Introduction for the Psychiatry and Behavioral Science Section Award Winner Papers for the 2002 Richard Rosner Award for the Best Paper by a Fellow in Forensic Psychiatry or Forensic Psychology

The American Psychiatric Association granted its first Isaac Ray Award in 1952 to an individual who had made outstanding contributions to the field of forensic psychiatry. The senior practitioner of forensic psychiatry who received that recognition was Winfred Overholser, M.D., then superintendent of St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D.C. Fifty years later, in 2002, the Psychiatry and Behavioral Science Section granted its annual Richard Rosner Awards for Best Papers in Forensic Psychiatry or Forensic Psychology to three young practitioners of forensic psychiatry. The purposes of the Awards are: (1) to encourage research among trainees in forensic psychiatry and forensic psychology, and 2) to recognize outstanding examples of such research.

At a recent meeting of the Association of Directors of Forensic Psychiatry Residency Fellowships (ADFPF), a semi-autonomous component of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL), it was noted that the scholarly project requirement of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) was one of the most difficult to address successfully in the course of a one-year forensic psychiatry training program. Among the problems that were cited were: (1) training forensic psychiatry residents to do research, (2) finding time within a busy didactic and service program for a research project to be planned and implemented, (3) the scarcity of faculty who were skilled both in forensic psychiatry and research, and (4) lack of funding to support research. In the context of these obstacles, the Psychiatry and Behavioral Science Section is particularly pleased to recognize the achievements of the following authors: Linda J. Grasswick, M.D., FRCPC (with John M.W. Bradford, M.B., ChB, FRCPC) for Osteoporosis Associated with the Treatment of Paraphilias: A Clinical Review of Seven Case Reports; Bradley D. Grinage, M.D. for Volitional Impairment and the Sexually Violent Predator; and Tracey Lynne Irvin, M.D. for Legal, Ethical and Clinical Implications of Prescribing Involuntary, Life-Threatening Treatment: The Case of the Sunshine Kid.

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