International Scholars Program (ISP)

Progress to date

David Serwadda  
HPTN SSA Regional Meeting  
Johannesburg, South Africa  
Friday, 20 Oct 2017  
8:30am-10:00am
ISP Goal

To develop the next generation of internationally-based HIV prevention scientists in order to build research capacity at HPTN sites globally

To date:

• ISP began November 2015
• Cohort 1 just “graduated” Sept 2017
• 3 Scholars are continuing from Cohort 2
• 1 new Scholar was selected for Cohort 3
• 9 mentors engaged
Selection Criteria

- Evaluated by a team assembled by the Scholarship Leadership
- Potential for the candidate to contribute to the scientific objectives of the HPTN prevention agenda
- Quality of the project proposed by the scholar
- Appropriate personal and professional background
- Commitment of the candidate, host HPTN investigator and mentor, and home supervisor
- Appropriate budget package (following the guidelines and adequately supports the proposed scoped of work)
Cohort 1

- **1 Nov 2015 – 30 Sept 2017**
- **Jesne Kistan**
  - PHRU, Soweto, South Africa; now at Wits
  - Mentor: Linda-Gail Bekker, Desmond Tutu HIV Centre
  - *HPTN 067: Differences in acceptability and adherence of PrEP between young African women (ages 18-24) and older African women (ages ≥ 25) within various PrEP dosing regimens*
  - Wrote a piece in Lancet HIV in April 2016 with Scholars Leadership member, David Serwadda, entitled “Rethinking HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis prevention strategy”
- **Emilia Jalil**
  - FIOCRUZ, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
  - Mentor: Beatriz Grinsztejn, FIOCRUZ
  - *HPTN 063: Risk perception and sex behavior in HIV-positive adults: impact of gender/sexual orientation*
  - Emilia took a break and began her tenure again this month (the program has some flexibility, though not common)
Cohort 2

• 1 June 2016 – 30 Nov 2017
• Nomhle Khoza
  – WRHI, Johannesburg, South Africa
  – Mentors: Sinead Delany-Moretlwe, University of Witwatersrand, Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital & Catherine MacPhail, University of Wollongong NSW Australia
  – *HPTN 068: The social consequences of female-directed cash transfers: A qualitative study*

• Jabulani Ncayiyana
  – University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa
  – Mentors: Kathleen Kahn, University of Witwatersrand SPH & Audrey Pettifor, UNC Chapel Hill
  – *HPTN 068: Effect of migration on sexual and reproductive health outcomes in adolescent girls in the rural South Africa*
1 June 2016 – 30 Nov 2017

Emily Makunike-Shava

- Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute Partnership, Gaborone, Botswana
- Mentors: Yuhua Ruan, National Center for AIDS/STD Control and Prevention, Beijing, China & Yiming Shao, National Center for AIDS/STD Control and Prevention, Beijing, China
- **HPTN 058: Describing sexual risk behaviour amongst injection drug users and its association with drug taking risk: Secondary data analysis of the HPTN 058 study**
• 1 April 2017 – 30 Sept 2018
• **Ulrika Makuraj**
  – PHRU, Soweto, South Africa; now at WRHI
  – Mentor: Sinead Delany-Moretlwe, University of Witwatersrand
  – *HPTN 039: Sexually Transmitted Infections in HSV-2 Seropositive women in Sub-Saharan Africa*
ISP to date

- 6 International Scholars
- 5 Mentors engaged
- 2 manuscripts near completion
- 4 manuscripts in progress

Cohort 4 will run 1 May 2018 – 31 Oct 2019
  - Proposals due 29 Jan 2018
  - Full applications due 12 Feb 2018
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