

Recap of CPDD 2016

The College on Problems of Drug Dependence returned to La Quinta Resort & Club near Palm Springs, CA, for our 78th Annual Scientific Meeting, June 11-16, 2016. The desert climate was much more welcoming on our return visit, as the temperatures stayed in the comfortable 90's during the day and dropped to a delightful low 70's in the evening. There were 1044 attendees from 43 countries. For the first time in recent memory, Canada had the largest contingent from outside the US, with 29 registrants, beating out perennial front-runner Australia with 20, Brazil with 15, and France, 11. We had 31 attendees from developing countries, 327 members, 114 Members-in-Training, 148 non-member pre & post-docs, and 383 non-members, in addition to social registrants and exhibitors.

The opening reception on Saturday evening was held on the lawn and in the Capra Ballroom. On Sunday morning, our Plenary began with a welcome from President Sandra Comer, followed by a report from the National Institute on Drug Abuse presented by Director Nora Volkow. The Director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Dr. George Koob, then addressed the attendees on *The Role of Stress in Addiction: An NIAAA perspective*.

CPDD's awards ceremonies followed, beginning with the presentation of the Stephen G. Holtzman Travel Award for Preclinical Investigators to Jae Kim by Martin Adler.



Next on the program was the presentation of the CPDD/NIDA Media Award to Bess O'Brien for her documentary film *The Hungry Heart*, which was based on the prescription drug crisis in Vermont. The award was introduced by Bertha Madras, chair of the Media Committee. A viewing of the film and Q&A with Ms. O'Brien followed the Plenary.



The next award, the J. Michael Morrison Award, was presented to Minda Lynch, Chief of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences Research at NIDA, by Marilyn Carroll.



This year's Joseph Cochin Young Investigator Award was presented by Charles France to Jun-Xu Li from the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Buffalo, NY.



The 2016 Mentorship Award was given to Kenner Rice, Chief of The Drug Design and Synthesis Section, NIDA. Tom Prisinzano introduced the award.



To complete Sunday morning's award ceremonies, the 2016 Nathan B. Eddy Memorial Award was bestowed upon Warren K. Bickel, Director, Addiction Recovery Research Center, Roanoke, VA. Steve Higgins introduced Warren, who then delivered the Eddy Lecture on the *Addictionomics of Self-Control*.



A luncheon for Early Career Investigator Travel Awardees was held after the morning Plenary. Sunday afternoon's program continued with the President's Symposium, *Where There's Smoke: US, Australasian, and European Cannabis Policies and Use*, with invited speakers, Deborah Hasin, Alison Ritter and Marc Auriacombe. It was chaired by Sandra Comer.



Following that special symposium came the first 2 of the 15 chosen submitted symposia and of the 25 oral communications sessions. Later in the day, there was a reception for Primm-Singleton Travel Awardees prior to 5 evening workshops.

Monday morning's program began with a Town Hall from the Industry/Academia/Government Committee and a Media Forum sponsored by the Media Committee, followed by more symposia and oral communication sessions. The first of 4 poster sessions with exhibits was held during the lunch period. Nourishment was provided for those hungry for more than just stimulating data.

Shortly after the poster session, the Marian W. Fishman Memorial Award Lecture was presented by this year's honoree, Marilyn Huestis, who spoke on *The Great US Cannabis Experiment: Research and Education to Enable Informed Public Decisions*. The awardee was introduced by Jack Henningfield.



Several more symposia and oral sessions preceded the Pre- and Post-doc Trainees Networking Event, which was co-sponsored with CPDD by NIDA and Elsevier.



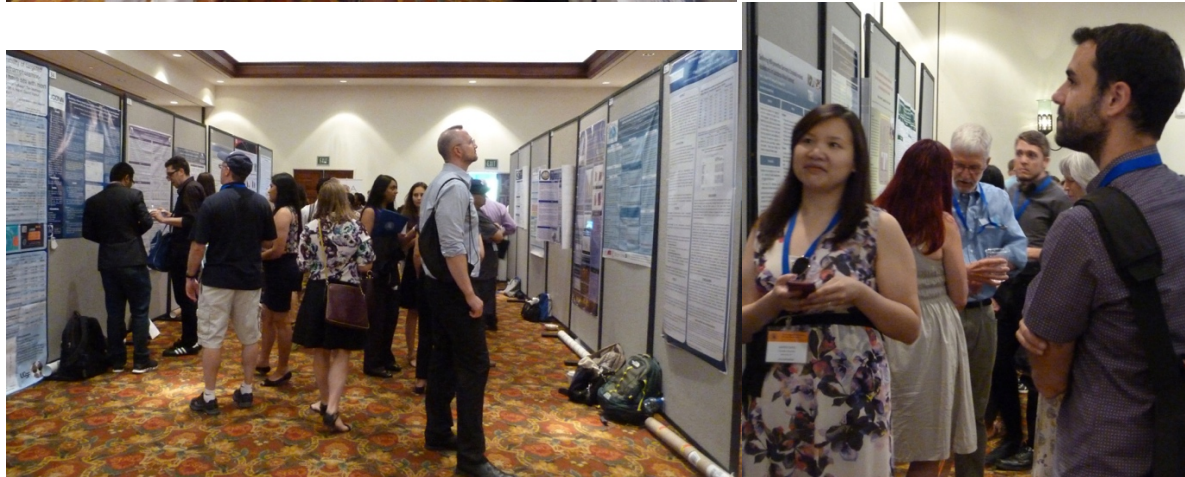


Four more workshops and the NIDA International Poster Session rounded out the evening program.

Tuesday morning's sessions began with the Policy Forum chaired by Martin Iguchi, at which Ed Long from Van Scoyoc Associates presented an update from Capitol Hill, and perspectives on Integrated Care regulations were discussed by Wesley Clark, Gavin Bart and Dennis McCarty.



Poster Session II with lunch (food for thought!) followed the morning sessions.





On Wednesday, two additional forums were held: Towards Population Neuroscience, and the Animals in Research Forum on the topic of studying addiction in male and female animals. Following another full day of symposia, oral communications, posters, and the rapid-fire Late-Breaking Research session, CPDD members attended the annual business meeting. Chaired by President Sandra Comer, the meeting brought members up to date on a number of CPDD activities and initiatives that occurred during the past year. Executive Officer Loretta Finnegan gave a report on the Executive Office operations and announced the locations for upcoming annual meetings of the organization. Linda Cottler gave the Treasurer's Report and Elise Weerts, Chair of the Program Committee, reported some program stats. Plaques were then presented to Members of the Board whose terms ended with this meeting: Linda Dwoskin, Carl Hart, Stephen Higgins, and Gregory Miller. Incoming President, Leonard Howell, thanked Sandy for her service as President and presented her with a plaque and inscribed bowl. Elections were held for members of the Nominating Committee. The Fellows elected Steve Higgins and Eric Strain, and the Regular/Associate Members elected Ziva Cooper and Adam Leventhal to serve on the Committee.



Wednesday evening's dinner with music by the Barry Minniefield Band brought (almost) everyone out on the dance floor.











Thursday began with a breakfast poster session, followed by oral communications and the last of the symposia. The traditional Brunch with Champions, at which students and junior investigators have a chance to meet and eat with more senior scientists to discuss career paths and get tips on approaches to funding their research, was held at noon. This year's champs were Annie Umbricht, Carlos Blanco, Betty Tai, Jun-Xu Li, Beatriz Rocha, and Elise Weerts. Kenzie Preston organized the event.







The final sessions of the afternoon were topped off by the annual CPDD Sweepstakes Drawing. Prizes were awarded to many of the lucky attendees who chose to stay until the very end of the

meeting. In addition to the usual assortment of totes and water bottles from previous years, and other useful items, there were several noteworthy prizes. Free membership dues went to Jun-Xu Li; a 2-night stay at next year's conference hotel went to Ryan Vandrey; and free meeting registration for 2017 was won by Jermaine Jones.





Other winners included Brian Thomas, Gantt Galloway, Ivy Carroll, Jennifer Tidey, Beatriz Rocha, Logan Dowdle, Amir Abdolahi, Danielle Davis, Bill Stoops, Irene Pericot-Valverde, Jason Oliver, Jacob Borodovsky, Nicholas Schlienzy, Alecia Dager, Elizabeth Aston, Victoria Votaw, Christina Song, Brooke Arterberry, Stephen Lankenau, Jan Copeland, and Shelly Su.



Congrats to all the winners! Next year, plan to stay through the last day and you, too, can take home a valuable prize, or perhaps an item that you can sell on eBay. If you stay until the end you can also enjoy joint symposia co-sponsored with the International Cannabis Research Society, which will hold its annual meeting in Montreal right after CPDD.

See you in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, June 17-22, 2017!