

APA/SAMHSA SELECTION & ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS for the APA/SAMHSA and APA/AstraZeneca Minority Fellowships 2009-2010

The APA/SAMHSA Selection & Advisory Committee consists of six APA members who represent diverse cultural and racial groups and are experienced in psychiatry training. The committee members are responsible for recommending policy, evaluating applications, and selecting fellows. The committee welcomes two consultants to the committee.

Maria A. Oquendo, M.D., is the current chair of the selection committee. She is Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Columbia University, and director of the Clinical Evaluation Core of the Silvio O. Conte Center for the Neurobiology of Mental Disorders, at the New York State Psychiatric Institute, Department of Neuroscience. Her areas of expertise include the diagnosis, pharmacologic treatment and neurobiology of Bipolar Disorder and Major Depression, with a special focus on suicidal behavior as well as Cross Cultural Psychiatry.

Dr. Oquendo serves on the American Society of Hispanic Psychiatry, the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry, Association of Women Psychiatrists and the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, where she also serves as an examiner. She is an associate editor of the American Journal of Psychiatry and serves on the Scientific Advisory Council of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. She has authored or co-authored over 100 peer-reviewed articles and numerous chapters and editorials.

Nang Du, M.D., an alumnus of the minority fellowship, is a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). He is the unit Chief of the Asian–Pacific focused in-patient unit at the San Francisco General Hospital, Department of Psychiatry. Some of his previous positions in APA were: Member of the APA Committee of Asian American Psychiatrists 1999-2002, Chair of the APA Committee of Asian American Psychiatrists 2000-2002. He is interested in cross-cultural psychiatry, mental health issues in Asian, and Southeast Asian, and depression and PTSD.

Frederick J. Frese III, Ph.D., (committee consultant), is a psychologist and coordinator of the Recovery Project for Summit County (Akron area), Ohio. He is also the executive Director of Ohio's Adult Recovery Network, a long-time member of the Board of Directors of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and former president of the National Mental Health Consumers' Association. He currently holds faculty appointments in clinical psychiatry at Case Western Reserve College of Medicine and at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine.

Dauda Griffin, M.D., is a Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow at Emory University School of Medicine. He is a MFP fellowship alumnus. Fellow and PMRTP fellow; former Director of Research and Director of Residency Training at The University of Arizona; and is he current President of the West Coast College of Biological Psychiatry. He has served as Member of the APA Corresponding Committee for The Self-Examination PASAR, and for the Journal Focus.

Napoleon B. Higgins, Jr., MD, is a psychiatrist in the Houston, TX/Clear Lake City Area. He currently serves as CEO and President of Bay Pointe Behavioral Health Service, Inc. He also practices at Clear Lake Regional Hospital, where he serves as Medical Director of Consultation and Liaison Services and Medical Director of Hold My Hand Residential Treatment Center. Dr. Higgins received his MD from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN. He completed his residency in adult psychiatry and a fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. Dr. Higgins is currently the President of the Black Psychiatrists of America and works with the American Psychiatric Association in many capacities to promote mental health for all persons.

Dr. Higgins has worked with and founded many programs that help to direct inner city young men and women to aspire to go to college and finish their educational goals. He has worked with countless community mentoring programs and has special interest in trauma, racism, and inner city issues and how they affect minority and disadvantaged children.

Maria Lymberis, M.D., is a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCLA School of Medicine, in Santa Monica, CA. She is also a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.

Mary K. McCarthy, M.D. is in private practice in Brookline, MA, and on the active staff at Brigham and Women's Hospital where she was the training director in psychiatry from 1994-2004. She served on the Executive Committee of the American Association of Directors of Psychiatry Residency Training and was on the PRITE Editorial Board for six years. She is a reviewer for Academic Psychiatry and the Harvard Review of Psychiatry, and continues to teach courses and supervise in the Harvard Longwood Psychiatry Residency Training Program. She is in her fourth year of psychoanalytic training at the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute and was recently made a Distinguished Fellow of the APA.