



American College of Neuropsychopharmacology

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Charles F. Reynolds receives the ACNP Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award

The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP) has named Charles F. Reynolds M.D., as the recipient of the 2022 Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award. Dr. Reynolds is a Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry emeritus and a UPMC- Endowed Professor in Geriatric Psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh. He is also the editor-in-chief of the preeminent *American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*.

Dr. Reynolds' prolific research career has resulted in over 500 publications in peer-reviewed journals since 1990. He has been a field-wide leader in the advancement of scientific investigations relevant to geriatric mental health and has been involved in trials of both pharmacological and nonpharmacological treatments for depression, especially in older adults. In recent years, he has worked extensively on "OPTIMUM," a multisite trial devoted to developing novel strategies for mitigating treatment-resistant depression in older adults. His colleagues describe him as a "...transdisciplinary, 'silo-smashing' physician-scientist whose calling was to reduce the burdens of depression in later life..."

Dr. Reynolds' contributions to neuropsychopharmacology do not end with his direct scientific endeavors. As a mentor, he has served as the program director of two institutional training (T32) grants, and one psychiatric education (R25) grant, at the University of Pittsburgh. Through his role on the T32 grants, Dr. Reynolds has helped provide resources for summer research training of medical students, 25% of whom later entered graduate medical education. Further, Dr. Reynolds has had 31 mentees who have gone on to receive both K and R awards in geriatric clinical psychopharmacology and related fields, and has served as a mentor for several national mentoring networks such as the Summer Research Institute in Geriatric Mental Health, the Advanced Research Institute in Mental Health and Aging, and others, all funded by the NIMH. Many of Dr. Reynolds' former trainees are accomplished leaders in the field of psychiatry, and it is clear that Dr. Reynolds' mentorship encouraged them to start mentoring others early on in their careers.

Indeed, Dr. Reynolds' colleagues and mentees fondly report upon his unwavering support for his mentees. One colleague writes of him: *"Dr. Reynolds belongs to the top 1% of mentors...He tends to put a gentle but persistent encouragement on the mentee in pursuing their own talents and passions, and helps them to achieve their career and life goals, a rare quality in the academic system."*

The Axelrod Mentorship Award, being presented at the 61st Annual Meeting of the ACNP is awarded to an ACNP member who has made an outstanding contribution to neuropsychopharmacology by mentoring and developing young scientists into leaders in the field.

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ACNP, founded in 1961, is a professional organization of more than 1100 leading scientists, including four Nobel Laureates. The mission of ACNP is to further research and education in neuropsychopharmacology and related fields in the following ways: promoting the interaction of a broad range of scientific disciplines of brain and behavior in order to advance the understanding of prevention and treatment of disease of the nervous system including psychiatric, neurological, behavioral and addictive disorders; encouraging scientists to enter research careers in fields related to these disorders and their treatment; and ensuring the dissemination of relevant scientific advances.