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Boston University School of Medicine

Office of Media Relations
Betty Russell, Director
720 Harrison Avenue
Suite 909
Boston, MA 02118-2393
617 638-8491

NEWS

For Immediate Release
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Contact: Gina DiGravio
(617) 638-8491

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH FACULTY MEMBER
INVOLVED IN LEGAL ISSUES PERTAINING TO AIDS

Boston, Mass.--Wendy K. Mariner, J.D., LL.M., M.P.H., of Cambridge, Mass., has been selected as an "AmFAR/Michael Bennett Scholar" by the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR). Mariner, an associate professor of health law at Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health (BUSM/BUSPH), will receive funding from AmFAR to study the availability of health care for AIDS patients, including existing laws dealing with entitlement to care.

AmFAR Scholars Awards are granted to promising investigators to enable them to undertake research on the biological, clinical or psychosocial aspects of AIDS. Mariner's work will analyze the legal and ethical basis for entitlement to care in a health-care system that is increasingly costly and undergoing rapid change.

In addition, Mariner, at the invitation of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Louis Sullivan, M.D., is currently serving on the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome Program Advisory Committee of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The committee advises the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Assistant Secretary of Health and the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) on AIDS research needs.

Mariner is also a consultant to the World Health Organization (WHO), which develops guidelines for international testing of AIDS drugs and vaccines, and a member of the AIDS Vaccine Liability Project at the Keystone Center. Her recent article published in the American Journal of Public Health indicated ways in which the approval process for AIDS vaccines should differ from that for AIDS drugs. In a recent Connecticut Law Review article, she proposed

rethinking traditional views of government responsibility for new biomedical technology, such as new drugs for AIDS.

Mariner received her law degrees from Columbia University Law School and New York University Law School. She earned her masters of public health degree (M.P.H) from the Harvard School of Public Health.

Boston University School of Public Health is part of Boston University School of Medicine.