**MARK R. DYBUL NEWS TIMELINE**

*Prepared by Bryan Craig  
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1985  
Mark R. Dybul receives his AB degree in philosophy at Georgetown University.  
(http://law.georgetown.edu/oneillinstitute/faculty/Mark-Dybul.html)

1992  
Dybul gets his M.D. at Georgetown University.  

1995  
Dybul finishes his residency in internal medicine at the University of Chicago Medical Center.  

1998  
Dybul completes his fellowship in infectious diseases at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).  

1999  
During the presidential campaign, foreign policy adviser Condoleezza Rice and Governor George W. Bush (R-TX) discuss Africa. They agree that his agenda in Africa would not get very far without addressing AIDS.  

1999-2004  
Dybul is a staff clinician at the NIAID. The institute is part of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under Secretary Tommy Thompson. Dybul is the principle investigator of basic and clinical research with emphasis on HIV treatment in Africa. He later becomes assistant director of medical affairs at the NIAID.  
(http://www.theglobalfund.org;  
http://www.weforum.org/contributors/mark-r-dybul)

2001  
May  
On the 11th, Bush meets with United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Kofi Annan and they announce creation of the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and Tuberculosis. The U.S. commits $200 million to the program. Rice gets U2 singer, Bono, to be a spokesman for the program.  
(Rice, pp. 227-228)

2002  
June  
On the 19th, Bush announces the International Prevention of Mother and Child HIV Initiative. The next day, Bush calls on Deputy Chief of Staff Josh Bolten to develop a bigger program.  

Summer  
Bolten creates a task force to develop a plan to use antiretroviral medicines to fight HIV/AIDS for African countries in need. Members of the team include Dr. Tony Fauci of the NIAID, Dybul, Deputy National Security Advisor Gary Edson,
Deputy Domestic Policy Director Jay Lefkowitz, Robin Cleveland from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Kristen Silverberg (Bolten’s deputy), and Dr. Joe O’Neill, director of national AIDS policy. Bolten recommends to the president a $15 billion, five-year program. (Bush, p. 337)

2003

January

On the 28th, in his State of the Union speech, Bush calls for passage of the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). It is based on the “ABC Approach,” urging individuals to abstain, be faithful to your partner, and use condoms. As the debate goes on in Congress, critics on both political sides speak out. The left denounces the abstinence component, the right attacks the condom component, while both sides argue that the U.S. would be imposing Western values of either religious fundamentalism or sexual permissiveness on other cultures. (Bush, p. 340)

May

Bush signs the $15 billion PEPFAR bill on the 27th. It is a five-year program in 15 countries. The goals are to provide antiretroviral treatment to 2 million HIV-infected people in resource-limited settings, to prevent 7 million new infections, and to support care for 10 million people (the “2–7–10 goals”). (Bush, p. 344; http://southafrica.usembassy.gov)

July

Randall Tobias becomes the first U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator (in the State Department) and runs PEPFAR.

From the 8-12th, Bush and First Lady Laura Bush travel to Senegal, South Africa, Botswana, Uganda, and Nigeria with Rice and Secretary of State Colin Powell. (Bush, pp. 341-342)

2004-2006

Dybul becomes deputy chief medical officer at PEPFAR, then chief medical officer. He also becomes the lead for HHS’ role in Bush’s International Prevention of Mother and Child HIV Initiative. (http://www.theglobalfund.org; http://2006-2009.pepfar.gov/press/75976.htm)

2004

March

The Administration announces that it is requiring foreign-made generic AIDS drugs to undergo further evaluation before they are used for the PEPFAR program, even drugs that have passed the World Health Organization’s (WHO) approval process. AIDS activists are reportedly concerned that expensive brand-name drugs would be favored. Dybul responds, “All we are saying is: we need to see the data ourselves.” (The Washington Post, 03/27/2004) He also says that he needs to see if accepted scientific principles are applied in evaluating the Fixed Dose Combination (FDC) drugs, which are not approved by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA). (Africa News, 03/30/2004)
May

On the 16th, the Bush Administration announces that companies that make generic drugs could apply for their drugs to be approved by the FDA and the application fee would be waived.  (*The New York Times*, 07/02/2004)

July

The French National Agency for Research on AIDS publishes findings that a generic FDC “three in one” pill works just as well as brand-name drugs.  (*The New York Times*, 07/02/2004)

UN Special Envoy for Africa, Stephen Lewis, states that the U.S. should support the Global Fund with $1 billion a year, not $200 million.  U.S. officials respond that most of the money ($3 billion) is left unspent and that other countries should contribute more to the initiative.  (*The Washington Post*, 07/13/2004)

2005

January

Dybul visits Namibia. The U.S. is providing $60 million for the country through PEPFAR.  (*Africa News*, 01/13/2005)

On the 25th, the FDA approves the first generic triple-therapy AIDS cocktail made by the foreign company Aspen Pharmacare of South Africa.  Dybul states, “We’ve been saying for a while that we want the lowest-cost drugs, no matter where they come from, as long as they’re safe and effective.”  (*The New York Times*, 01/26/2005)

Jan.-July

Controversy surrounds the number of patients getting treatment through PEPFAR. In January, Dybul attends the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland where U.S. officials say 32, 839 AIDS patients in Botswana are getting treatment. In June, the U.S. government downsizes the number as Botswana health officials respond that the number of AIDS patients receiving treatment from other programs is cited as PEPFAR’s successes.  Dybul says the reporting systems are evolving.  (*The Washington Post*, 07/01/2005)

April

During the plane ride to Rome for Pope John Paul II’s funeral, former President Bill Clinton says he talked to Bush about his opposition to prolonging patents for brand-name drugs through bilateral and regional trade agreements.  Through these agreements, the U.S. is reportedly extending the pharmaceuticals’ patents and restricting the right of poor countries to break drug patents to produce cheap generic drugs.  (*The International Herald Tribune*, 04/19/2006)

June

Bush announces a five-year, $1 billion initiative to eradicate malaria in fifteen countries.  (Bush, p. 345)

July

Laura and Jenna Bush travel to Africa to see the early results of PEPFAR.  They visit South Africa, Tanzania, and Rwanda.  (Laura Bush, *Spoken from the Heart*, New York: Scribner, 2010, pp. 328-333)
September

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) awards the Partnership for Supply Chain Management Company to develop a global supply chain system for the flow of antiretroviral drugs. *(Africa News, 09/28/2005)*

November

On the 21st, on World AIDS Day, Dybul announces the U.S. will spend $3.2 billion in 2006 through PEPFAR. *(Africa News, 11/30/2005)*

On the 21st, a joint WHO and UN report says more people are now infected with the AIDS virus (40 million) with 3 million out of 5 million infected in 2005 coming from sub-Saharan Africa. However, the infection rates decline in Zimbabwe, Kenya, Burkina Faso, and some Caribbean countries. Dybul says the U.S. has exceeded its goal of treating 200,000 people by 2005. *(USA Today, 11/22/2005)*

2006

March


April

On the 5th, the Government Accounting Office (GAO) issues a report that the 20 countries surveyed, most are struggling to implement the spending requirements for ABC strategy that encourages abstinence while funding other prevention efforts. The Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator requires two-thirds of the prevention budget must incorporate the ABC strategy. *(The Washington Post, 04/05/2006)*

May

On the 31st, the UN General Assembly High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS begins. Its purpose is to examine the Global Fund’s efforts in 2005. Laura Bush attends. *(Laura Bush, p. 373)*

June

On the 2nd, the UN General Assembly issues a declaration to battle AIDS. It calls for a stronger commitment to improve women’s rights to protect themselves against the HIV virus and for men to respect women. It also calls on countries to use “scientifically documented prevention strategies” like condoms, clean needles, and universal access to medicine. Dybul calls it a “fine declaration.” The UN says countries need to spend up to $23 billion by the year 2010. *(The New York Times, 06/03/2006)*

Dybul attends the annual PEPFAR conference. He argues that countries need to make a bigger financial contribution. He says, “This is a global pandemic that requires a global response and we don’t have it yet.” *(Business Day-South Africa, 06/15/2006)*
July

The FDA approves a 3-in-1 antiretroviral pill to be taken only twice a day for patients in the PEPFAR program. Dybul states the pill “should facilitate better therapies and better adherence.” (*The New York Times*, 07/06/2006)

August

On the 3rd, the Senate confirms Dybul to be the U.S. global AIDS coordinator. (http://2006-2009.pepfar.gov/press/75976.htm)

October

Dybul is sworn into office by Rice. Dybul is openly gay and his partner, Jason Clair, attend the ceremony with Laura Bush. Rice reportedly gets criticized by evangelicals for acknowledging Clair and saying Clair’s mother was Dybul’s “mother-in-law” in her statement. (*The Washington Post*, 10/20/2006)

Dybul visits Botswana to tour PEPFAR program sites. He says Botswana is a clear example that condom use alone cannot address AIDS, but abstinence and faithfulness are also needed. (*Africa News*, 10/26/2006)

December

Malaria No More, a non-profit founded by Ray Chambers to end malaria deaths in Africa by 2015, is launched at the White House Summit on Malaria on the 12th. (http://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov; http://www.malarianomore.org)

On the 13th, U.S. government health officials announce that circumcision appears to reduce a man’s risk of contracting AIDS. Dybul says his agency would support implementation of safe male circumcision if world health agencies recommend it. (*The New York Times*, 12/14/2006)

2007

February

On the 9th, Dybul announces the current U.S. spending proposal for PEPFAR would be $5.4 billion for FY2008. (*Africa News*, 02/17/2007)

March

On the 21st, Dybul tells members of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health that PEPFAR would increase its contribution to fight tuberculosis. (*Africa News*, 03/26/2007)

On the 28th, the WHO and the UN AIDS agency support offering free or subsidized circumcisions. (*The Washington Post*, 03/29/2007)

On the 30th, the Institute of Medicine issues a report on PEPFAR that is required by Congress. The report identifies a numbers of restrictions that hinders its effectiveness: the requirement that 33 percent of all money for prevention be spent teaching chastity and fidelity, the need for the FDA to approve a drug that the WHO has already approved, and laws forbidding taxpayer money for clean needles to drug addicts. Dybul disagrees with these restrictions by saying ABC is the best approach, countries are not required to spend abstinence money if drugs are the main route of infection, and the FDA approval system helps identify

May

Bush asks Congress to reauthorize PEPFAR and double its funding. (Bush, p. 346)

June

Dybul and Laura Bush travel to Africa for five days, visiting Mali, Senegal, Mozambique, and Zambia. (Africa News, 06/29/2007)

Summer

Dybul, Bush, and Laura Bush travel to the G-8 summit to get other countries to commit to HIV/AIDS and malaria efforts. (Bush, p. 347)

August

Dybul and HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt visit Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, and Tanzania to examine the progress of AIDS and malaria programs. (Africa News, 08/17/2007)

September

Jenna Bush publishes Ana’s Story: A Journey of Hope, which is a story of a 17-year old single-mother in Latin America living with AIDS. (http://www.today.com)

November

A UN report says new AIDS infections reached 2.5 million for 2007. Dybul responds, “I don’t think it radically shifts our thinking, at least not for 5 to 10 years. We still need to prevent 2.5 million infections, we still need to prevent 2.1 million a year from dying.” (The New York Times, 11/25/2007)

On the 31st, the president and Laura Bush mark World AIDS Day by visiting Calvary United Methodist Church in Maryland, and the president announces he will go to Africa early next year. He also urges Congress to reauthorize PEPFAR and double its funding. (The Washington Post, 12/01/2007)

2008

February

Bush, Dybul, and Laura Bush visit Benin, Tanzania, Rwanda, Ghana, and Liberia. While on the trip, Bush urges Congress again to reauthorize PEPFAR. (Bush, pp. 351-352)

June

Laura and Jenna Bush return to Africa. The first lady later writes that only 50,000 people were receiving antiretroviral treatment for AIDS in 2003, and by 2008, the number rose to more than two million. (Laura Bush, pp. 391, 408)

July

On the 30th, Bush signs the reauthorization for PEPFAR. The budget is tripled to $48 billion over the next five years. It also lifts the 1987 ban prohibiting HIV-infected foreigners from visiting the U.S. and strips away the requirement that one-third of the money for HIV prevention be spent on abstinence. (Reuters, 07/30/2008; Nature, 01/15/2009)
August    Dybul endorses the new “Champions for an HIV-free Generation” group that brings together African leaders to rethink and improve efforts to prevent the spread of HIV. The group is founded by Festus Mogae, former president of Botswana. (Africa News, 08/06/2008)

October  At the White House Summit on International Development, Bush says the U.S. should not cut back on assistance to low-income countries even amidst the economic crisis. Dybul hopes that the crisis will not affect the amount of aid for PEPFAR and notes that targeting AIDS/HIV is important to increase global development. (Africa News, 10/22/2008)

November Senator Barack Obama (D-IL) is elected president. Dybul says “President-elect Obama was a co-sponsor of PEPFAR reauthorization--one of the people who signed on to the bill….I’ll always think of Vice President-elect Biden as Chairman Biden because of his extraordinary role in [international] development…” (Africa News, 11/14/2008)

2009

January  On the 21st, Dybul resigns as coordinator. He reportedly is asked by the Obama Administration to stay on until his successor is named and confirmed, but Dybul declines. He joins the O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown. (The Washington Post, 01/28/2009)

2012    Dybul becomes executive director of the Global Fund. (http://www.theglobalfund.org)
TIMELINES

• Mark R. Dybul News Timeline, prepared by Bryan Craig, Miller Center, University of Virginia, 09/30/2013; revised 11/1/2016.

• Timeline of the Bush Presidency, prepared by Justin Peck and Bryan Craig, Miller Center, University of Virginia, 04/30/2010.
SELECTED WRITINGS AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY MARK R. DYBUL


U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator

KEY ISSUES ON AIDS

The Global Fund


PEPFAR


PEPFAR Annual Reports


Generic Drugs


Success Reporting


The “ABC” Approach


**2008 Trip to Africa**

**PEPFAR Reauthorization**

Joining the Bush Administration

- How did you come to meet George W. Bush? What were your early impressions of him? Describe his grasp of the core issues in your portfolio.
- How did your prior experience in the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases prepare you for your appointment in the administration? Describe your working relationship with Secretary Tommy Thompson.

U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator

- How did you come to serve as global AIDS coordinator? Did the president express to you his expectations before taking office? What were your primary responsibilities?
- Who did you report to in the White House? Tell us about your working relationship with Josh Bolten, Jay Lefkowitz, Randall Tobias, Condoleezza Rice, and Mike Leavitt.
- What type of access did you have to the president? How often did you meet with him? Did you typically communicate with him directly or through members of his staff?
- Discuss your working relationship with the president. How did it evolve during your tenure? Describe the president’s management and decision-making style.
- Evaluate your working relationships with organized interest groups, faith-based groups, and other NGOs. Which of them were your main allies and adversaries?
- What should history record as important about your service as an openly gay person in this administration, and on this issue?

Issues

- Discuss your role in the task force to formulate President Bush’s policies on AIDS. Tell us your role in working with the Global Fund. How did Bono become involved in these efforts?
- What was your role in passing PEPFAR? Describe how the “ABC approach” became part of it. Was President Bush easily convinced this was the best approach? How did you respond to criticism from Congress and interest groups? How successful was the “ABC approach” in fighting the spread of HIV?
- How did the administration respond to the issue of generic drugs? How important was it for the FDA to clear drugs that other health organizations already cleared? How fair was the criticism that U.S. bilateral and regional trade agreements prolonged brand-name patents?
- Tell us how fighting malaria become an important element in combating AIDS.
- What methods did you and President Bush use to improve foreign assistance to PEPFAR and the Global Fund. Did the global war on terror and the 2008 economic crisis affect funding for these programs?
- What role did you have in reauthorizing PEPFAR? What was the biggest challenge in getting it through Congress?
- How effective did President Bush link global development to fighting AIDS?
- Discuss your travels with President Bush and his family. Describe his style of face-to-face diplomacy with foreign leaders, health workers, and patients.
The Bush Presidency in Retrospect

- What do you consider your most significant accomplishments during your tenure?
- What were the most challenging parts of your jobs? What were the most rewarding?
- What were Bush’s greatest assets as president? Assess his strengths and weaknesses as a communicator, domestic policymaker, a legislative leader, leader of public opinion, and world leader. Which of his attributes served him best in the presidency?
- Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the Bush presidency. What features of the Bush presidency were overlooked or misunderstood by the press and public?
- How should the Bush presidency be viewed in history?