

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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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. Robert L. Balster wins the CPDD Nathan B. Eddy Memorial Award

Robert L. Balster, Ph.D, will be presented with the 2009 College on Problems of Drug Dependence Nathan B. Eddy Memorial Award, for his pioneering research efforts that have advanced knowledge in the field of drug addiction research and treatment. 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. Balster received his Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Houston and did post-doctoral training at the University of Chicago under the direction of Charles R. Schuster. Currently, he is Director of the Institute for Drug and Alcohol Studies, Luther A. Butler Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology, and Research Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), Medical College of Virginia campus in Richmond.

He is the Editor-in-Chief of *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* and President-elect of the International Society of Addiction Journal Editors. Dr. Balster is the Coordinator for the VCU site for the U.S. State Department/NIDA Humphrey Fellowship Program in Substance Abuse Prevention, Treatment and Policy, and is a co-founder and co-director of the International Programme in Addiction Studies, an online master's degree program.

He is a Past-President of CPDD and recipient of the 2000 CPDD Mentorship Award. His previous appointments also include being a member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Drug Dependence, Chair of the Drug Abuse Clinical and Behavior Study Section at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Chair of the FDA Drug Abuse Advisory Committee, and Chair of the Board of Scientific Affairs of the American Psychological Association.

Dr. Balster has authored more than 270 papers in scientific journals, 46 book chapters, and edited two books. The principal areas of Dr. Balster's research include behavioral pharmacology, drug abuse potential assessment, inhalant abuse and regulatory policy.

The Nathan B. Eddy Memorial Award was established in memory of one of the pioneers in the field of drug dependence, following his death in 1973. The award is presented annually by the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, the largest and oldest organization for the scientific study of drug dependence and addiction.

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