



**Southwest  
Chapter**

**AMWA Southwest Chapter Newsletter**

**January 2008**

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**Annual John P. McGovern  
Award Banquet Honors  
Stuart C. Yudofsky, MD  
Baylor College of Medicine**

**Date:** January 29, 2008

**Time:** 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

**Place:** Holiday Inn Astrodome  
at Reliant Park  
8111 Kirby Drive  
Houston, Texas

The AMWA Southwest Chapter is pleased to present the 2008 John P. McGovern Award to Dr Stuart Yudofsky, D.C. and Irene Ellwood Professor and Chairman of the Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Baylor College of Medicine, and chair of the psychiatry department at Methodist Hospital. He is responsible for overseeing academic activities in psychiatry at the Menninger Clinic, Ben Taub General Hospital, the Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and Texas Children's Hospital.

Please join us for the annual John P. McGovern Award banquet at the Holiday Inn Astrodome at Reliant Park to honor Dr Yudofsky, who will discuss "The Impact of Stigmatization on the Mentally Ill."

Dr Yudofsky's research and clinical practice focus on psychopharmacology (the use of medication to treat mental illness) and neuropsychiatry (the treatment of mood and behavioral changes associated with brain disorders such as stroke, Alzheimer's disease, multiple sclerosis, and traumatic brain injury).

His career as a medical editor and published author is extensive. For nearly 2 decades, he has been editor of the *Journal of Neuropsychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences*, the official journal of the American Neuropsychiatric Association, and the author/co-author of numerous scientific articles and over 60 book chapters. He has also authored, edited, and co-edited 32 medical books, including the *Textbook of Clinical Psychiatry* and *Textbook of Neuropsychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences*, 2 of the standard reference textbooks in the field published by the American Psychiatric Press. He has also written for the lay public, publishing *What You Need to Know about Psychiatric Drugs* and, most recently, *Fatal Flaws*, a hybrid book about personality disorders designed for both mental health professionals and people in destructive relationships with people who suffer from this condition.

Dr Yudofsky was a driving force in moving the famed Menninger Clinic from Topeka, Kansas, where it had flourished for 75 years, to Houston. The clinic is a full academic affiliate of Baylor College of Medicine and Methodist Hospital.

Before moving to Houston in 1991 with his wife, Beth Yudofsky, MD, who is also a psychiatrist, Dr Stuart Yudofsky was Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Chicago and Chief of Psychiatric Services for the University of Chicago Hospital System. He was the founding director of the psychiatry department at the Allegheny General Hospital and director of psychiatric research at the Allegheny-Singer Research Institute. For 14 years, he was on the faculty of Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, where he was vice-chairman of the Department of Psychiatry, and Clinical Director and Deputy Director of the New York State Psychiatric Institute.

Dr Yudofsky has been elected to the membership of numerous national honorary societies, including Phi Beta Kappa, and to Fellowships in the New York Academy of Medicine, American Psychiatric Association, American Neuropsychiatric Association, and American College of Psychiatrists. Currently, he serves as vice-chairperson of the Council on Research and Chairman of the Committee on Research Awards of the American Psychiatric Association. He is past president of the American Neuropsychiatric Association. Additionally, he is on the editorial boards of 10 scientific journals, and is an associate editor of American Psychiatric Publishing, the publishing arm of the American Psychiatric Association.

In Houston, Dr Yudofsky has served as a member of the Boards of Trustees of the Mental Health Association, which awarded him the 1995 Ima Hogg Award for outstanding services to the mentally ill in the community; of the Depressive and Manic Depressive Association, which awarded him the 1995 Artie Houston Service Award; of the Houston Advocates for Mentally Ill Children, which awarded him and his wife, Beth, the 1999 Muriel C. Phillips Innovator Award; and of the Kinkaid School, where he has served as vice-chairman and chairman of the Board of Trustees and is currently a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

In May 1992, the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill honored him with its Exemplary Psychiatrist Award. In 1996, he received the Centennial Award as Outstanding Alumnus of the Decade 1970–1979 from the Department of Psychiatry at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and the New York State Psychiatric Institute, where he trained as a resident in psychiatry. In 2005, Dr Yudofsky received the Faculty of the Year award from the Alumni Association of Baylor College of

Medicine as well as the Alumnus of the Year award from the Department of Psychiatry at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, and the New York State Psychiatric Institute. In the same year, Dr Yudofsky was elected by the Scientific Program Committee of the American Psychiatric Association to deliver the Distinguished Psychiatrist Award Lecture at the 2005 Annual Meeting. In 2006, along with Houston Mayor Bill White, Judge Robert Eckels, and 2 others, Dr Yudofsky received the Good Samaritan Award from the [Carole and Ronald Krist Samaritan Center for Counseling and Education](#).

The banquet will begin with a reception at 6:30 p.m., replete with complimentary *hors d'oeuvres* and a cash bar. Dinner will begin at 7:15 p.m. with 3 entrée choices of pasta primavera, chicken Acapulco, and London broil, followed by the lecture at about 8:00 p.m. while attendees enjoy chocolate cake with coffee or tea.

The registration fee for the banquet is \$30 for members and \$35 for nonmembers. A dessert-and-coffee-only option is available for those who are unable to attend the dinner but would like to arrive at 8:00 p.m. for the lecture only. The cost of dessert and coffee only is \$8 for members and \$10 for nonmembers.

RSVP by Friday, January 25, 2008, to Ruth SoRelle at [dsorelle@bcm.tmc.edu](mailto:dsorelle@bcm.tmc.edu). Payment will be required for each email registration received. You can send your checks to Ruth SoRelle at 5814 Warm Springs Road, Houston, TX 77035 or pay at the door.

When you register, please include the following information:

- Your name
- Your email address and/or daytime phone
- You are an AMWA member or not
- Your option for dinner or just for dessert
- Your choice of entrée for the dinner option:
  - Pasta primavera (vegetarian)
  - Chicken Acapulco
  - London broil.

The Holiday Inn Astrodome at Reliant Park (713.790.1900) is located at 8111 Kirby Drive in Houston, Texas, just off IH-610, northwest of Reliant Park and the Astrodome. The hotel is 2 blocks west of the Reliant Park rail stop of METRO Light Rail. Parking at the hotel is free. Detailed directions will be sent to all registrants before the banquet date.

For more information, contact Ruth SoRelle at 713.798.7959 or 713.721.1306 in the evening or at [dsorelle@bcm.tmc.edu](mailto:dsorelle@bcm.tmc.edu).

## **AMWA Southwest Members Learn about a New Approach to the Biomedical Editing Business at the October Chapter Meeting**

On Monday, October 29, 33 AMWA Southwest members and guests attended a chapter meeting at the Shanghai River restaurant, Houston, Texas. They enjoyed Chinese cuisine and socialized before chapter Program Chair Ruth SoRelle introduced the speakers for the evening: Susan Marriott, PhD, a professor of

molecular virology and microbiology at Baylor College of Medicine, and Walter Bigford, a systems analyst and web developer. The husband-and-wife team gave a talk entitled "Scientific Editing in the Internet Era: A Business Opportunity" that described their innovative, entirely Internet-based biomedical

editing business (which they operate despite having full-time jobs).

Using their combined biomedical and technical knowledge, Dr Marriott and Mr Bigford launched their company, BioScience Writers, LLC, from their home in 2001. Now, their business employs about 25 contract editors, all with PhD or MD degrees and diverse areas of expertise, who edit English-language journal articles, book chapters, grant applications, poster presentations, and other scientific documents written by hundreds of clients from around the globe.

Dr Marriott explained that using the Internet has helped her company to process manuscripts efficiently. Using email or the company's submission site on the Web, clients can submit manuscripts in about 10 minutes. Within 1 to 8 hours, the manuscript is assigned to an editor, who typically edits it within 3 to 5 days. The revised manuscript is then returned by email and made available for download from the company's website.

Dr Marriott and Mr Bigford have found that making their business wholly electronic carries several other advantages besides speed. First, they can find both clients and editors anywhere in the world; their company has served in 45 different countries, and a large proportion of clients live in East Asia, particularly Japan and South Korea, where there are a great many researchers who want to publish their work in English-language journals but where there are not necessarily many editors in the vicinity who can help them. Second, the exclusive use of the Internet makes communication with clients fast,

inexpensive, and unhindered by time zones. Third, many of BioScience Writers' business processes, such as logging in new manuscripts, billing, and payment, are fully automated by software designed by Mr Bigford. Fourth, the business can be run from home (the server itself is in their house), which has tax advantages.

Of course, the all-electronic setup carries disadvantages as well. An information technology specialist must be available consistently to maintain and upgrade the server and many automated processes BioScience Writers uses. Likewise, the website must be kept current to attract clients. Also, email messages to clients are sometimes stopped by spam filters and other protective software. Finally, considerable investment of time and money is required for purchasing and maintaining computer equipment and software (especially for website security, which can be expensive), dealing with legal issues and fees, and marketing.

Dr Marriott concluded the talk with some advice to the editors in the room who might be considering starting such a business themselves. She explained that such businesses require a considerable initial investment of both time and money, and that developing them takes time. She also stated that it is better to start with just a few clients than to find yourself with more than you can handle. She and Mr Bigford then took a few questions from the attendees.

We are grateful to Dr Marriott and Mr Bigford for taking the time to talk with our members about their intriguing approach to the business of biomedical editing.

### ***AMWA Southwest Chapter Newsletter***

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