

## Recap of CPDD 2015

This year's meeting was held at a new hotel for CPDD, albeit in a familiar locale, Phoenix, AZ. The Arizona Biltmore was an excellent meeting spot: beautiful grounds, lots of history, terrific meeting space, fabulous food. (However, we did take a little heat about the heat.) There were 1070 attendees, including 331 members, 293 pre- & post- docs, and 379 nonmembers. Attendees came from 42 countries, the largest contingent outside the US being, as usual, Australia with 26, followed close behind by Canada with 25. There were 14 attendees from Brazil and 11 from Turkey.



The 2015 Annual Meeting began with an Opening Reception held at the Biltmore on Saturday evening, June 13. The scientific program started with the Plenary Session on Sunday morning, at which the major awards for 2015 were presented. Following welcoming remarks by President Eric Strain, the first annual Stephen G. Holtzman Travel Award for Preclinical Investigators was presented to Chloe Jordan by Steve's widow, Dr. Yung-Fong Sung. Bertha Madras then introduced the winners of this year's CPDD/NIDA Media Award, Jeff Foote, Nicole Kosante and Carrie Wilkens, who received the award for their co-authorship of *Beyond Addiction: How Science and Kindness Help People Change*.



Next up was the Martin & Toby Adler Distinguished Service Award presented to Cora Lee Wetherington by Loretta Finnegan. Dr. Wetherington received the award for outstanding service in supporting and advancing research in women's health and sex/gender issues.



Jennifer Tidey then introduced the Joseph Cochin Young Investigator Award. The 2015 recipient is Adam Leventhal of the University of Southern California.





The next presentation was of the Mentorship Award to Michael Nader. Josh Lile gave the introduction.



The final award presentation of the morning, the Nathan B. Eddy Memorial Award was given by CPDD President Eric Strain to Roland Griffiths, who then presented a lecture entitled, "*My fascination with mood-altering drugs: Hypnotics, caffeine and psilocybin*".





The CPDD Early Career Travel Awards luncheon was held following the Plenary. Invitees included this year's awardees as well as winners from the past 3 years. Jennifer Havens helped to organize the event.









After lunch, the President's Lecture was given by Martin Adler, who was stepping down as Executive Officer after 29 years. President Eric Strain introduced Marty. Following the talk, several presentations were made acknowledging Marty & Toby Adler's long-term service to CPDD, beginning with a short video with photos from past CPDD annual meetings along with messages and poems from a number of Marty's CPDD friends. A scrapbook of the items in the video was presented to Marty by Ellen Geller, Director of the Executive Office. Incoming Executive Officer Loretta Finnegan presented Toby with a plaque for her years of service as bookkeeper.





Eric Strain then presented Marty with a beautifully crafted plaque for his service, which was followed by several more gifts presented to Marty & Toby by Alan Budney on behalf of many friends and colleagues.



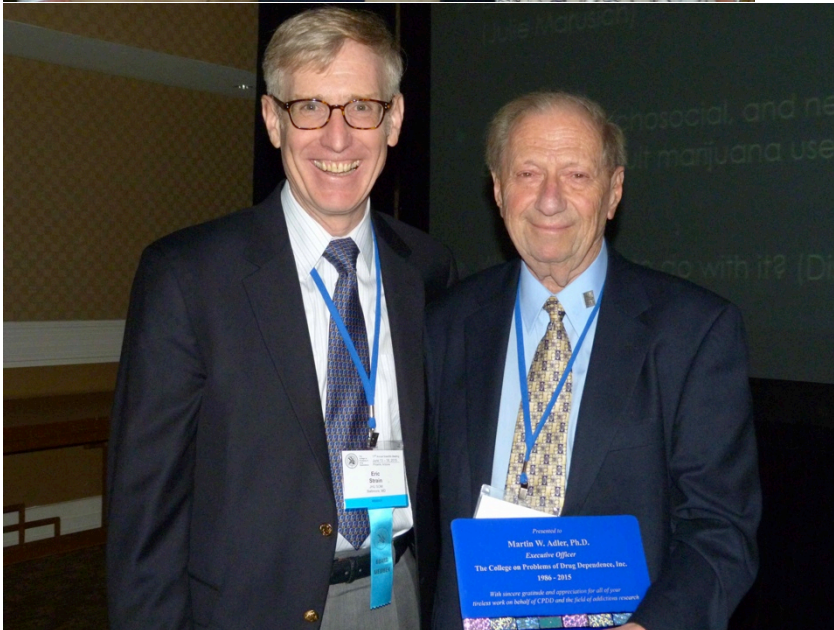














The scientific program continued with the first 2 of 16 symposia and the first 2 of 18 oral communications sessions. A reception for the winners of the Primm-Singleton Travel Award preceded the 4 evening workshops.



Monday morning's program started with the Media Forum on hot topics in substance abuse research. The first of three lunchtime poster sessions began at noon; the fourth was a breakfast on Thursday morning.





Later in the afternoon, the Marian W. Fischman Memorial Award was presented to Kathleen Brady, who was introduced by Sudie Back. Dr. Brady then delivered the Fischman Lecture on the topic of *Stress and Addictions*.



The CPDD/NIDA Pre- and Post-docs Networking Event followed the Fischman Lecture. Trainees and mentors gathered to socialize and connect those looking for positions in training programs with available opportunities. Mimi Ghim and Susan Weiss of NIDA and Eric Strain of CPDD addressed the group.





Monday evening included NIDA's International Poster Session, organized by Steve Gust, along with 4 workshops.



On Tuesday morning, we began some joint programming with the International Narcotics Research Conference (INRC). After Fred Nyberg, President of INRC, welcomed the group, CPDD President Eric Strain introduced Dr. Nora Volkow, Director of NIDA, who addressed both organizations. She provided an update on the happenings at NIDA and NIH and spoke about priorities in drug abuse research.





The Policy Forum followed the Plenary Session. Charles O’Keeffe and Martin Iguchi chaired the session during which Charles talked about Friends of NIDA, Ed Long of Van Scoyoc Associates gave an update on Capitol Hill, and Fred Wells Brason, President/CEO of Project Lazarus, spoke on Overdose Prevention. President-Elect Sandra Comer and Nabarun Dasgupta joined in the discussion.



After the Policy Forum, the second poster session with buffet lunch took place. Posters from INRC attendees were also displayed, so that attendees of both groups had the opportunity to network and to learn about each other’s research.







Wednesday morning began with the Town Hall Industry/Academia Forum on Prescription Drug Abuse. The Animals in Research Forum followed. An outreach event, organized by Colleen Hanlon, was also held that morning. A group of volunteers went to UMOM New Day Center, an organization whose programming includes everything needed to break the cycle of homelessness, such as women's programs, workforce development, addiction and mental health counseling, child development, wellness workshops, and teen activity programs.

Later in the afternoon, Late-Breaking Research, our *speed data-ing* session composed of 5-minute talks with no discussion, whizzed by under Program Committee Chair Elise Weerts' tight control.

The CPDD Business Meeting was held Wednesday afternoon. The Treasurer's report was given by Linda Cottler, who assured us that we were in fine financial shape, followed by a report from Elise Weerts, who assured us that we were in fine scientific shape as well, as the program was very strong and sessions were well attended.



Plaques were given to retiring BOD members, Mike Bardo, Alan Budney, and Frank Vocci. President-Elect Sandy Comer presented outgoing President Eric Strain with an inscribed vase for his service as President.







Wednesday evening commenced with the annual dinner/dance with music supplied by the XO Band. As this was Marty Adler's last year as Executive Officer, he was toasted and roasted by several friends and colleagues during the dinner.









































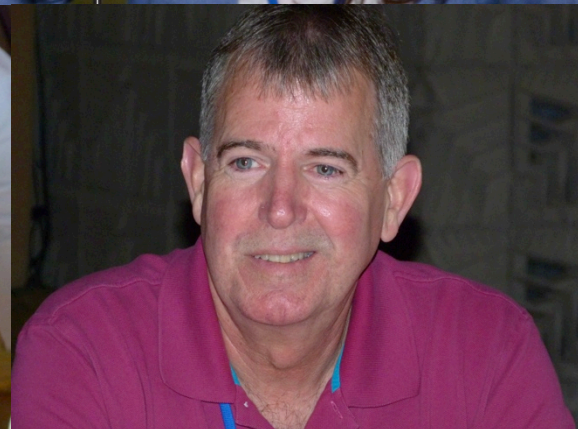








Thursday started off with a breakfast poster session followed by symposia and oral sessions. The annual Brunch with Champions, during which students and junior investigators can meet and eat with more senior scientists in the field, was held around noon. Many thanks to Colleen Hanlon and Kenzie Preston for organizing it. This year's champs were Tom Kelly, Roland Griffiths, Sandy Comer, Cora Lee Wetherington, Adam Leventhal, and Len Howell.









At the end of the afternoon sessions, the annual CPDD Sweepstakes drawing was held with many valuable (and some a little less so) prizes. This year's winner of meeting registration for 2016 was Kyle Windisch. Two nights at La Quinta, next year's meeting site, went to Dorothy Yamamoto, and Courtney Breen won free dues for 1 year. Other prizes were won by Meagan Follett, Susan Ben Ezra, Dolores Vazquez Sanroman, Shane Bierma, Mary Sweeney, Sally Huskinson, Charles Schindler, Tetiana Kiriazova, Jennifer Naylor, Grace Reynolds, Mark Greenwald, Gabriella Baez, Kenner Rice, Cynthia Arfken, and James Rowlett. Congrats to all the lucky winners!



















Judging by the overwhelmingly positive feedback received, if you did not attend this year's meeting, you missed a great one. For 2016, we return to La Quinta Resort & Club near Palm Springs, California, June 11-16. Hope to see you there!