

Midwest AAPL Celebrates 30 Years

Cathleen A. Cerny, MD -MWAAPL President Elect (2015)

Delaney Smith, MD – MWAAPL Secretary

Susan Hatters-Friedman, MD – MWAAPL Immediate Past President (2013)

On March 22-23, 2013, nearly 100 psychiatrist, psychologists, residents and medical students gathered in Columbus, Ohio to celebrate 30 years of Midwest AAPL. Among those present were sixteen past presidents including co-founding member and first president, Phillip J. Resnick, MD (1983). Also in attendance were outgoing president Susan Hatters-Friedman, MD (2013) and incoming president James Reynolds, MD (2014).

The program committee for this anniversary event was comprised of Delaney Smith, MD (councilor, incoming secretary), Cathleen Cerny, MD (outgoing secretary, president-elect 2015) and Susan Hatters-Friedman, MD (2013). Together, they put together an outstanding line-up of speakers. Topics for the twelve presentations included neonaticide, juvenile competency, gun policy and psychological testing. Dr. Hatters-Friedman also gave a presidential address entitled “Back to the Future: Forensic Psychiatry in the Midwest.”

Five psychiatry residents were honored as Resnick Scholars at this 30th annual meeting: Brian Falls, MD; Brian Holodya, MD, MPH; Scott Johnson, MD, JD; Caleb Korngold, MD and Kristi Sikes, MD. Beginning in 2014, there will be a new resident prize in addition to the Resnick Scholar award. The MWAAPL executive committee approved Margolis Travel Scholarships to honor past-president Philip M. Margolis, MD (2001) and to give residents with Midwest connections exposure to forensic psychiatry education and mentors. The Resnick Scholar Award will now be geared towards applicants who have already had experiences and achievement in forensic psychiatry. Please look for an announcement regarding award applications in fall 2013.

In preparation for the 30th anniversary, Cathleen Cerny put together a member survey in order to gather some data about the organization. Forty-nine MWAAPL members (77 dues paying members at the time of the survey) completed the survey yielding some interesting results:

- Six respondents have belonged to MWAAPL for over 25 years
- One respondent has been to all 30 meetings. Three additional respondents have been to 21 or more meetings.
- Twenty respondents have served as officers for MWAAPL.
- Four respondents have served as officers in AAPL
- Twenty respondents are currently serving or have served on AAPL committees
- Eight respondents have won AAPL awards including the Red Apple Award, the Rappeport Fellowship and Best Teacher in a Forensic Fellowship
- MWAAPL member respondents have a combined 60+ publications in the past year
- MWAAPL member respondents have a combined 120+ presentations in the past year

The survey also gathered some favorite MWAAPL member memories and mission statements which were documented in the meeting program. A few quotes from the program are included below to illustrate how valuable MWAAPL is to its members.

I see Midwest AAPL's place, mission, and function as doing just what it is doing. It is an incubator for early career forensic psychiatrists and psychiatrists interested in forensics. Our annual meeting is a wonderful forum for the early career people to get started producing meetings, making presentations, and meeting others. I haven't missed a Midwest AAPL meeting in about 25 years.

I enjoy this excellent caliber meeting and the presenters more than I can express.

I value all the people I have met and gone out to dinner with and helped organize meetings with over the years. Many are some of my closest professional friends, even though they may live long distances from me.

Celestine DeTrana, MD and Doug Morris, MD are busy planning the 2014 meeting. Please join MWAAPL for what is sure to be another excellent meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana on March 21-22, 2014. You don't have to be from the Midwest to benefit from this high caliber CME event!