



# newsletter

The official quarterly newsletter of the American College of Medical Toxicology

## Winter 2006

### American College of Medical Toxicology

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## THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Paul M. Wax, MD, FACMT



I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as the President of the American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT) for the next two years. When I entered my fellowship in medical toxicology in 1989 the ACMT didn't even exist. I couldn't have imagined that some day I would have the chance to lead a national association of medical toxicologists. And yet 17 years later I have been given the baton and this occasion to serve.

I would like to pay tribute to the past Presidents of ACMT: Bill Banner, Paul Pentel, Ward Donovan, Michael Shannon, Bob Hoffman, Michael Kosnett, and Keith Burkhart. All distinguished toxicologists in their own right,

they planted the seed and nurtured the early and mid childhood of ACMT. Board service is not a fleeting commitment. ACMT leaders tend to serve a lengthy apprenticeship learning the nuts and bolts of the organization. Like many of the previous ACMT presidents, I have already served eight years on the Board. Fortunately, our past Presidents have provided me with superb mentorship, inspiration and camaraderie for which I am very grateful.

Equally as important to me as this presidential legacy is the quality of board members, past and present, who have served and serve on the Board. In subsequent newsletters we will have a column entitled "Meet the Board" where you will learn more about who serves on the Board.

*continued on page 5*

## ACMT SPRING COURSE A SUCCESS!

Kevin Osterhoudt, MD, FACMT

Over one hundred people attended the ACMT's 4th Annual Medical Toxicology Spring Course which was held in Phoenix, AZ, March 2-3, 2006. In addition to a highly acclaimed educational experience, attendees were able to take advantage of the warm Arizona weather and play tennis, run, and swim in the lazy river pool at the resort.

The ACMT Spring Course included three symposia: Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratories, Current Concepts in Environmental Toxicology, and Cutting Edge Medical Toxicology. ACMT members organizing or speaking at the course included: Beth Baker, Lawrence Betts, Stephen Borron, Jeffrey Brent, Jeffrey Burgess, Keith Burkhart, Peter Chase, Steven Curry, Christine Haller, Erica Liebelt, Lewis Nelson, Kevin Osterhoudt, John Osterloh, Steven Seifert, Kevin Wallace, Paul Wax, and Suzanne White.

Additionally, the ACMT, with organizational development by Joao Delgado, hosted a research presentation symposium for fellows-in-training.

The methamphetamine laboratory hazards symposium was supported by a cooperative agreement with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Diseases Registry designed to build capacity and increase the expertise of health professionals in environmental medicine and toxicology.

ACMT Members with ideas or suggestions for future spring course development, or wishing to participate, are encouraged to contact Lewis Nelson or email info@acmt.net.

## JMT GOES LIVE WITH EDITORIAL MANAGER™

Sean Kullman

The editors at the *Journal of Medical Toxicology (JMT)* are excited to announce the journal's new manuscript tracking system, Editorial Manager™. Editorial Manager™ (a web based system used for submitting, reviewing and tracking manuscripts) eases the process for authors and reviewers. At the touch of a finger, authors can submit and track the progress of a manuscript; invited reviewers can easily read a manuscript and offer comments. After submitting a manuscript, easily follow the progress of your manuscript by simply logging onto [www.editorialmanager.com/jmt/](http://www.editorialmanager.com/jmt/).

The *JMT* aims to bring quality manuscripts to publication as quickly as possible. The

editors understand the need to ease workflow for authors and reviewers without compromising professional standards. The *JMT* now offers the most efficient system for producing exceptional manuscripts and for promoting quality research and patient care.

Registration is free and required for authors and reviewers. Please take the time to register. Registration only takes a few minutes. Please go to [www.editorialmanager.com/jmt/](http://www.editorialmanager.com/jmt/).

## ACMT PROVIDES BOARD REVIEW COURSE FOR MEMBERS

Mark Su, MD

On September 15 – 17, 2006, the College, with assistance from its management group the Center for Association Resources, sponsored its second subspecialty Board-exam preparatory course in Medical Toxicology at the Hyatt Regency DFW in Dallas, TX. Approximately 130 attendees, including 15 speakers, were present for the course. The vast majority of participants were ACMT members who were planning on taking the Medical Toxicology sub-Board certification or recertification examinations in November 2006. This examination is currently administered every two years.

The format of the course curriculum reflected the topics listed in the Core Content created by the sub-Board. Invited speakers included medical toxicologists / ACMT members from all over the country: J. David Barry, Jeff Brent, Sean Bryant, Michele Burns-Ewald, James Diaz, Dan Goldstein, Michael Greenberg, W. Russ Kerns, Kurt Kleinschmidt, Heather Long, William Meggs, Adhi (Rob) Sharma, Mark

Su, Asim Tarabar, and Luke Yip. There was also a separate, simultaneous “Stimulus Section”, organized by John Benitez, Luke Yip and W. Russ Kerns, which contained photos pertaining to material that could be found in the Visual Stimulus section of the Board examination.

*continued on page 5*

## ACMT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2007

**March  
15-17**

**ACMT Spring Course,  
Miami, FL**

*This year's course is designed to offer state-of-the-art insight on current issues in medical toxicology. Noted experts from around the country will provide in-depth information on these important topics:*

*Cutting Edge Issues in Medical Toxicology, Thursday March 15<sup>th</sup>*

*Toxicological Issues in Clinical Care, Friday March 16<sup>th</sup>*

*Recent Developments in Environmental Poisoning, Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup>*

*The course is structured to maximize learning at a relaxed pace while providing time to enjoy the outdoor pleasures of the Miami area.*

*For more information or to register please visit the ACMT website ([www.acmt.net](http://www.acmt.net)), contact Michele Anderson via email at [michele@acmt.net](mailto:michele@acmt.net) or call 888.705.1434.*

**May  
1-4**

**EAPCCT Congress,  
Athens Greece**

**October  
19-24**

**North American Congress of  
Clinical Toxicology,  
New Orleans, Louisiana**

### FORUM NEWS

*As the college moves forward, we are attempting to incorporate new technology and methods to facilitate the free exchange of ideas and information. One of the most important is the upgrade of the current ACMT.net mailing list. To do so, we have moved to a new model, a moderated online discussion board, now called "The Forum." To those of you unfamiliar with this model, it offers a number of advantages over our previous method of mailing out individual messages. These advantages include:*

1. Online, fully moderated, member-restricted 24-hour access from any Internet connection
2. Fully searchable content organized and grouped by similar category (i.e., MedWatch, ACMT Meeting Announcements, etc.)
3. Ability to subscribe to broad categories, or individual messages, and have updates emailed as they are available
4. Ability to attach and exchange files
5. Ability to setup and organize topics of individual or group interest (e.g., fellowship board review topics)
6. Exchange messages between members

*Please take advantage of the features and power the Forum provides, and explore its capabilities. Take time to familiarize yourself and read the FAQ (frequently asked questions,) as well as the current version of the Forum handbook. If there are any problems or questions regarding the use of the forum, or you would like to see new features or components, please email [forum@acmt.net](mailto:forum@acmt.net).*

## ACMT CONTRIBUTES TO THE 2006 NORTH AMERICAN CONGRESS OF CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

The 2006 North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology (NACCT) was convened in San Francisco, CA, in October. ACMT members enjoyed the cable cars, Alcatraz tours, dinners in Chinatown, views of the Golden Gate bridge, and many of the other San Francisco attractions and activities. Once again, the ACMT contributed greatly to the success of the scientific meeting. The ACMT is grateful to Lewis Nelson for his vision and leadership as the chairperson of the ACMT Education Committee. ACMT members interested in helping develop offerings for the 2007 NACCT, in Toronto, are encouraged to contact Suzanne White, the new chairperson of the ACMT Education Committee.

### Pre-Meeting Symposium

The ACMT Pre-meeting Symposium, themed “The Integration and Interaction of Medical Toxicology with Other Medical Specialties,” was moderated by Drs. Kurt Kleinschmidt and Howard Greller. Speakers included ACMT members: Marsha Ford, Sean Bryant, Richard Clark, Steve Aks, Charles McKay, Christopher Holstege, Christine Haller, Mark Su, and Kent Olson. Alan Wu, PhD, a professor of Clinical Laboratory Medicine at the University of California – San Francisco, and David Goldfarb, MD, Chief of Nephrology at New York Harbor VA Medical Center rounded out the faculty. The symposium demonstrated the breadth and depth of medical toxicology, and the value of the expertise of the medical toxicologist to the health care system.

### CPC Competition

The ACMT CPC competition offers a great opportunity for Medical Toxicology Fellows-in-Training to speak in front of a national scientific audience. For faculty discussants, participation is fun but challenging. Organized by Jeffrey Suchard, the CPC once again proved to be a fine blend of challenge and entertainment. Cheers go out to each of the discussants who bravely, cleverly, and correctly, solved their cases. A case of abdominal pain with lactic acidosis was presented by Trevonne M. Thompson (Toxicology Fellow, Cook County Hospital, University of Chicago), and metformin toxicity was diagnosed by Fred M. Henretig, (The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia). A case of “pharming” at a Super Bowl party was detailed by Kelly Johnson Arbor (Toxicology Fellow, Hartford Hospital), and was correctly identified as clozapine toxicity by Sean Bryant (Illinois Poison Center). And a case of multiple metabolic derangements while trying to “beat” a urine drug screen was described by Manoj Mittal (Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellow, The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia), and was rec-

ognized as niacin toxicity by Dr. Joao Delgado (Hartford Hospital). All participants received a framed print of *Abrus precatorius*, as well as a black-widow-styled box of rosary peas (warning to Dr. Henretig: the rosary peas were not meant to be snack food).

### Scientific Symposium

The ACMT Scientific Symposium strives to explore the basic science of medical toxicology. This year’s invited speakers were Charles Yarborough, MD, MPH, a senior managing scientist at Exponent, and Alexander Kabanov, PhD, DrSc, the director of the Center for Drug Delivery and Nanomedicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. These lectures in “Nanotoxicology – the Emerging Science of Nanoparticulates and Human Health” were moderated by Daniel Goldstein.

### Fellows-in-Training Luncheon

This luncheon symposium is offered by the ACMT as part of the College’s ongoing support of the training of future medical toxicologists. After a request for proposals and a juried selection process, Jeffrey Brent and Michael Kosnett were selected to present, “The Medical Toxicologist as a Consultant: Life Beyond the World of Acute Inpatient Care.” This event was moderated by Leslie R. Dye.

### Practice Symposium

Ken Kulig and Christina Hantsch Bardsley moderated this important symposium pertaining to “The Toxicologist’s Role in Medication Safety.” David Kessler, MD, the Dean of the University of California – San Francisco School of Medicine and an important patient safety advocate, and Solomon Iyasu, MD, MPH, from the United States Food and Drug Administration were invited guest speakers

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Paul M. Wax, MD, FACMT

I am delighted to introduce ACMT's three new Directors who joined the ACMT Board at the San Francisco NACCT meeting. Each of these new directors have created their own unique niche in medical toxicology and bring to the Board many years of leadership and service.

Jeff Brent, MD, FACMT is Clinical Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and is in private practice at Toxicology Associates in Denver. Jeff has been very involved in many facets of medical toxicology over the years and along with his leadership and scholarship activities continues to practice medical toxicology on a full time basis.

Daniel Goldstein, MD, FACMT practices medical toxicology in the corporate sector as an employee of the Monsanto Company. His

practice brings a unique skill set to the Board and Dan has served in important capacities on the ACMT Education and Practice committees over the years.

Mark Kirk, MD, FACMT is the Director of the Medical Toxicology Fellowship at the University of Virginia and the Associate Director of the Blue Ridge Poison Center. He has been active with ACMT activities for many years and currently serves as the Region 3 coordinator for the ATSDR/ACMT Cooperative Agreement and helped assist in the creation of the Chemical Agents of Opportunity for Terrorism course.

We are excited about these new additions to the ACMT Board. More extensive profiles of these and the other ACMT Directors will be provided in upcoming issues of this newsletter.

## TWO NEW FELLOWS INDUCTED INTO ACMT

Suzanne White, MD, FACMT

At the ACMT's Business Meeting, October 4, 2006, in San Francisco, Christina Hantsch-Bardsley and Javier Waksman were inducted as Fellows of the American College of Medical Toxicology (FACMT). The College had a reception for the honorees that evening. The FACMT designation signifies peer-reviewed accomplishment and service in medical toxicology. The criteria for Fellowship within the ACMT can be reviewed on the College's website at [www.acmt.net](http://www.acmt.net).



Christina Hantsch Bardsley, MD, FACEP, FACMT, graduated from Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago, IL, and then completed residency training in emergency medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, WI. She then pursued fellowship training in medical toxicology at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. After her graduate medical education, she returned to

her native Chicago where she began practicing both emergency medicine and medical toxicology at Loyola University Medical Center. She is currently Associate Professor, Division of Emergency Medicine, Department of Surgery, Loyola University Chicago and Medical Director, Illinois Poison Center. Dr. Hantsch-Bardsley maintains an active solo medical toxicology practice at Loyola University Medical Center. She has developed a rotation in medical toxicology, introducing critical care fellows, internal medicine residents, medical students and acute care nurse practitioners to the clinical practice of the subspecialty. At the Illinois Poison Center one of her primary responsibilities is professional education. In addition to developing and delivering multiple continuing education courses focusing on medical toxicology and emergency preparedness, she has directed Advanced Hazmat Life Support courses

throughout Illinois and in other Midwest states. Dr. Hantsch-Bardsley is a member of the ACMT Practice Committee and the Education Committee.



Javier Waksman, MD, FACMT, graduated from Ben Gurion University of the Negev Medical School in Israel in 1993. He completed internal medicine residency training at Rabin Medical Center in 1997 and after practicing internal medicine for two years; he pursued the medical toxicology fellowship training at the Rocky Mountain Poison Center (RMPC) in Denver, CO. After completing his

fellowship, Dr. Waksman remained in Denver to complete his research in the involvement of the immune system in APAP induced liver injury at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center (UCHSC) and became fully involved in the practicing and teaching of medical toxicology. Dr. Waksman is a faculty member at the RMPC and holds an academic appointment of assistant clinical professor at the Department of Medicine, Division of Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology at UCHSC. He has lectured in national and international toxicology conferences and has recently become involved with the Pan-American Health Organization. His primary clinical practice is in Denver, CO and involves medical, occupational, and environmental toxicology.

"I am very fortunate to be around a distinguished and esteemed group of medical toxicologists such as Scott Phillips, Jeffrey Brent, Ken Kulig, and Michael Kosnett, who have taught me how to strive to be a better toxicologist. Their constant input in my professional and academic career is invaluable and they undoubtedly have a part in my induction as a fellow of the college."

## ACMT PROVIDES BOARD REVIEW COURSE FOR MEMBERS

(continued from page 2)

It is a particularly vexing task to cover all the material in the Core Content over 2 days but many positive reviews were given regarding the course including comments such as, “excellent review & study guide”; “excellent visual stimulus questions”; “comprehensive”. The organizers of the course, Mark Su, J David Barry and Adhi Sharma were thrilled with the success of the course and appreciated all of the hard work of the speakers in preparing their lectures, the acquisition and organization of visual stimuli, and the feedback given by the attendees to improve future courses.

**Do we have your LATEST email address? If NOT please send it to us at [info@acmt.net](mailto:info@acmt.net).**

## JMT ANNOUNCES AAVCT PARTNERSHIP

Kevin Osterhoudt, MD, FACMT

*The Journal of Medical Toxicology (JMT)* is the official journal of the American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT). Now, the *JMT* is also the official journal of the American College of Veterinary and Comparative Toxicology (AAVCT).

In this partnership the AAVCT will provide subscriptions to the *JMT* to each of its members, thereby contributing to the growth and development of the journal. The *JMT* welcomes the publication of articles pertaining to veterinary toxicology with direct relevance to human toxicology, and such articles will be under the additional editorial supervision of Robert Poppenga, DVM, PhD. Dr. Poppenga has over 70 scientific publications in toxicology, and is currently a toxicologist in the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory.

## THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE (continued from page 1)

We have a very diverse board membership that brings to the table many different skill sets, expertise and accomplishments. In each case my colleagues have a commitment to bringing their thoughts and opinions to the table as we together continue to grow, reshape, and move the ACMT in a direction that will best serve its members.

The ACMT Board of Directors is organized at the pleasure of its members. As the only national organization consisting solely of Board-certified medical toxicology physicians in the United States (as well as toxicologists in training and international members), the organization's core mission is to provide support to its members. The ACMT is your trade organization. Non-profit associations such as the ACMT are formed to improve business conditions for its members. This may include providing education and other opportunities for its members; but, the core mission is to provide support to its members to better practice our trade of medical toxicology.

We want to hear from our members. We want to know what they want us to do. This is critically important. In the coming year the ACMT membership committee hopes to better answer this question through surveys and focus groups.

As your elected representatives, the Board of Directors strives to provide direction and leadership to medical toxicology. We invite our members to join us in this mission. Our committees are open to all of our members (full members, associate mem-

bers, international members, and emeritus members). This year we are redoubling our efforts to empower the committees to offer an assortment of programs to our members. There is plenty of room for creativity and impact. Newly minted toxicologists as well as those in training should not be under the impression that only those with many years experience or long CVs can serve and significantly contribute to an ACMT committee. This is definitely not the case. To help demystify the board – or how we arrived here – there is no better way to be recognized by the nominations committee than to make contributions to one of our committees. While the academic promotion committees clearly look at scholarship (although major leadership positions in one's chosen specialty doesn't hurt either), our committee chairs are looking for members with enthusiasm and a little bit of time to contribute and help shape our future. It is also a nice way to network and make friends that share your passion for toxicology.

In subsequent newsletters I will address what I consider some of the burning issues in medical toxicology today. Feel free to communicate with this newsletter, or with the *Journal of Medical Toxicology*, by email ([info@acmt.net](mailto:info@acmt.net)), or telephone (847-885-0674) with your comments, critiques and ideas. We work to serve our members and enhance all of our efforts to enjoy a satisfying career in medical toxicology.

## TOXICOLOGY IMAGES OF INTEREST

Daniel A. Goldstein, MD, FACMT

A 43-year-old man, employed in the plating industry, developed these soft tissue erosions on his fingers. His nasal septum was intact.

Workers in the electroplating industry may have occupational exposure to chrome baths, and hexavalent chromium and chromic acid can be corrosive. At sites of broken skin, soft tissue erosion can lead to the formation of round ulcers known as "chrome holes." Common sites for chrome holes include the nail root, knuckles and finger webs, back of the hands, and forearms. These lesions typically begin as red papules, but with progression may develop into ulcers with raised hard edges.



ACMT members are welcome to submit interesting images of toxicologists, or representing medical toxicology, for publication in future ACMT newsletters. Please include a brief description of the images. Submissions may be sent electronically to [info@acmt.net](mailto:info@acmt.net).

The ACMT, as part of a cooperative agreement with ATSDR, maintains the Internet Library of Images in Toxicology in the Member's Only section of [www.acmt.net](http://www.acmt.net). ACMT members are encouraged to consider contributing images to this library. Email [info@acmt.net](mailto:info@acmt.net) for more information.

## SPADAFORA AWARD WINNER ANNOUNCED

Michael Kosnett, MD, FACMT and Michael Levine, MD

The ACMT congratulates Michael Levine, MD, for being selected the 2006 recipient of the Michael P. Spadafora Medical Toxicology Scholarship. This award honors Dr. Michael P. Spadafora, an academic emergency physician and medical toxicologist with sincere dedication to resident education. The scholarship supports travel to either the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology or the ACMT Spring Course in Medical Toxicology. Further details of the award are available on the College's website at [www.acmt.net](http://www.acmt.net).

Dr. Levine, a PGY-2 resident in the Harvard Affiliated Emergency Residency at Brigham and Women's/Massachusetts General Hospital, was selected from a very talented and competitive pool of applicants from residency programs across the country. The ACMT appreciates the strong interest in medical toxicology exhibited by all the applicants and looks forward to welcoming them as members in the future. Spadafora Scholarship winners are asked to provide an account of the meeting for publication within the ACMT newsletter. Dr. Levine's report follows:

*"As one of the recipients of the Michael J. Spadafora Scholarship, I had the pleasure of attending the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology's annual conference October 4-9, 2006 in beautiful San Francisco, California. The conference began with a smashing success. Three very difficult cases presented as part of the CPC on the opening night. Amazingly, for the first time in recent years, all three cases were correctly identified by their respective discussants.*

*As part of both platform presentations and poster sessions, an excess of 300 abstracts were presented from regional poison centers and*

*universities throughout the United States and numerous European countries. There were several fascinating lectures ranging from the use of hydroxycobalamin for acute cyanide toxicity to updates in forensic and environmental toxicology. The annual "debate" lecture focused on using the 150 or 200 line for the treatment of acute acetaminophen intoxication. There were also a fascinating lecture on the complications on psychostimulant abuse and the cardiovascular effects of cocaine. One of the many important symposiums focused on the role of the medical toxicologist in improving medication safety. On a similar topic was a symposium on noscomial poisonings, in which the presenters compared and contrasted noscomial poisonings in the developed and the developing world.*

*Perhaps the most enjoyable portion of the conference, however, was the two-day mini-course on toxinology. This course began with an overview of toxinology, and the actions of various venoms. The majority of the first day of this course was discussing various poisonous snakes from North America, Australia, Central and South America, Africa, Europe, and the Middle East. The second day of the course involved a discussion on venomous snakes of Asia, along with a detailed discussion on poisonous arachnids, including both spiders and scorpions. Lastly, the course ended with a discussion on poisonous aquatic and marine envenomations.*

*continued on page 8*

## TOXICOLOGIST PROFILES: NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY

### Toxicologists Win National Teaching Award



ACMT members Frank LoVecchio (pictured at left), and Matthew D. Sztajnkrzyer, were both honored with The 2006 American College of Emergency Physicians National Emergency Medicine Faculty Teaching Award. As 2 of only 13 awardees nationwide, Drs. LoVecchio and Sztajnkrzyer were recognized for "superior teaching activities

including didactic lectures, clinical instruction, the development of innovative educational programs, as well as the endorsement by faculty, residents, and students."

Dr. LoVecchio is the medical director of the Banner Samaritan Regional Poison Control Center, and is the research director of the Maricopa Medical Center Department of Emergency Medicine. Dr. Sztajnkrzyer is a medical toxicologist within the Mayo Clinic Department of Emergency Medicine.

### ACMT Director Graduates from Management Program

Erica L. Liebelt was one of 80 graduates of the Johnson & Johnson/UCLA Health Care Executive Program this past summer. The intensive two-week program, conducted at the UCLA Anderson School of Management, was designed to enhance the management and leadership skills of community-based health-care organization executives. Johnson and Johnson, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and UCLA developed the program in 2002 in response to the need for community-based health care organizations to be better equipped to confront the mounting challenges faced within our nation's health care systems and the rising cost of providing medical services.



Left to right, Dr. Victor Tabbush, Faculty Director, Johnson & Johnson/UCLA Healthcare Executive Program; Sharon D'Agostino, Vice President, Johnson & Johnson; Erica Liebelt, Co-Medical Director, Regional Poison Control Center; Rick Martinez, Director, Johnson & Johnson, Corporate Contributions and Medical Affairs; and Wayne Sauseda, Field Director, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources.

This was the first year that poison control centers were invited to participate in the application process. Participants were selected through a competitive application process and all expenses and materials were fully funded by the program. The curriculum at the UCLA Anderson school encompassed health

economics, accounting and finance, marketing, leadership, and strategic development and implementation. Per Dr. Liebelt, "These 2 weeks have been one of the highlights of my professional career. I strongly suggest that other Poison Center medical directors apply for this course next year. The learning is invaluable with some of the most highly respected faculty in the country."

### ACMT Recognizes 50 Years of Service of the Rocky Mountain Poison Center



Richard Dart, (right), Director of the Rocky Mountain Poison & Drug Center (RMPDC), accepts an award presented by Michael Kosnett, Chair of the ACMT Awards Committee (and a past-president), at a reception in Denver celebrating the poison center's 50th anniversary. The plaque reads, "The American College of Medical Toxicology honors and congratulates the Rocky Mountain Poison & Drug Center for 50 years of distinguished service to public health and dedicated teaching of medical toxicology."

### ACMT Member Gets Grant Funding

Medical toxicologist Edward W. Boyer has received a \$436K grant from National Institutes of Health entitled "Prescription opioids, Internet pharmacies, and self-treatment of chronic pain". Awarded by NIDA under a R21 mechanism, this investigation will assess opioid use, abuse, and addiction among individuals who self-treat chronic pain with medications purchased from Internet pharmacies. Furthermore, this study furthers the goals of the NIH Roadmap by creating a new organizational model for addiction science, arranging online partnerships of research between academic investigators and an organized community of individuals with chronic pain who congregate only in cyberspace.

*continued on page 8*



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**5<sup>th</sup> Annual  
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[www.acmt.net](http://www.acmt.net) for details.

**The Alexander  
Miami Beach  
March 15-17**

## SPADAFORA AWARD WINNER ANNOUNCED *(continued from page 6)*

*Apart from the educational aspects of the meeting, there were several enjoyable social events as well. The conference coincided with the US Navy's Fleet Week, and the conference Saturday was marked with an opportunity to watch the US Navy's Blue Angels perform their aero-acrobatic skills. During the evening hours as well as some of the lesser academic moments from the conference, participants enjoyed the sights and tastes of San Francisco. The fine cuisine included the delicious tastes of seafood at Fisherman's Wharf, the appetizing chocolate at Ghirardelli Square, and the amazing Oriental delicacies found in China Town. Many of the participants also enjoyed a trip to Alcatraz, located in the heart of the San Francisco Bay. Other enjoyable venues included seeing the Golden Gate Bridge at sunset, the artist colonies in Sausalito. Of course, no trip to the Bay City would be complete without a ride on the world-famous cable cars. The meeting brought together toxicologists from throughout the country into one city with the opportunity to not only exchange ideas and information, but also to interact socially with colleagues. Overall, the meeting was a great accomplishment, and nearly everyone left eagerly awaiting the 2007 conference in New Orleans."*

## TOXICOLOGIST PROFILES: NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY *(continued from page 7)*

### Fellow-In-Training Receives Grant

Kristen Kent, a first-year fellow in the Medical Toxicology Training Program at the University of Massachusetts, has been awarded a NIH grant under an LRP mechanism. This grant, which has a total value of \$90K, will support Dr. Kent's research into prescription pharmaceutical abuse and its impact on behaviors that place individuals at risk for HIV transmission.

### Future Toxicologist Born



ACMT member Paul Kolecki announces the birth of his second daughter, Jessica Ann Kolecki, on Saturday, November 18, 2006. Dr. Kolecki is a graduate of the toxicology training program at Maricopa Medical Center / Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center, and is currently a medical toxicologist at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, and The Poison Control Center, in Philadelphia.