

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

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Richard Rosner Awards for the Best Papers by Fellows in Forensic Psychiatry or Forensic Psychology

REFERENCE: Rosner R. Richard Rosner awards for the best papers by fellows in forensic psychiatry or forensic psychology. *J Forensic Sci* 2000;45(6):1183–1183.

February 1999 marked the tenth anniversary of the annual competition for the Best Paper by a Fellow in Forensic Psychiatry or Forensic Psychology. The purpose of the Award is both to encourage and reward research by Fellows in Forensic Psychiatry and Forensic Psychology. In recognition of its importance, the AAFS Psychiatry and Behavioral Science Section voted to name the award in honor of its originator.

The AAFS Psychiatry and Behavioral Science Section support for research at the Forensic Fellowship level of training is consistent with the requirements of the national organization that certifies forensic psychiatry training programs, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), whose guidelines for accredited training programs in forensic psychiatry state:

Scholarly Activity

Graduate medical education must take place in an environment of inquiry and scholarship in which residents participate in the development of new knowledge, learn to evaluate research findings, and develop habits of inquiry as continuing professional responsibility. The responsibility for establishing and maintaining an envi-

ronment of inquiry and scholarship rests with the teaching staff. While not all members of a teaching staff must be investigators, the staff as a whole must demonstrate broad involvement in scholarly activity. The activity should include:

1. Active participation of the teaching staff in clinical discussions, rounds, and conferences in a manner that promotes a spirit of inquiry and scholarship. Scholarship implies an in-depth understanding of basic mechanisms of normal and abnormal states and the application of current knowledge to practice.
2. Participation in journal clubs and research conferences.
3. Active participation in regional or national professional and scientific societies, particularly through presentations at the organizations' meetings and publication in their journals.
4. Participation in research, particularly in projects that funded following peer review and/or that result in publication or presentations at regional and national scientific meetings.
5. Offering guidance and technical support (e.g., research testing, statistical analysis) to residents involved in research.

As part of the academic environment, an actively scholarly component should be included with the forensic psychiatry program. Faculty members should participate actively in scholarly medical activities and research related to the field of forensic psychiatry. The program should offer a meaningful, individually supervised scholarly experience for each resident.

The following five papers received the Richard Rosner Award (Dr. Tillinghast) and Honorable Mention at the AAFS 1999 annual meeting and scientific program in Orlando FL.

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Received 25 Jan. 2000; accepted 31 Jan. 2000.