Allan Rosenfield, MD, Celebrated for 10 Years of Service as Chair of New York State AIDS Advisory Council

Allan Rosenfield, MD, dean of the Mailman School of Public Health, led the New York State AIDS Advisory Council for the past decade as it worked to guide New York state’s HIV/AIDS policies and procedures through policy recommendations and the development of new, cutting edge programs. Though Dr. Rosenfield has stepped aside as Chair, he will remain on as a Council member.

New York, the state most affected by HIV/AIDS in the nation, is often cited as a role model for other states and nations to look to for examples of groundbreaking developments in HIV/AIDS programs and services. During Dr. Rosenfield's tenure, the Council recommended the development of the Expanded Syringe Access program and the founding of the Interagency Task Force on HIV/AIDS. It also published many controversial and important reports, including: “Report on Needle Exchange Programs and Deregulation of Needles and Syringes;” “Report on HIV/AIDS Services in New York State Correctional Facilities;” “Communities at Risk: HIV/AIDS in Communities of Color;” and, most recently, “Women in Peril, HIV/AIDS, the Rising Toll on Women of Color.”

Letters from Governor George Pataki and New York State Department of Health Commissioner Antonia C. Novello, MD, MPH, DrPH, included glowing commendations on Dr. Rosenfield's service as chair of New York State's Advisory Council. “On behalf of my Administration and all New Yorkers, I would like to express sincere appreciation for 10 years of outstanding leadership and exemplary service as chair of the AIDS Council,” wrote Governor George E. Pataki. “Your tenure at the Council is marked by lasting achievements that have been furthered by your invaluable expertise and insight that helped navigate New York State through an historic era of advances in this area.”

In acknowledgement of Dr. Rosenfield's 10 years of service, the letter from Dr. Novello stated, “New York has been extremely fortunate to have such an esteemed and world-renowned leader in the AIDS field at the helm of the Council. Thank you for your leadership in helping to stem the global HIV and AIDS epidemic.”

At the final meeting in which Dr. Rosenfield presided as chair, members spoke about the Advisory Council's accomplishments under Dr. Rosenfield's leadership. Guthrie S. Birkhead, MD, MPH, director, AIDS Institute, commented, “I'd like to thank Dr.
Rosenfield for his dedicated and distinguished leadership, his unwavering commitment to public health and the pursuit of an end to the global AIDS pandemic. As New Yorkers, we are particularly fortunate to have such an outstanding AIDS advocate on our ‘team.’”

Dr. Rosenfield also serves as chair of the Program Board of the American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR), as a member of the boards of the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Packard Foundation, as well as serving on boards and committees for many other non-profit and governmental organizations.