

HISTORY OF HIV EMERGENCE IN AFRICA: UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

WORKSHOP – NANTES-IAS, MAY 3-4, 2012

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Workshop Program

**Thursday May 3**

**14:30 – 14:35**

**Welcome and Opening**

Alain Supiot, IEA Nantes Founding Director (5 min)

**14:35 – 14:50**

**Introduction**

Didier Gondola (15 min)

**14:50 – 18:45**

**First Session**

Chair and Moderator: Tamara Giles-Vernick

14: 50 – 15:10 Schneider, Project Work to Date and Workshop Agenda (20min)

15:10 – 15:20 Question & Answer (10 min)

15:10 – 16:50 The Historical Setting of HIV Emergence

Patrice Yengo, Local Representations of HIV/AIDS (20 min)

Amandine Lauro, Prostitution and Sexual Practices (20 min)

Stephanie Rupp, Hunting (20 min)

Question & Answer (40 min)

16:50 – 17:00 *Break*

17:00 – 18:45 Discussion

20:00 – 22:00: *Dinner (Chez Félix, rue Lefevre Utile, Nantes)*

## Friday May 4

**9:00 – 12:15:**

### **Second Session**

Chair and Moderator: Guillaume Lachenal

- 9:00 – 10:35 Science of HIV/AIDS  
Michel Garenne, Modeling HIV in Southern Africa (20 min)  
Paul Sharp, Molecular Clocks (20 min)  
Preston Marx, Adaptation of viruses (20 min)  
Question & Answer (35 min)
- 10:35 – 10:45 *Break*
- 10:45 – 12:15 Discussion

*12:30 – 14:00: Lunch (La Brasserie Lu, Le Sens du Goût, 2 rue de la Biscuiterie, Nantes)*

**14:15 – 18:00:**

### **Third session**

Chair and Moderator: Ernie Drucker

- 14:15 – 15:15 Other HIVs  
François Simon: HIV-1 N as a Case-Study of Viral Emergence (25 min)  
Jorge Varanda, HIV-2 Guinea-Bissau (25 min)  
Question & Answer (10 min)
- 15:15 – 15:35 Commentary  
Pierre Sonigo (20 min)
- 15:35 – 15:55 Audience Response (20 min)
- 15:55 – 16:00 *Break*
- 16:00 – 17:30 Conclusion, further work  
Moderators: Gondola, Giles-Vernick, Lachenal, Schneider

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### Workshop Participants

**Jean-Godefroy Bidima** earned a Ph.D. at Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne (Philosophy Department). A former Visiting Associate Professor at Bayreuth University (Germany) and Directeur de Programme at the Collège International de Philosophie (Paris), he is since 2004 Professor and Yvonne Arnoult Chairholder in French and Francophone Studies at Tulane University (New Orleans-USA). He is currently a Eurias fellow at the Nantes Institute for Advanced Study. Research includes continental philosophy, literatures and arts of the Francophone world, African philosophies, juridical anthropology and medical ethics. Publications include numerous articles and five books: *Théorie critique et modernité négro-africaine: De l'École de Francfort à la "Docta spes africana"* (1993); *La philosophie négro-africaine* (1995); *L'art négro-africain* (1997); and *La palabre: Une juridiction de la parole* (1997). *Philosophie africaines: Traversées des Expériences* (Editor), Special Issue, Rue Descartes, no 36, Collège International de Philosophie de Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, (2002).

**Myène Botbol-Baum** is Professor of Philosophy and Bioethics, faculties of Medicine, Philosophical Sciences, and Public Health at IRSS (Institut de Recherche Santé et Société) and Co-responsible of the research group HELESI (Health, Ethics, Law, Economy and Social Issues). She is also a Member of the research group Europé, IPL philosophy at UCL (Université Catholique de Louvain), Brussels, Belgium. She is a specialist of Biomedical ethics: Ethics of Public Health, development and capabilities, bioethics epistemology, philosophy of techniques, gender studies, bioethics and feminism, biopolitics, narrative ethics, care and recognition theories.

**Ernest Drucker** is Professor Emeritus of Family and Social Medicine, Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine; Adjunct Professor of Epidemiology at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health; Senior Research Associate and Scholar in Residence at John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY. He conducts research in AIDS, drug policy, and prisons and is active in public health and human rights efforts in the US and abroad. He is a Fulbright Fellow in Global Health and author of *A Plague of Prisons: The Epidemiology of Mass Incarceration in America*, New Press, 2011. ([www.PlagueofPrisons.com](http://www.PlagueofPrisons.com))

**Josef Eberle** was educated in human medicine at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University (LMU) in Munich, 1977-1983. Post-doctoral training in medical microbiology, hygiene and virology at the Pettenkofer-Institute, 1984-1989. Habilitated about molecular research on HIV-2 in 1995 and since 2004 Professor for medical virology at LMU Munich. Responsible for the diagnostic service (hepatitis viruses and HIV) of the university clinics, and for teaching of third year medical students (basics of clinical medicine). Research interests in HIV-phylogeny (first German HIV-2 case, involved in discovery of HIV-O, nosocomial infections and legal cases), in resistance mechanisms and resistance prediction (HIV-GRADE). Patent on non-isotopic RT-activity assay (Roche).

**Michel Garenne** (PhD) taught demography in various institutions in France, other European countries and USA. He has extensive experience in demographic and epidemiologic field research in Africa. His work focuses on population and health interactions, with emphasis on communicable diseases, their dynamics and their consequences. He is author of numerous articles on mortality and fertility changes in developing countries. He is based at the Epidemiology of Emerging Diseases Unit of the Pasteur Institute in Paris, where he directs a research project on HIV/AIDS epidemics in Africa.

**Tamara Giles-Vernick** is a researcher in the Emerging Diseases Epidemiology Unit at the Institut Pasteur in Paris. Trained in African history and anthropology, she has conducted ethnohistorical research and published on hunting and other forms of environmental exploitation in the Sangha river basin of central Africa. She has also published on several other topics, including the history of influenza pandemics, global health in Africa, epidemiological surveillance, and malaria. Her current research projects focus on hepatitis B in Africa, hepatitis C in Egypt, and buruli ulcer in Cameroon.

**Didier Gondola** earned his doctorate degree from the University of Paris 7. He is Professor of African History and Africana Studies at Indiana University – Purdue University, Indianapolis. He has widely published on popular cultures (music, fashion, gambling, and memory), gender and postcolonial issues in Central Africa and the African diaspora in France. His first book, *Villes miroirs*, explores the social and cultural history of Kinshasa and Brazzaville. During academic year 2008-09, he was selected as a Department of State Fulbright scholar and carried out both research and teaching activities at the Université de Kinshasa. He is currently a Eurias fellow at the Nantes Institute for Advanced Study where he is completing a book manuscript on Youth, Western movies, and Masculinities in Colonial Kinshasa.

**Lutz Guertler** is specialized in Medicine with University career, specialization in Anthropology, Human Genetics, Laboratory Medicine and Virology Working with HIV since 1985, multiple stays in Central-Africa, description of HIV-1 group O, description of the 2<sup>nd</sup> sequence of HIV-1 group P Retired from the Loeffler Institute of Medical Microbiology of the University of Greifswald in 2008. Presently active at the Pettenkofer Institute of the University of Muenchen and once per year at the University of Bangangté in Cameroon

**Guillaume Lachenal** is Maitre de conférences in History of Science at the University Paris Diderot. He is a junior member of the Institut Universitaire de France. His current research is on the history of medicine and medical research in colonial and post-colonial Africa.

**Amandine Lauro** is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Brussels and a guest professor at the Facultés Universitaires Saint-Louis (Belgium). She completed in 2009 a PhD in History on marriage and sexuality politics in the Belgian Congo during the interwar period and was in 2010-2011 a Visiting Fellow at the University of Cambridge. Her current research focuses on race, sexuality and colonial surveillance in Central Africa.

**Preston A. Marx, Jr.** is Professor of Tropical Medicine, and Chair of the Division of Microbiology at the Tulane National Primate Research Center of Tulane University <[http://www.tnprc.tulane.edu/division\\_microbiology.html](http://www.tnprc.tulane.edu/division_microbiology.html)>. He is a virologist with over 40 years of experience, including 30 years in research on AIDS pathogenesis in non-human primates and on the origins and underlying causes of the HIV-1 and HIV-2 AIDS epidemics in Africa. Specifically, Dr. Marx found links to the HIV-2 epidemic in SIV- infected sooty mangabeys in Sierra Leone. Currently he has research projects in Sierra Leone and the Republic of Congo to characterize the epidemic potential of emerging HIV-2 and HIV-1 viruses respectively. HIV-2 subtype F was found by his field team in 1993 in Sierra Leone. The virus was not found again until 2008 when isolated from a Sierra Leonian immigrant to the USA. HIV-2 F was pathogenic in that individual. The current program in the Republic of Congo is to learn how SIV from chimpanzees transitioned to become epidemic forms of HIV-1. His research also includes the evolutionary biology of SIV and he recently published in Science magazine that the SIV family tree is many thousands of years older than previously believed.

**Stephanie Rupp** is an assistant professor of anthropology at Lehman College, City University of New York. She received her Ph.D. with distinction from Yale University in 2001. Her doctoral research focused on forest communities of the Congo River

Basin located in southeastern Cameroon, and was published as *Forests of Belonging: Identities, Ethnicities, and Stereotypes in the Congo River Basin* (University of Washington Press, 2011) in addition to journal articles. She is currently preparing a book manuscript on the conceptual history of the notion of "pygmy." Over the years she has worked with historian Tamara Giles-Vernick to explore the boundaries between people and apes in the Congo River basin, work that informs her current interest in histories of HIV in this region. Stephanie also pursues two other areas of research that share theoretical and ethnographic themes with her Congo River basin work: relations between African nations and Asia, in particular Cameroon and Ghana with China; and energy as a cultural artifact. She has major publications forthcoming in each of these areas in 2012.

**William H. Schneider** (Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania) is a professor of History at Indiana University-Purdue University in Indianapolis. He directs the Medical Humanities and Health Studies Program, and also has an adjunct appointment in the Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics in the School of Medicine. His many articles and monographs include a book on the history of eugenics in France and an edited volume on Rockefeller Foundation funding of medical research around the world. He is currently finishing a monograph on the history of blood transfusion in Africa.

**Paul M. Sharp** is Professor of Genetics at the University of Edinburgh. He has about 200 scientific publications on the topic of molecular evolutionary genetics, using computer analyses of sequence data. He has worked extensively on rates of substitution and phylogenetic issues, in both prokaryotes and eukaryotes. He has particular interests in the origins and evolution of HIV and of malaria. He holds the Alan Robertson Chair of Genetics at the University of Edinburgh. He has been elected to membership of the Royal Irish Academy, the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO), and was President of the Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution for 2008. He has particular interests in the origins and evolution of HIV and of malaria.

**François Simon** MD/PhD is a Professor at the Faculty of Medicine Paris Diderot and Chief of the Microbiology department at Hospital Saint Louis in Paris. Professor Simon specialized in virology, in the field of molecular epidemiology, with particular focus on identification and characterization of HIV variant strains and their consequences for diagnosis and monitoring. He described the first cases of infections by HIV-1 group N and group P and has also been involved in the characterization of HIV-1 group O and HIV-2 infections. Professor Simon is the former chief of the Retrovirology department in CIRMF Gabon and the former Director General of the Pasteur Institute in Dakar. His current work focuses on the consequences of the diversity of HIV in diagnosis and management of patients.

Professor Simon has actively participated in numerous collaborative studies and training/education programs in Africa. This has provided him with a unique understanding of the specific needs of these countries to fight the HIV epidemic.

**Pierre Sonigo** graduated from Ecole Normale Supérieure and holds a MD and a PhD in Biochemistry. He was Director of Research at INSERM, and worked at the Pasteur Institute from 1981 to 1990. Specialized in molecular biology and virology, he works since 1983 on HIV/Aids. In 1985, he participated in the decoding of the full sequence of HIV virus. From 1990 to 2005, he is the head of the laboratory of "Viral Genetics" at the Cochin Institute in Paris. He is currently executive director at Bio Intelligence service conducting research about health and environment and fellow at the Nantes Institute for Advanced Study.

**Jorge Varanda** is a postdoctoral research Fellow at the Centre for Research in Anthropology (CRIA), and the Centre for Malaria and Tropical Diseases of the Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (IHMT). He is responsible for the course of Anthropology of Health in the IHMT Doctoral program on International Health, and teaches at the University of Coimbra amidst others. He has carried out research on health issues related to and in Angola for almost a decade now. Initially his work focused on the health programs put forward by the chartered diamond company, Diamang. Afterwards he shifted his attention to the anti-sleeping sickness programs from the early 20th century to present day and responses by Angolans to these colonial/international programs (ongoing). He has worked on the implementation and validation of the WHO protocol for verbal autopsies and is currently working with Doctors of the World on a KAP study targeting IDU and immigrants and HIV-AIDS.

**Aurélia Vessièrè** is a Staff Scientist at the Tulane National Primate Research Center of Tulane University (USA). She received her PhD in Communicable Diseases and Tropical Pathologies from Paris Descartes University. She's been a research scientist at Centre Pasteur du Cameroun for several years, focusing on the HIV-1 group O epidemic. She's now leading the NIH-funded project "Pathogenesis of Natural SIV Infections in Humans" in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, which objective is to understand how SIV transitioned into a pandemic virus in humans.

**Patrice Yengo** is a Social anthropologist and first taught at the Higher Institute of Health Sciences, and Faculty of Medicine at the University of Brazzaville Ngouabi. Former fellow at the Nantes Institute for Advanced Study and Researcher at the Centre of African Studies at the EHESS in Paris, he edits the journal "Break-Solidarity" and he is interested in anthropology, history and politics, particularly political dynamics and social conditions created by globalization.