

**The U.S. Global Health Initiative: Issues and Perspectives**  
**Speaker Biographies**  
**Wednesday, April 14, 2010**

**Amie Batson**

**Deputy Assistant Administrator for Global Health, USAID**

Ms. Batson joined USAID as Deputy Assistant Administrator for Global Health and the USAID Deputy of the Global Health Initiative (GHI). Her 20-year career in global health has included positions in the WHO, UNICEF, and most recently, the World Bank. As one of the original members of the GAVI Alliance, she led the World Bank's efforts in vaccine financing, including the establishment of new financing mechanisms like the Advance Market Commitment and the use of donor financing to "buy-down" loans from the International Development Assistance program. Together these efforts have provided billions of dollars of new funding for global health and helped to vaccinate millions of children against polio, pneumonia, diarrhea, and other vaccine preventable causes of death. More recently, her leadership efforts have been directed toward improving health systems through the use of results-based financing mechanisms. Prior to joining the World Bank, Ms. Batson was a joint WHO/UNICEF staff member in the WHO Global Program for Vaccines, where she led efforts to develop public-private partnerships for vaccines and to further investment in vaccine manufacturing and development. She has published nearly two dozen articles, mostly in the domain of the applied economics of vaccine production and commercialization.

**Deborah Birx, MD**

**Director, Global AIDS Program**

Deborah Birx, MD, is a renowned national and international expert in the field of HIV/AIDS. Beginning her career in 1985 as a trained clinician in immunology, she focused on HIV/AIDS vaccine research and has published over 200 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals, authored nearly a dozen chapters in scientific publications, as well as developed and patented vaccines. From 1985–1989 she served as an Assistant Chief of the Allergy Immunology Service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, earning the U.S. Meritorious Service Medal for her leadership in refining, validating, and standardizing an in vivo test of cell-mediated immunity in HIV-infected patients. She was also rewarded for her significant contribution to the field with the U.S. Meritorious Service Medal for her extensive work in organizing and implementing the gp160 vaccine therapy efficacy trial from 1990-1995. Through her professionalism and leadership in the field, she progressed to serve as the Director of the U.S. Military HIV Research Program (USMHRP) at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research from 1996-2005. In this capacity, she led and managed the USMHRP which grew from a budget of \$9.6 million and 125 staff located primarily in the U.S. and Thailand, to a budget of approximately \$70 million and 900 directly- and indirectly-supported staff in 7 countries (U.S., Thailand, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Cameroon, and Nigeria). Since 2006, Doctor Birx has served successfully as the Director of the CDC's Global AIDS Program, where she has utilized her leadership qualities, superior technical skills, and infective passion that inspire those who work with her. She manages an annual budget of more than \$1.5 billion and is ultimately responsible for all activities of GAP, including over 200 staff at

headquarters, over 1,400 staff in the field, and more than 39 country offices in Africa, Asia, Caribbean, and Latin America. With her specialized knowledge and decades of international experience in the field of HIV/AIDS coupled with a passion for implementing and enhancing prevention and care programs, she promotes CDC's mission, global goals, and unique strengths through the interagency collaboration in achieving the goals of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

**Ann Gavaghan**

**Chief of Staff, Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, U.S. Department of State**

Ann Gavaghan is the Chief of Staff at the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator at the U.S. Department of State. This office is responsible for coordinating and overseeing the U.S. global response to HIV/AIDS. Prior to joining the State Department, Ann served as a Legislative Assistant in the Office of Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, where she worked on both domestic and international health issues. In addition to her policy experience, Ann is a trained HIV counselor and has worked with local nonprofits and community-based HIV programs in Brooklyn, South Africa, and Taiwan. Ann has master's degrees in public health and international affairs.

**Christopher J. Elias, MD, MPH**

**President, CEO, PATH**

Dr. Christopher J. Elias is president and chief executive officer of Seattle-based PATH, an international nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the health of people around the world by advancing technologies, strengthening systems, and encouraging healthy behaviors. PATH currently works in more than 70 countries in the areas of health technologies, maternal and child health, reproductive health, vaccines and immunization, and emerging and epidemic diseases. Dr. Elias represents PATH at domestic and international forums, both as a spokesperson for PATH and as an advocate for innovative responses to global health challenges. He serves on the boards of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition, InterAction, Medicines for Malaria Venture, Rural Development Institute, and Washington Biotechnology & Biomedical Association, among others. Dr. Elias was honored as the Schwab Foundation's Social Entrepreneur of the Year for the United States in 2005 and named Global Health Research Ambassador by the Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research in 2007. Under his leadership, PATH was awarded the Hilton Humanitarian Prize in 2009. Before joining PATH, Dr. Elias was a senior associate in the International Programs Division of the Population Council, where he served as the country representative in Thailand, managing reproductive health programs throughout Southeast Asia. His early career included two years in Thailand working with refugee assistance programs, first as a physician supervising a large pediatric ward in a refugee encampment and then as a medical coordinator for the American Refugee Committee at the Thailand-Cambodia border. He received his MD from Creighton University and his MPH from the University of Washington.

**Jennifer Kates****Vice President, Director of Global Health Policy and HIV, Kaiser Family Foundation**

Jennifer Kates is Vice President and Director of Global Health Policy & HIV at the Kaiser Family Foundation. She oversees the Foundation's policy analysis and research focused on the U.S. government's role in global health and on the domestic and global HIV epidemics. Her areas of expertise include analyzing donor government investments in global health; assessing and mapping the U.S. government's global health architecture, programs, and funding; and analyzing key trends in the HIV epidemic. She has been working on HIV policy issues for more than twenty years and is a recognized expert in the field. Prior to joining the Foundation in 1998, Ms. Kates was a Senior Associate with The Lewin Group, a health care consulting firm, where she focused on HIV policy, strategic planning/health systems analysis, and health care for vulnerable populations. She previously worked at Princeton University, where she served as the Director of the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns Office, and was also the Coordinator of the University's Alcohol and Other Drugs Peer Education Program. Ms. Kates received her master's degree in public affairs from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, and her bachelor's in political science from Dartmouth College. She also holds a master's degree in political science from the University of Massachusetts. Currently, she is pursuing a doctorate in public policy at George Washington University, where she is also a lecturer.

**Peter Long****Senior Vice President, Kaiser Family Foundation**

Currently, Peter Long serves as Senior Vice President for Executive Operations at the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. In this role, he oversees the Foundation's activities related to U.S. global health policy among other responsibilities. Before returning to Kaiser, Dr. Long was a Senior Program Officer and then Director of Research and Planning at The California Endowment in Los Angeles, CA, where he led the Endowment's efforts to secure health insurance for all children in California. Prior to joining the Endowment, Long served as an independent health policy consultant for wide range of clients, including the Medi-Cal Policy Institute, Partnership for Prevention, Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and Uninsured, LA Care Health Plan and Insure the Uninsured Project. Previously, he served as a senior health policy analyst for the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and as a legislative analyst for the National Progressive Primary Health Care Network in Cape Town, South Africa. Other positions of note include Executive Director of the Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley, Inc. in San Jose, CA and business analyst for Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield in New York, NY. He received his B.A. in Modern European History from Harvard University; his master's in health science from Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health; and his doctorate in Health Services from the University of California, Los Angeles.