

An Evening with Dr. Michael Gottlieb

Thursday, November 19, 2015

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



MICHAEL GOTTLIEB '73M (MD), '74M (RES), '77M (RES) is an internist and clinical immunologist in private practice in Los Angeles. He is also an associate clinical professor of medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles. Best known as the first physician to identify the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) as a new disease in 1981, he has earned national distinction for his advocacy, research, and philanthropy. He was principal investigator on numerous pivotal clinical trials of antiretrovirals, and authored many articles in scientific journals. Gottlieb has also served on the boards of many HIV/AIDS-related governmental agencies, task forces, and volunteer organizations.

With actress Elizabeth Taylor and Dr. Mathilde Krim, he established the American Foundation for AIDS Research. A native of New Brunswick, N.J., he earned his bachelor's degree from Rutgers University. He received his medical degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 1973 and stayed in Rochester to complete his internship in medicine and surgery, and residency in medicine at Strong Memorial Hospital. Gottlieb then completed a fellowship in clinical immunology and rheumatology at Stanford University School of Medicine. In 2007, Gottlieb presented the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry commencement address where he was awarded the Charles Force Hutchison and Marjorie Smith Hutchison Medal, the University's highest alumni honor—only one of the many distinctions he has received.



MEDICINE *of* THE HIGHEST ORDER



STEPHEN DEWHURST, PH.D. directs the University of Rochester's Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), and also serves as vice dean for research and chair of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the School of Medicine and Dentistry. He has been a faculty member at the University since 1990, and is a molecular virologist, with 30 years of experience in HIV/AIDS research. He received his doctorate from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in 1987, where he worked on HIV-1, and then performed postdoctoral training in HIV/AIDS research at Columbia University and at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Dr. Dewhurst has served on numerous National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant review panels and is a former study section chair as well as a past member of the NIH Recombinant Advisory Committee. He has published more than 150 research articles, and is a co-inventor on recent patents related to the development of new therapies for HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders, along with his colleague Handy Gelbard.



HARRIS ("HANDY") A. GELBARD, M.D., PH.D. is the director of the Center for Neural Development and Disease and professor of Neurology, Pediatrics and Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC). Dr. Gelbard received his medical degree and his doctorate in pharmacology at Northwestern University. He did his residency at Harvard's Longwood Area Neurological Training Program and a postdoctoral fellowship in Developmental Neuropharmacology at McLean Hospital in Massachusetts prior to his move to the

URMC. During his time in Boston, a colleague of Dr. Gelbard's succumbed to AIDS dementia, which prompted him to switch his NIH-funded research on dopamine and early brain injury to molecular targets that lead to what is now known as HIV-1 associated neurocognitive disorders (HAND). With the help of the Elizabeth Glaser Foundation, Dr. Gelbard successfully transitioned to "bench-to-bedside" research aimed at identifying the most promising medicines for the treatment of HAND.

With continuous individual investigator and program project funding from the NIH since 1996 for these efforts, Dr. Gelbard initiated a program to validate mixed lineage kinases, enzymes important in neuroinflammation and neural function, as potential therapeutic targets in HAND—and to synthesize a new drug that could be rapidly advanced for FDA approval. As part of this effort, Dr. Gelbard, along with colleagues at the University of Nebraska, discovered that this compound could significantly boost the activity and duration of protease inhibitors chemically formulated to increase their absorption into white blood cells that harbor HIV. These discoveries have led to additional efforts directed at a "chemical vaccine" strategy to treat HIV. He is the author of over 100 research publications and holds worldwide patents on this class of new medicines for treatment of HAND.



MICHAEL C. KEEFER, M.D. is a professor of infectious diseases in the Department of Medicine at the University's School of Medicine and Dentistry. He is also co-director of the CFAR and director of its developmental core. He has over 20 years of experience in clinical aspects of HIV/AIDS research, with an emphasis on preventive vaccination, as well as extensive administrative and leadership experience. Keefer has served as director of the University's NIH-supported HIV Vaccine Trials Unit since 1991 and became the principal investigator of the HIV/AIDS Clinical Trials Unit in 2008. He was the first to demonstrate HIV-specific cellular immune responses in recipients of candidate HIV vaccines in the early 1990s, has published extensively in the field of HIV vaccine research, and has served several leadership roles within the NIH-supported HIV Vaccine Trials Network (HVTN).

In the local community, he has served on the Board of Directors of AIDS Rochester, Inc., and has a secondary appointment in the University's Center for Community Health. In addition, he heads a long-standing outreach effort in the local LGBT, African-American, and Latino communities that are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS. Dr. Keefer received his medical degree from the Wright State University School of Medicine in 1983. He completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Christ Hospital in 1987 and a fellowship in Infectious Disease at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 1990.



AMNERIS LUQUE, M.D. is professor of medicine in Infectious Diseases and director of the AIDS Center at URMC, designated a center for excellence by the New York State Department of Health. She is co-director of the CFAR Clinical and Translational Science Core and shares with Dr. Keefer the principal investigator role for the HIV/AIDS Clinical Trials Unit and selects and oversees the conduct of the NIH sponsored HIV Clinical Trials at URMC. She has been at the forefront of HIV/AIDS care since the beginning of the epidemic, providing direct care to patients—conducting clinical trials and providing HIV education to primary care clinicians in the region. Her human papilloma virus (HPV) studies outlined the relationship between HIV viral load and HPV infection and disease as well as the role of high-risk non-vaccine HPV types in cervical dysplasia in HIV infected women. Her current research focuses on hearing impairment and potential associations with HIV neurocognitive disorders.

She served as vice chair and chair of the Medical Care Criteria Committee of the New York State AIDS Institute, which develops and disseminates clinical guidelines for the care of individuals with HIV/AIDS. She is committed to enhancing HIV care for the most vulnerable populations affected by the disease and is currently a member of the NY/NJ Chapter of the American Academy of HIV Medicine. Dr. Luque received her medical degree from the University of Carabobo in Venezuela. She completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Vargas Hospital in Venezuela in 1982 and Fellowship in Infectious Diseases at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 1983.