWhiteD](#)

Yves Gebhardt is a local a GCAB Representative at our NYC Weill Cornell Chelsea site. He has been involved with the ACTG Network for over eight years and currently serves on the CAB Development Committee. He has been active on Twitter since 2012. Please follow him [@YvesGebhardt](#)

To download the Twitter app to your phone, [click here](#).

If you would like to take part in live Tweeting at the Annual Meeting, add your handle [here](#).

To review our Social Media Guidelines, [click here](#).

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## ACTG Network Investigator to be Honored at AIDS Walk Boston 2017

### **Dr. Bruce Walker will Receive Prestigious *Heroes in Action Award* at AIDS Walk Boston**

Each spring and summer, cities across the country host a variety of annual HIV/AIDS awareness walks to help raise funds for research and to walk in solidarity with those infected or affected by the disease. At this year's 32nd annual AIDS Walk Boston, Dr. Bruce Walker, Investigator at our Massachusetts General Hospital site, will be presented with the *Heroes in Action Award*. The *Heroes In Action Award* celebrates the work of public health officials, medical professionals, grassroots activists, and fundraisers who have worked across communities to improve the health and quality of life for those living with HIV/AIDS and have inspired others to do the same.

Dr. Walker has been involved with the ACTG Network since 1988 and has participated in the last 20 AIDS Walk Boston events. He believes that AIDS Walks give people an opportunity to have a positive impact now while we look forward to a durable impact in the future through ultimately ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic across the Globe. During AIDS Walk Boston, Dr. Walker assumes he will be thinking about how the solution to finally ending HIV/AIDS will come from teamwork, and AIDS Walk Boston reflects just that.

To watch AIDS Action Committee's profile of Dr. Walker, [click here](#).

(Along with Dr. Walker, several other members of the ACTG Network will be participating in AIDS Walk Boston. Watch for pictures in the June Newsletter!)

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## This Year in HIV/AIDS History: 1985

**April:** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the World Health Organization host the first International AIDS Conference in Atlanta, GA.

**August:** The Pentagon announces that, beginning October 1, it will begin testing all new military recruits for HIV infection and will reject those who test positive for the virus.

**September:** President Ronald Reagan mentions AIDS publicly for the first time, calling AIDS "a top priority" and defending his administration against criticisms that funding for AIDS research is inadequate.

**October:** The U.S. Congress allocates nearly \$190 million for AIDS research-an increase of \$70 million over the Administration's budget request. The House Appropriations Committee also urges President Reagan to appoint an "AIDS czar."

**December:** The U.S. Public Health Service issues the first recommendations for preventing HIV transmission from mother to child.

Source: AIDS.gov



Thank you for taking the time to read the ACTG Network's Monthly Newsletter. If you would like to be a guest blogger, have your clinical research site highlighted or would like to nominate a colleague for the Spotlight, please [click here](#). We welcome your feedback.

Sincerely,

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***AIDS Clinical Trials Group Network***

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