Announcing the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research Neal E. Miller New Investigator Award

Neal E. Miller (1909-2002) was the first psychologist to receive the National Medal of Science, the second president of the Society for Neuroscience, the twenty-first president of the American Psychological Association and a founder and the first president of the Academy. He pioneered the application of learning theory to behavioral therapies and the use of chemical and electrical stimulation to analyze the brain's mechanisms of behavior, homeostasis, and reinforcement. His career spanned more than half a century. Throughout his life, he exemplified ingenuity, perseverance, integrity, and humanitarian values. The annual Neal E. Miller New Investigator Award established on the occasion of the 80th birthday of the Academy's most distinguished Fellow, is to be presented for work imaginatively conceived and carefully conducted prior to the recipient's appointment as an assistant professor or an equivalent rank. Miller said, "Be bold in what you try; cautious in what you claim." It is the Academy's hope that this award will encourage young scientists to pursue research in that spirit. In keeping with the Academy's interdisciplinary traditions, the award will be given to M.D. or Ph.D. recipients. It will consist of a plaque, a cash award, and the opportunity to attend the annual meeting of the Academy as its guest. Ordinarily the recipient will also be invited to present his or her work in a special Academy lecture. The following subject matter will be considered:

1. The interaction between behavior and biological mechanisms in homeostasis, the maintenance of health, the pathophysiology of disease, or the susceptibility to illness.
2. Development or evaluation of behaviorally based therapeutic interventions for the primary prevention, secondary prevention, or treatment of disease or injury.
3. Basic theoretical or empirical studies in any scientific discipline or mathematics with implications for behavioral medicine research--this includes instrumentation, methods of analysis, studies of fundamental brain mechanisms including anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, or pharmacology of regulatory systems.

The submitted work must be in the form of a published article, chapter or book, or a manuscript that has been accepted for publication. If it is "in press," a copy of the final letter of acceptance from the editor or publisher should be included. A complete application will also include a current curriculum vitae, and in the case of works of multiple authorship, a letter from the supervisor or department chairman, indicating that the applicant had primary responsibility for the project.

All materials are to be sent by February 1, 2011 to the Secretary of the Academy:

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