

# Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS)

*Introduction to the UCSF-CFAR Enterprise*

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# What is CAPS?

- First started in 1986
- Funded by NIMH under P30 mechanism (Center Core Grants)
  - To support shared resources and facilities for categorical research by a number of investigators from different disciplines who provide a multidisciplinary approach to a joint research effort or from the same discipline who focus on a common research problem.
  - The core grant is integrated with the center's component projects or program projects, though funded independently from them.

# What is CAPS?

- One of 7 funded AIDS Research Centers (ARCs -- full and developmental)
  - UCLA
  - Columbia University
  - Yale University
  - Medical College of Wisconsin
  - University of Pennsylvania
  - University of Miami

*The mission of CAPS is to end the HIV epidemic and associated health and social disparities by conducting high-impact HIV prevention science and by building capacity among researchers and communities to effectively address HIV.*

Figure 1: Organizational Chart

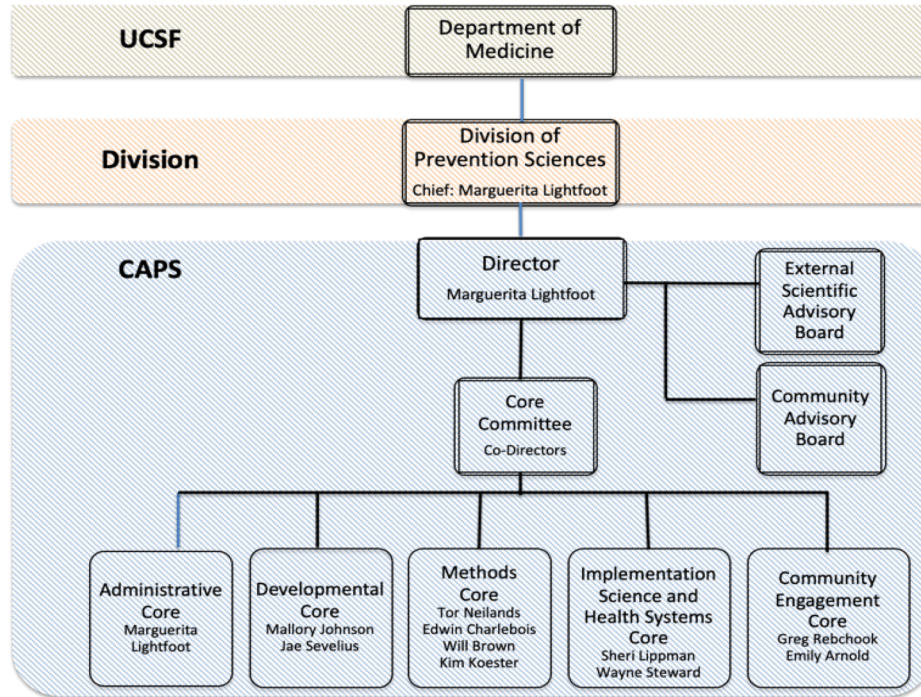
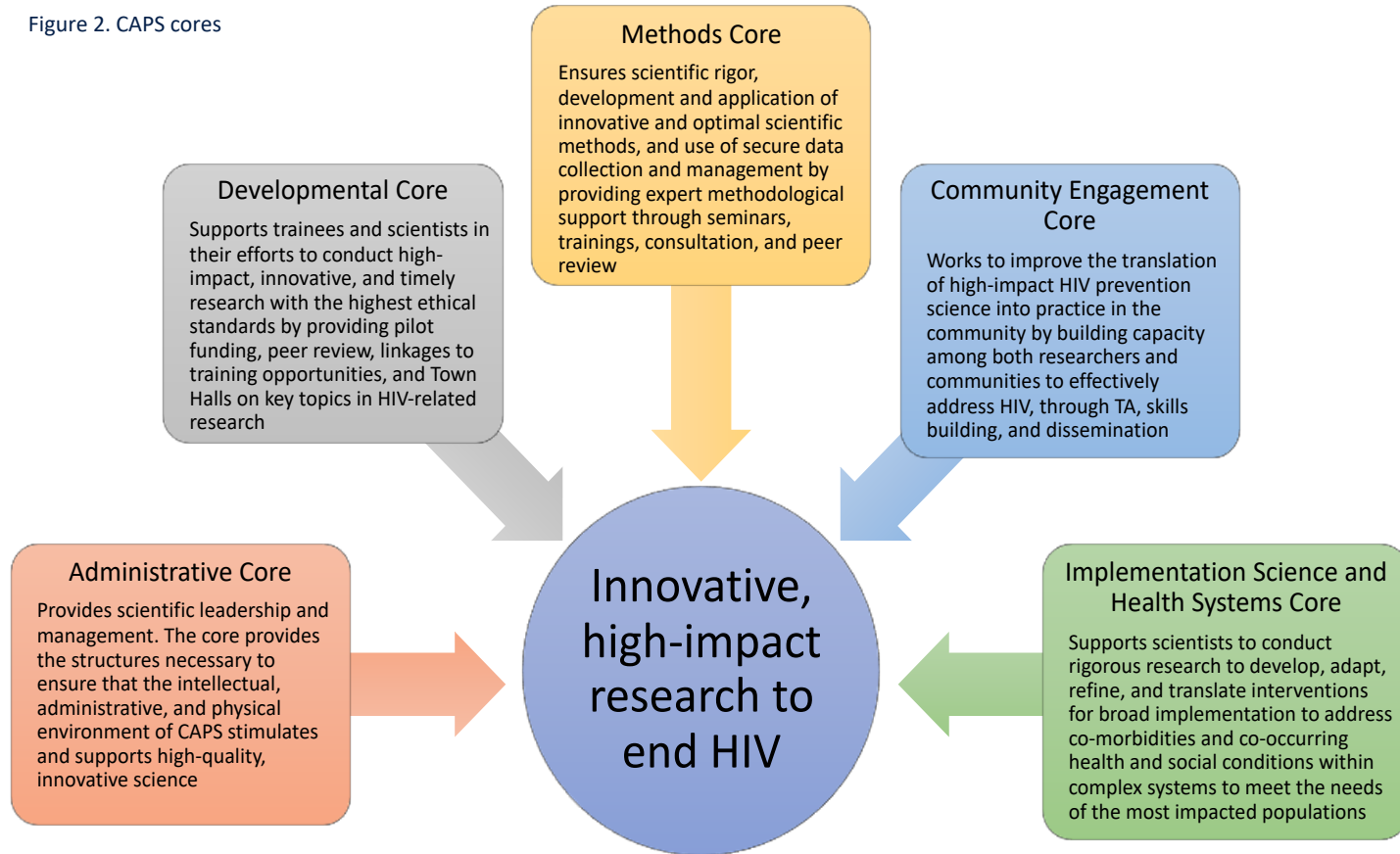


Figure 2. CAPS cores



# Themes for CAPS 8

## ***Theme 1: Co-occurring and multiplicative factors.***

Eliminating HIV disparities requires understanding and addressing the vulnerabilities and protective factors associated with the ***intersection of identities*** such as race, sexual orientation, class, gender, mental health, geography, socioeconomic status, drug use, and other social factors that interact to affect HIV and its ***co-occurrence with other health conditions***.

# Themes for CAPS 8

## ***Theme 2: HIV-related health systems.***

This theme takes a broad view of health systems and services, including the use of innovative strategies to deliver services (HIV and other) across clinics, CBOs, mobile health, and mental health clinics, as well as the use of lay health cadres and teams.

We aim to ***stimulate science to ensure that our most effective prevention and care strategies can be successfully implemented, scaled-up, adapted, packaged to reach the populations most in need, and optimized for delivery*** in a context of increasingly complex and fragmented care.

# What can CAPS do for you?

- Consultations
  - Research design, analysis, data collection, ethics, recruitment, community engagement (including CAB input), intervention development
- Pilot funds
  - CAPS Innovative Grants through RAP
  - Coordinated in partnership with CFAR

# What can CAPS do for you?

- Peer reviews
  - Grant applications (initial concept, full proposals, manuscripts)
  - Online request form ([link](#))
  - See Johnson MO, Neilands TB, Kegeles SM, Gaffney S, Lightfoot MA. (2020). The architecture of an internal, scientific, pre-submission review program designed to increase the impact and success of grant proposals and manuscripts. *Academic Medicine*.
- Town Halls
- Writing groups

# Sophia Zamudio-Haas, PhD

- Example of ESI leveraging CAPS resources
- CAPS Innovative Grant
  - Mentored award
    - First award as PI
- Peer reviews
  - Papers
    - giving/receiving feedback
  - Proposals
    - Leveraged CAPS Innovative Award to submit a successful Diversity Supplement
- Writing groups





[www.caps.ucsf.edu](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu)