

Updating Physicians on Scientific Advances

The goal of the AACAP's continuing medical education (CME) activities is to enhance physicians' abilities to improve the clinical treatment of children and adolescents with psychiatric disorders; improve the health and development of infants, children, and adolescents at risk for psychiatric disorders; carry out scientific research; and remain up-to-date on scientific advancements.

In order to deliver high-quality CME programs, the AACAP underwent a rigorous reaccreditation process with the Accreditation Council on Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) in 2006. The AACAP successfully received the status of accreditation with exemplary compliance in the areas of planning process, needs assessment, program evaluation, and business/management practices. Some highlights of last year's continuing medical education offerings are as follows:

AACAP 53rd Annual Meeting

The AACAP's 53rd Annual Meeting with the special participation of Asociación Mexicana de Psiquiatría Infantil, A.C., was held on October 24–29, 2006, in San Diego. Of the 3,426 attendees, more than 700 international attendees participated from 48 countries. The AACAP's Annual Meeting also provided an excellent forum for recruitment into child and adolescent psychiatry, as 367 medical students and residents attended. The meeting offered more than 300 scientific programs on a spectrum of topics—such as bipolar disorder, autism, bullying, substance abuse, and ADHD—relevant to physicians who treat children, such as child and adolescent psychiatrists and pediatricians, as



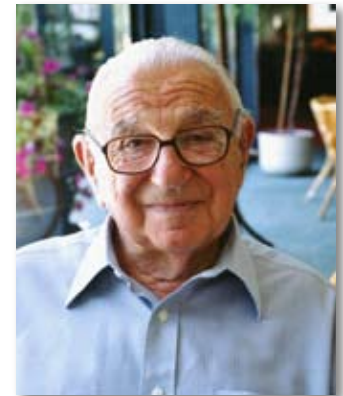
well as allied mental health professionals. In addition, more than 300 new research posters presented the latest in scientific data.

The meeting's extraordinary opening and closing plenaries represented two of the Annual Meeting's highlights. President **Thomas F. Anders, M.D.**, presided at the First Annual Karl A. Menninger, M.D., Plenary. The plenary was endowed by child and adolescent psychiatrist **Ron Filippi, M.D.**, as a tribute to his mentor **Karl A. Menninger, M.D.**,—"The Dean of American Psychiatry." Dr. Menninger impressed Dr. Filippi with his deep compassion for young people, particularly youth involved in the juvenile justice system, Native American children, and children affected by the Holocaust.

At each Annual Meeting, the AACAP bestows the Catcher in the Rye Humanitarian of the Year Award on an individual dedicated to



improving the lives of children, adolescents, and their families through heroism, advocacy, or financial support. At the Karl A. Menninger, M.D., Plenary, **David Cline, M.D.**, chair of the AACAP's History and Archives Committee, helped to recognize Sir Nicholas Winton as the winner of this prestigious award. Sir Nicholas Winton is an English citizen who saved a generation of children from the Holocaust. In 1938, Sir Winton foresaw the danger of Nazi occupation to Jewish children in Czechoslovakia and organized their transport to London, secured their placement in foster families, and raised money to pay for their support. Over nine months, Sir Winton orchestrated the transport of 669 children to safety.



Above: Sir Nicholas Winton, winner of the Catcher in the Rye Humanitarian of the Year Award

Lastly, **Robert Pynoos, M.D.**, gave the First Annual Karl A. Menninger, M.D., Plenary keynote address "Looking Back, Looking

Forward: The Legacy and Challenge of Child Traumatic Stress." Dr. Pynoos leads a nationwide network of academic and community-based centers dedicated to raising the standard for traumatized children, families, and communities. Dr. Pynoos shared his wisdom gathered through his vast experience in helping children and families following man-made and natural disasters, including places as diverse as Kuwait, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Littleton, Colorado, New Orleans, and Asia. Many of the children who Dr. Pynoos has treated have witnessed murders or rapes.

At the Jeanne Spurlock, M.D., Closing Plenary, **Leonard Lawrence, M.D.**, received a standing ovation for his speech, "The Impact of Role-Modeling and Mentoring." In his address, Dr. Lawrence focused on **Jeanne Spurlock, M.D.**, a distinguished physician, educator, and writer. As a child and adolescent psychiatrist, Dr. Spurlock made significant contributions in focusing the medical community's attention on the stresses of poverty, sexism, racism, and discrimination that affect women, minorities, gays, and lesbians. In addition to Dr. Spurlock's great influence, Dr. Lawrence spoke about the many eminent African-American scholars and leaders who break barriers every day.

Online Continuing Medical Education Opportunities

In January, the AACAP conducted the Psychopharmacology Update Institute "Evidence Based-Psychopharmacological

Treatment for Youth in a Time of Regulatory Uncertainty." Chaired by **Larry Greenhill, M.D.**, the Institute examined the increased attention on medications' safety and efficacy raised by the Food and Drug Administration. After the Institute's conclusion, the entire program's content was offered online, sponsored by Eli Lilly and Company. This allowed any individual with an Internet connection to view cutting-edge scientific information from the leading authority in children's mental health.

The online version of the Institute is a prelude to eAACAP, an online portal to better understand children's mental health and a premier continuing medical education destination. eAACAP will be a Web-based



Above: Jeanne Spurlock, M.D.
Right: Robert Hendren, D.O., AACAP President-Elect



educational resource that makes the unique knowledge and authority of the AACAP readily accessible to multiple audiences. It is the vision of **Robert Hendren, D.O.**, AACAP President-Elect, and will be managed by **Bennett L. Leventhal, M.D.**, eAACAP Medical Director.

The goal of eAACAP is to develop an intuitive knowledge resource and decision-making tool by utilizing state-of-the-art information management developed through the AACAP. It will provide guidance for child and adolescent psychiatrists, other physicians and health care providers, educators, and families who are looking for information to help them make good decisions about how to nurture mentally healthy children. eAACAP will be a dynamic tool, constantly evolving and improving, both in its content and in the processes for managing information.

Maintenance of Certification

Beginning in 2005, the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) requires all child and adolescent psychiatrists certified after 1994 to become recertified every 10 years. Many practitioners have taken advantage of the AACAP Maintenance of Certification modules as a way to help them fulfill the ABPN's recertification requirement for self-assessment and life-long learning. The Work Group on Maintenance of Certification began a series of modules to assist child and adolescent psychiatrists with this process. They are:

◇ *Module 1: Disruptive Behavior Disorder, Violence and Homicide*

◇ *Module 2: Eating Disorders, Feeding/Eliminating Disorders, Substance-Related Disorders, and Updates on Relevant Topics for Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists*

◇ *Module 3: Anxiety Disorders, Trauma (Non Abuse/Neglect Related), Selective Mutism and Updates on Relevant Topics for Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists*

These modules contain peer-reviewed literature on these topics in addition to a seminal article section. Each module offers specialty-specific, ABPN-approved, category one CME credit.

The Academy has been like a good family for me, supportive in times of trouble, sharing in the joys of success, representing a beacon for excellence and integrity. Dues do not cover this kind of relationship, I am grateful to be in the position of giving back a little more.
—**Ronald Filippi, M.D.**

On the occasion of establishing the Karl A. Menninger, M.D. Opening Plenary