

**David COOPER, AO FAA, MD, DSc** (Australia) *Professor of Medicine at the University of New South Wales; Director, National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research; and IAS 2007 Local Conference Co-Chair*

The National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (National Centre) is funded by the Australian Department of Health and Ageing through the University of New South Wales. Major responsibilities of the National Centre are the epidemiology and surveillance of HIV/AIDS in Australia and the coordination and conduct of clinical trials of therapies and vaccines. The National Centre also conducts an extensive clinical and epidemiological research programme.

In addition to directing the National Centre, Professor Cooper is Head of the Immunology/HIV/Infectious Diseases Clinical Service Unit at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, one of the largest services for the treatment of HIV disease in Australia. He also directs the NSW State Reference Laboratory for AIDS within the Centre for Immunology at St Vincent's Hospital.

Internationally, Professor Cooper is recognized as a leading HIV clinician and clinical investigator. He is currently chair of the WHO/UNAIDS advisory committee on HIV vaccines. He is also a Director of HIVNAT, a clinical research and trials collaboration based at the Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre at the Chulalongkorn University Hospital in Bangkok, Thailand.

Professor Cooper was President of the International AIDS Society (IAS) for two terms, from 1994 to 1998, and is on the editorial boards of several international journals, including *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes, AIDS, and Sexually Transmitted Diseases*. He has also been a previous member of IAS Conference Organizing Committees and is a founding member of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM).