BIOGRAPHY OF PROFESSOR LYNN MORRIS

Professor Lynn Morris heads the HIV virology section within the Centre of HIV and STI’s at the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) in Johannesburg and holds a joint appointment as a Research Professor at Wits.

She completed a BSc Honours in Microbiology at Wits in 1982 and received her DPhil from the University of Oxford in 1988. Following this, Professor Morris served as a post-doctoral research fellow at The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Australia.

Since returning to South Africa, Professor Morris has been involved in researching the virological and immunological aspects of South African HIV-1 subtype C strains, making significant contributions to our understanding of HIV neutralizing antibodies.

Her focus is on the development of an HIV vaccine and her laboratory is responsible for performing neutralizing antibody assays on human clinical trials conducted in South Africa. Professor Morris has a broad sense of the HIV vaccine field, having being closely involved in the annual AIDS Vaccine Conferences, including chairing the meeting in 2008.

Professor Morris was elected to the Academy of Science of South Africa and is a member of the Board of the South African Medical Research Council. She participates in many committees, reviews and discussions on HIV research. She has or is currently supervising 18 PhD and Masters students and has published over 150 papers in peer-reviewed journals.

Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to invite Professor Lynn Morris to address you today.