

New Investigators Working Group 2025 Work Plan

Aim: The New Investigators Working Group (NIWG) is a cross-network working group of the Legacy Project, comprised of the project managers that coordinate the early career investigators, young investigators, and minority scholars' programs of the NIH-funded HIV/AIDS clinical trials networks (ACTG, HVTN, HPTN, IMPAACT, and ATN). The NIWG provides appropriate guidance and leadership in the development, and dissemination of information about the various networks' scholars programs and contributes to promote the engagement of potential candidates in these programs, with an emphasis on underrepresented minority researchers in the US and internationally.

Objective 1: *Increase awareness of training, funding, and mentorship opportunities for early-stage investigators in HIV research.*

- Promote the networks' training programs for early-career investigators
- Promote research training programs that are not network-related
- Promote equity and representation in HIV research with an emphasis on engaging underrepresented researchers and potential program applicants in the US and internationally
- Promote the networks' scholars programs through the HANC newsletter and other means available at HANC

Objective 2: *Facilitate and promote the exchange of experiences and ideas among program scholars/fellows*

- Generate spaces for program scholars/fellows to present their work, exchange their experiences, and acquire skills on topics of expressed interest
- Feature new investigators from the networks' scholars programs in the HANC newsletter
- Conduct webinars featuring the work of new investigators from the networks' programs
- Facilitate collaborative submissions to conferences on the topic of a cross-network view of early stage investigators' work

Objective 3: *Collaborate to support program managers and staff to ensure the cross-network efficiency and effectiveness of the networks' new investigator programs*

- Incorporate support for early-stage investigators in the programs to receive funding and/or opportunities to thrive in the field of HIV research after their time in the program concludes