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Spring is going strong. With the fantastic 2023 Tampa meeting still on our minds, our volunteers, committees, Council and Executive Council members are already deeply engaged in setting up another outstanding scientific meeting. Our top priority is to highlight the many scientific advances you have all made, and to ensure a safe and welcoming environment to learn, discuss, mentor, network and breathe some great desert air.

The Program Committee is now poised to review the submitted panels, mini-panels, and study groups with an eye towards diversity of both participants and scientific topic areas. We are also working to further strengthen our education, mentoring and scientific outreach activities including developing new programs to enhance mentoring and partnerships at all levels of membership and College participation. It has been deeply satisfying to see the commitment and involvement of so many of you towards advancing the ACNP mission, including your efforts to catalyze new ideas to keep the College relevant to all of its members and meeting participants.

While we will continue in Phoenix 2024 with a hybrid format, it will be without real-time streaming. While this option will hopefully be useful for those that cannot attend in person, we continue to strive to make our meeting the one you hate to miss. I am working on finalizing the presidential symposium with a set of visionary speakers that will hopefully astound, inspire, and ignite discussion. Each has taken their basic science discoveries to the clinic and will show us that the future has arrived. Stay tuned.

As you know, the annual meeting is also when we welcome travel awardees and elect new associate and full members. In addition to submitting your latest scientific findings and inviting guests that will expand the diversity and scope of our meeting, please take time to think of

deserving individuals to promote to Associate Member and full Member status. The ACNP has always drawn the best and brightest, in large part because our members have always taken the time to thoughtfully nominate such individuals. Recruiting the best and brightest awardees often goes hand in hand with increasing diversity within our College - so please remember that if you nominate an individual from a historically excluded group or woman for associate or full membership, you can submit a second nomination. Also, please remember to nominate deserving members, in particular women and individuals from historically excluded groups, for our 2024 Honorific Awards!

Thank you for all you do for the ACNP. I look forward to seeing you all in December.

Award Nominations: We are now accepting nominations for the 2024 Honorific Awards. This is a great opportunity to honor and recognize individuals who have made an impact on neuropsychopharmacology and/or the College. The Honorific Awards Committee urges you to nominate a deserving colleague and **encourages the nomination of women and individuals from historically excluded groups.**

- The **Daniel H. Efron Research Award** honors the recipient for excellence in basic research, the **Joel Elkes Research Award** for excellence in clinical research, and the **Eva King Killam Research Award** for excellence in translational research. Nominees for the Efron, Elkes, and Killam Awards must be within fifteen (15) years of their terminal training position as of December 31, 2024 (i.e., post-doctoral training; residency or fellowship training for M.D.'s who did not do post-doctoral training). Nominees can request extensions based on work interruptions due to parental leave, dependent care, illness, or other extenuating circumstances. Recipients who have had a significant life event may include background information in their nomination about the life event for the committee to consider (e.g., birth of a child, childcare, illness of individual, care for an ill family member, personal or family tragedy, etc.).
- The **Barbara Fish Memorial Award** is presented to an ACNP member who has made an outstanding contribution to basic, translational, or clinical neuroscience. The award is named in honor of Dr. Barbara Fish, a pioneering researcher who was a founding member of ACNP. The award is open to all full and emeritus ACNP members; the nominator must also be an ACNP member. The selection of the nominee is based on a mature body of work, notable for its impact, innovation, and depth. The body of work should further the mission of the College by advancing the understanding of causes, prevention, and treatment of diseases of the nervous system.
- The **Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award** is presented to an ACNP member who has made an outstanding contribution to neuropsychopharmacology by mentoring and developing young scientists into leaders in the field. Previous winners of the Dolores Shockley Diversity and Inclusion Advancement Award are not eligible.
- The **Dolores Shockley Diversity and Inclusion Advancement Award** is presented to an individual and/or program (e.g., department, initiative, institute, etc.) that has had outstanding success promoting diversity and inclusion within the fields of basic, clinical, or translational neuroscience. Nominations of individuals and programs will be considered separately, so an award may be given in both categories in any one year. Previous winners of the Julius Axelrod Mentorship Award are not eligible.

- The **Women's Advocacy Award** is presented to an individual and/or program (e.g., department, initiative, institute, etc.) who has had outstanding success in the promotion and support of women to address the gender imbalance within the field of brain and behavior disorders. This award is intended to be an expression of appreciation from the College to honor individuals and/or programs for their outstanding work supporting women through role modeling, allyship, leadership, and sponsorship. We encourage nominations of all genders. Nominations of individuals and programs will be considered separately, so an award may be given in both categories in any one year.
- The **ACNP Media Award** may be given annually to a member of the print or electronic media, advocacy organization, or public education initiative that promotes increased awareness of brain research and who has made a major contribution to the education of the public about mental illness and substance abuse research and the positive impact of research on treatment.
- The **ACNP Public Service Award** may be given annually to a member of the government, an advocacy organization or a public education initiative that promotes increased awareness of brain research and the impact it has on people's lives. The award is intended to be an expression of appreciation from the College toward outstanding public leaders who provide complete, accurate, and unbiased information to our society about brain diseases.
- The **Paul Hoch Distinguished Service Award** is presented to an ACNP member who has made unusually significant contributions to the College.

All nominations are due by **June 20, 2024**. Instructions for award nomination are available on the ACNP website, <https://acnp.org/annual-meeting/honorific-grants/>.

Membership Nominations: Please nominate individuals from academia, government and industry who will contribute to the mission of the College and continue to enrich our association. In keeping with the desire to keep diversifying our membership, please remember that each ACNP Member, Fellow, and Emeritus may nominate two candidates for Associate Membership and/or Membership each year. At least one of the nominations in each category must be a woman or individual from a historically excluded group defined as: Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, individuals who identify as LGBTQIA2S+, individuals with a disability, or individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds as [defined by the NIH](#).

ACNP will make every effort to keep this information private; however, cannot guarantee this information would not be unintentionally released within the College through the course of inclusion efforts.

Nomination materials for new Member, Associate Member, and Fellow promotion candidates are available under the Membership tab on the ACNP website.

<https://acnp.org/membership/applications-nominations/>