RECAP OF CPDD 2013

The 75th Annual Scientific Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence was held for the first time in San Diego, CA, at the Bayfront Hilton from June 15-20. Over 1100 attendees participated, coming from 48 countries and territories across the globe. As usual, the highest number of attendees outside the US came from Australia (34), followed by Canada (23), Brazil (9), Japan (8), China and the UK (7 each), France, Mexico, Spain, Thailand, and Viet Nam (6 each). There were 328 Members, 589 Non-Members, 202 In-Training Members and Non-Member Predocs. The scientific program included 580 abstracts accepted for posters in 4 sessions, and 144 for oral presentation in 20 sessions, 12 in a Late-Breaking session, in addition to 17 symposia, 15 evening workshops, and 3 forums. Two of the symposia were jointly sponsored with APSAD (The Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs), which also participated in the NIDA International Satellite meeting at CPDD this year.

Aside from the special activities in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the meeting, CPDD 2013 was distinguished by the uncharacteristically rather chilly outdoor opening reception on Saturday evening, which found attendees huddled by heaters, as opposed to the misters in our desert locales.
Sunday morning’s plenary session began with a warm welcome from President Rich De La Garza, followed by an update from NIDA by Director Nora Volkow. The CPDD/NIDA Media Award was then presented by Marc Kaufman to David Sheff for his books and articles on the problem of addiction. Redonna Chandler was this year’s recipient of the J. Michael Morrison Award. Dr. Chandler was introduced by Michael Dennis. Craig Rush then introduced William Stoops, the 2013 Joseph Cochin Young Investigator Awardee. Next was the presentation of the Mentorship Award to James Sorensen, who was introduced by Howard Newville.

The final award of the morning session was the prestigious Nathan B. Eddy Award, which was bestowed upon Linda Dykstra. Kathryn Cunningham gave the introduction. Dr. Dykstra then presented her lecture, In Search of a Better Analgesic.
Some of the previous Eddy Awardees posed with Dr. Dykstra (left to right, Mary Jeanne Kreek, William Dewey, Martin Adler, Theodore Cicero, Edward Sellers, Linda Dykstra, Robert Balster)

After the Plenary, a luncheon for CPDD Travel Awardees was held. The current winners as well as those from the previous 3 years were invited to attend. (Awardees Brochure, and Awardees Slideshow)

The President's Lecture opened the afternoon session, with Dr. De La Garza welcoming Dr. Volkow back to the podium. She represented Francis Collins, Director of NIH, who was unable to attend, and addressed issues regarding “Functional Integration”, the decision not to structurally merge NIDA and NIAAA into one institute but to facilitate more collaboration between the existing institutes.

In commemoration of the 75th Annual Meeting, short videos by long-time members of CPDD reflecting on the changes in the meeting over the years preceded each of the symposia and oral sessions.
On Sunday evening, Primm-Singleton Travel Awardees convened at a reception in their honor. (Primm-Singleton Slideshow)

The first of the 4 poster sessions began with breakfast on Monday.

Later in the day, the Marian Fischman Memorial Award for an outstanding woman scientist was presented to Kathryn Cunningham, who was introduced by Sharon Walsh. Dr. Cunningham then presented her award lecture on Serotonin at the Nexus of Impulsivity and Cue Reactivity in Cocaine Addiction.
The Networking Event for pre- and post-docs was held Monday evening. Trainees were invited to a reception hosted by CPDD and NIDA and generously sponsored by Elsevier and a number of other institutions and individuals. Along with the socializing, Training Program Directors had the opportunity to speak briefly about their programs to the group.
Also on Monday evening was the NIDA International Meeting poster session.

Tuesday morning began with another breakfast poster session. In addition to discussing data with the poster presenters, attendees had time to chat with some of the vendors.
There were 2 lunchtime forums, one on Animals in Research and the other, on Media Training, as well as the grant-writing workshop held by NIDA for young investigators. Later in the afternoon, we had a special celebration, complete with cake and ice cream, for the 75th anniversary meeting. A panel of long-time CPDDers (Marty Adler, Chuck Gorodetzky, Loretta Finnegan, Ted Cicero, Mary Jeanne Kreek, Frank Vocci, and Bill Dewey) reflected on the changes in the Annual Meeting over the years and offered perspectives on the future.

Next was the Members Business Meeting, at which incoming President Frank Vocci presented Richard De La Garza with a gift for having served as President. Plaques were given to retiring Board Members (Larry Brown, Sandra Comer, Leonard Howell, and Scott Lukas).

Elections for representatives to the Nominating Committee were held. Anna Rose Childress and Linda Porrino will represent the Fellows; Andy Coop and Rumi Price, the Regular Members.
On Wednesday morning, a Public Policy Forum was held. Bill Dewey and Ed Long spoke on the critical issues of funding for biomedical research and updated us on work with Friends of NIDA and Congress. Beau Kilmer and Rosalie Pacula from the Rand Corporation presented a timely discussion of policies and concerns relating to medical marijuana.

We had a third poster session with lunch preceding the afternoon's offering of symposia and oral communications. On Wednesday evening, our traditional dinner and dancing was accompanied by a movie slideshow set to music with photos collected from CPDD meetings over the years. (The movie and the videos can be viewed at 75th Anniversary Movie and 75th Anniversary Interviews)
On Thursday, we had the last of the breakfast poster sessions followed by symposia and oral communications. The Brunch with Champions afforded an opportunity for trainees and early career scientists to meet and converse with more established researchers and administrators in the drug abuse field. This year’s champs were Warren Bickel, Kathleen Brady, Anna Rose Childress, Richard De La Garza, Colleen Hanlon, Scott Lukas, Dave McCann, and Linda Porrino.
The CPDD 75th Annual Scientific Meeting concluded with the ever-popular Sweepstakes Drawing. Prizes included a 2-night stay at next year’s meeting hotel, the Caribe Hilton in San Juan (Linda Porrino), free dues for a year (Kelly Young-Wolff), and free meeting registration for 2014 (Daisy Thompson-Lake). Other lucky winners were Marc Rosen, Samantha Lookatch, Eugene Dunne, Jane Acri, Karla Wagner, James Kesby, and Ivy Carroll.
Congratulations to all the winners!

See you in sunny San Juan, June 14-19, 2014 at the Caribe Hilton.

Symposia, Workshops and Forums: Proposals due October 15th, 2013
Abstract Deadline: December 2, 2013