GIHHR leads 15 nations in high-level Consultation on HIV and Human Rights

The UAlbany organization, Global Institute for Health and Human Rights (GIHHR), in collaboration with the International AIDS Society (IAS) organized the third high-level consultation on HIV in conservative social settings in Beirut, Lebanon on January 25 and 26.

The consultation, titled "HIV, Human Rights and Sustainability: From Analysis to Action," brought together officials and experts from 15 different countries to discuss topics including how to address barriers and stigmas surrounding HIV, testing, prevention and a number of other related issues. It was held at the American University of Beirut. The two-day meeting consisted of panel discussions, keynote presentations and workshops to foster necessary conversation between various organizations and individuals intent on creating both political and social changes regarding HIV.

IAS is the world’s largest association of HIV professionals, with members from more than 180 countries.

Through the GIHHR, UAlbany was announced as the first university to receive funding from the OPEC Fund for International Development, which mainly supports major global organizations and countries. The institute applied and was approved for this funding two years ago for the second high-level consultation on HIV/AIDS in Turkey. A second grant was submitted and approved so that the GIHHR was able to organize this third consultation.

The continuation of these high-level meetings helps solidify UAlbany and the GIHHR as leaders in the discussion of HIV/AIDS on an international level. The outcome of this summit in Beirut will be further presented at the 22nd International AIDS Conference (the largest conference on any global health issue in the world), held in Amsterdam from the 23-27 of July this year.