

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 11, 2008

Contact: Marc J. Kaufman, PhD
Chair, Media Relations Committee,
College on Problems of Drug Dependence
<http://www.cpdd.vcu.edu>
kaufman@mclean.harvard.edu
617-855-3469

**College on Problems of Drug Dependence
70th Annual Meeting
Caribe Hilton, San Juan, Puerto Rico
June 14-19, 2008**

More than 1000 scientists will be meeting at the Seventieth Annual Meeting of the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) to discuss their latest findings on drug abuse and dependence. CPDD is the largest and oldest organization supporting research on the scientific explanation of drug use and dependence. A broad range of research will be presented addressing mechanisms for development of drug dependence, its prevention, and treatment, at the **Caribe Hilton, San Juan, Puerto Rico**. Among the many research topics are symposia and workshops on abuse of pain relief medications (**Monday & Wednesday, San Cristobal**) and adolescent substance abuse treatment and implications for juvenile justice settings (**Monday, San Geronimo**).

On Sunday morning at the Plenary Session (**San Geronimo Ballroom**), achievement awards will be presented to outstanding individuals for their contributions to the field of addiction science. Those honored include **Dr. Billy R. Martin**, who will receive the Nathan B. Eddy Award for lifetime contributions to the field, who sadly passed away just this past week before the meeting and will receive the award posthumously; **Dr. Hendree Jones**, who will be presented with the Joseph Cochin Young Investigator Award; **Dr. Joseph V. Brady**, who will be recognized for his efforts in mentoring junior drug abuse researchers; **Dr. Geoffrey K. Mumford**, who will receive CPDD's Distinguished Service Award, and **Drs. Betty Tai and Rita Liu**, who will receive the J. Michael Morrison Award for Scientific Administration. **Mr. William Cope Moyers**, vice president at the Hazelden Foundation (Center City, MN) and the executive director of the organization's Center for Public Advocacy, will be recognized for his outstanding contributions to the public understanding of scientific issues concerning drug use disorders. That afternoon he will present an address entitled "Need for increased public understanding of drug abuse illness" at the Public Policy Forum (**Auditorium**). **Dr. Nora Volkow**, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (USA), will address the Plenary Session. In addition, **Dr. Kelly Brownell**, Director, Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity at Yale University (New Haven CT), will give the President's Lecture, Can Food Be Addictive and Why? on Sunday afternoon (**San Cristobal**). On Monday afternoon, the Marian W. Fischman Memorial Lectureship Award will be given to **Dr. Edythe D. London (San Cristobal)**.

Sunday through Thursday afternoon, CPDD members will present new and exciting research findings in poster and oral presentations. Some of the highlighted presentations include reports discussing interrelated problems of poverty and cocaine addiction (**Silverman et al., Sunday PM**), illicit drug use prevalence in inmates and juvenile offenders in Puerto Rico (**Gonzalez-Perez et al., Monday PM**), intra-ethnic differences on the lifetime risk for alcohol, cannabis, and cocaine use among Latinos (**Ríos-Bedoya, Tuesday PM**), diversion of prescription stimulants and analgesics by college students (**Garnier et al., Wednesday AM**) and how efficacy and side effects of smoking cessation medications are influenced by genetic factors (**Lerman, Thursday PM**). An "Art and Addiction Exhibition", including a number of works of addiction-related art, will be presented (**Sunday-Tuesday, Flamingo Room**). This is only a small sampling of the hundreds of reports and information sessions that will be presented.

Search the meeting program and abstract listings by clicking the "2008 Program Book" link on the CPDD website (www.cpdd.vcu.edu) for topics and themes of interest, times, and locations of presentations.

Media personnel are invited to the plenary and scientific sessions. Press information and interviews are in Boardroom 1.

###