

# 2016

## Annual Meeting Recap



Bonita Springs, Florida  
Dec. 8-11



### Highlights from AAAP's 27th Annual Meeting and Scientific Symposium

AAAP's 27th Annual Meeting and Scientific Symposium and the Addictions and Their Treatment course were a huge success with collectively nearly 800 attendees, which surpasses previous meetings. As we reflect on the meeting, we wanted to share some of the feedback we received. Planning is already underway for the 2017 meeting at the Rancho Bernardo resort in San Diego, California, and we hope to expand on our successes. The week began with the Addictions and Their Treatment course, which drew a record 207 participants, highlighting the surge of interest in treating substance use disorders. Nearly half of those who attended the Addictions course also attended the Annual Meeting.

"I can't think of a better way to end the year than with the AAAP Annual Meeting," says Timothy Fong, MD, AAAP's Board of Directors, Member-At-Large. "This year broke all records for attendance, passion, connections and I left with many new friends and an inspired to-do list that will make

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a difference in the lives of people with addiction. Only 351 days until San Diego and the 28th Annual AAAP Meeting. Best wishes for a hAAAPy holiday season and make it a New Year's Resolution to become more active in AAAP committees and events!"

"Feedback from the AAAP annual meeting was overwhelmingly positive!" say Carla Marienfeld, MD, Co-Chair of the Program Committee. "We struck the right balance between providing data-driven, cutting edge clinical information informed by the latest research and a low-key, friendly atmosphere to maximize the opportunity to meet and learn from our peers treating patients with substance use disorders. The meeting in 2017 in Rancho Bernardo, CA, set at the base of beautiful mountains overlooking a golf course and a short drive away from stunning beaches, will continue to provide this balance between great programming and outstanding networking so that we can continue to learn from each other in formal and informal ways."

Medical students, residents, and fellows added vibrancy to the meeting, and this year, 121 trainees attended the meeting. "This year's annual meeting went really well," said Elie Aoun, MD, AAAP Board Trainee Representative. "The talks were interesting and engaging, and outside of the scientific program, trainees had a strong sense of community and many opportunities for networking."

"The annual meeting was amazing!" says Allison Lin, MD, Board Trainee Representative. "It was so much fun to talk with other trainees and with potential mentors. I think addiction is such an important field, but sometimes the work can be challenging so it's so helpful to have the chance to talk with other people doing this work and learn about the exciting research and what's new in the field."

In addition to a wide array of skills development workshops, symposia, poster sessions, and sessions all highlighting cutting edge research and clinical practices, members had time to relax at the beach, enjoy the water slide or participating in the fun run/walk and yoga throughout the meeting.

Another record breaker? The silent and live auctions generated more than \$20,000 for the Sheldon Miller Educational Fund to support educational activities for trainees. A special thank you to everyone who donated items and those who purchased items during the auctions—you are why we were so successful.

We'll be back in Bonita Springs in 2018!

