Jay Levy, MD

Dr. Jay A. Levy is Professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology/Oncology, Research Associate in the Cancer Research Institute and the Director of the Laboratory for Tumor and AIDS Virus Research at the University of California in San Francisco (UCSF). Dr. Levy obtained his M.D. degree from Columbia University, New York after receiving his B.A. from Wesleyan University and joined the Department of Medicine and the Cancer Research Institute at UCSF in 1972.

Dr. Levy co-discovered the US HIV isolate in 1983. During the last 25 years, he and his research group have dedicated their efforts to biologic, immunologic, and molecular studies of the AIDS virus. He also discovered a novel immune response that controls HIV infection through the production by CD8+ lymphocytes of an antiviral factor, CAF.

Dr. Levy has published over 450 articles in virology and infectious diseases, particularly on HIV/AIDS. He is author or editor of 14 books on virology and immunology and is Editor-in-Chief of the highly cited journal, *AIDS*. Among his publications are his acclaimed four volume series, *The Retroviridae*, and his seminal, sole-authored book, *HIV and the Pathogenesis of AIDS*, now in its third edition (2007) and being translated into several languages. His current studies involve host immune responses to HIV and the development of an HIV vaccine.

Dr. Levy is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Academy of Microbiology and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was given the Award of Distinction by the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR). He received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Wesleyan University and an Honorary Degree in Science from that University. This year he is receiving the Gold Medal for Medical Research from Columbia University.

Florida Center for AIDS Research (FL CFAR)

The FL CFAR is a multidisciplinary consortium of investigators at major universities in North-Central Florida whose research covers a spectrum of HIV/AIDS projects from laboratory to clinic. The institutions include:

University of Florida

University of South Florida

H. Lee Moffitt Comprehensive Cancer Center

Florida State University

University of Central Florida

The goals for FL CFAR are to increase the portfolio of NIH-funded multidisciplinary HIV/AIDS research projects among investigators across consortium institutions and to qualify to apply to NIH for funding as a Developmental (D) CFAR through the CFAR program. D-CFAR funding is available through a competitive application process involving peer-review. D-CFAR awards extend for a single, five-year period in annual total amounts up to \$750,000 or 10% of NIH-designated federal research base (FRB). D-CFAR funding provides the foundation to compete for full DFAR funding. Complete information about the NIH CFAR program and the currently funded CFARs can be found at http://www3.niaid.nih.gov/research/cfar. There is currently only one D-CFAR in Florida (at the University of Miami) although Florida currently has the second highest number of HIV-infected individuals in the United States.

The mission for the FL CFAR is to foster research that will benefit the unique populations of adolescents and older individuals infected by HIV. The theme for the research agenda for the FL CFAR is *HIV/AIDS Across the Lifespan – Serving the Underserved Young and Old.*

Dr. Jay Levy and FL CFAR

The opportunity to have a world-renowned physician-scientist, and AIDS/HIV researcher of Dr. Levy's stature participate in the FL CFAR Annual Symposium, and evaluate the growth of the center as it moves toward D-CFAR funding is invaluable. As Dr. Levy's international research includes linked programs in 16 countries on five continents, he brings a unique perspective on interdisciplinary research and collaborative programs. His willingness to present a seminar for both the University and Gainesville/Alachua County communities brings prestige to the University of Florida.