

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 19, 2009

**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

**Dr. George E. Bigelow wins 2009 CPDD Mentorship Award**

George E. Bigelow, Ph.D., will be presented with the 2009 College on Problems of Drug Dependence Mentorship Award, which recognizes a person who is especially influential in the development of careers of young addiction research scientists. The presentation will be made on Sunday morning, June 21st, at the Plenary Session of the College's seventy-first annual meeting, to be held at John Ascuaga's Nugget Resort, Reno/Sparks, Nevada.

Dr. Bigelow received training in experimental psychology and psychopharmacology at the University of Minnesota. In 1971 he joined the faculty of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where he remains and is Director of the Behavioral Pharmacology Research Unit (BPRU), a human substance abuse research unit working both in clinical treatment research settings and in experimental clinical pharmacology laboratory settings.

Dr. Bigelow's research is diverse, spanning clinic and laboratory settings. One focus is opioid clinical pharmacology, including abuse liability assessment, human drug discrimination, and evaluation of buprenorphine for opioid dependence treatment. A second focus is cocaine challenge and self-administration choice procedures for assessing potential pharmacotherapies for cocaine dependence. A third focus is outpatient therapeutic clinical trials assessing pharmacotherapies and incentive-based behavior therapies for efficacy in reducing drug abuse.

Dr. Bigelow is a former president of CPDD. For nearly 30 years, Dr. Bigelow has been Director of the BPRU's NIDA-supported postdoctoral research training program at Johns Hopkins. With additional long-term faculty leadership from Roland Griffiths and Maxine Stitzer, the BPRU training program has graduated over 100 fellows. BPRU graduates include prominent and productive substance abuse researchers and science administrators, including three recent CPDD presidents.

The Mentorship Award is presented annually by CPDD, the largest and oldest organization for the scientific study of drug dependence and addiction.

###