

The Forum Number 82

April 2009

IAPA Announces 2009 Excellence Awards

Mary Ganguli, MD, MPH, FRCP(C) Outstanding Academician Award



Dr. Mary Ganguli completed medical school and internship at Christian Medical College, Vellore (Madras University). Her residency training in general psychiatry was completed first at Memorial University of Newfoundland (Canada) and then at the University of Pittsburgh (USA). In 1981, she obtained a Master's in Public Health with a concentration in epidemiology. Dr. Ganguli is certified in general psychiatry by the Royal College of Physicians of Canada, as well as the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, with a subspecialty certification in Geriatric Psychiatry.

Dr. Ganguli joined the faculty of the University of Pittsburgh in 1979, where she now is a tenured Professor of Psvchiatry, Neurology, and Epidemiology at the School of Medicine and the Graduate School of Public Health. She is teacher, educator, and mentor for general psychiatry residents, fellows in geriatric psychiatry, and at graduate, doctoral, and post-doctoral students in epidemiology. Academically, Dr. Ganguli has served on various NIH study sections and as a grant reviewer for the Alzheimer Association and funding agencies in other countries including Canada and the UK. She is a member of the APA's DSM-V Task Force Work Group on Neurocognitive Disorders, and of the American Academy of Neurology's work group on Mild Cognitive Impairment. She is an Associate Editor of the journals International Psychogeriatrics and Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.

Additionally, she serves as director of psychiatric services at the Benedum Geriatrics Center of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and is a member of the National Advisory Council on Aging (NIA Council). Her clinical and research activities are in late-life mental disorders, particularly the dementias, including Alzheimer's disease. Since 1986 her research has been continuously funded by the National Institute on Aging. She has been Principal Investigator of four major NIA-sponsored epidemiological studies, three of them in southwestern Pennsylvania, and one in Ballabgarh (Haryana), India. The focus of these studies has been on the prevalence and incidence of dementia and mild cognitive impairment, on risk factors for these conditions, and their outcomes, at the population level. Her interests also include cross-cultural studies and development of appropriate tools for studying different populations. Information about these studies as well as lists and abstracts of resulting publications may be viewed at www.wpic.pitt.edu/research/dementia epidemiology.

In addition, Dr. Ganguli is committed to advocacy activities for causes such as human rights, civil liberties, universal health care, mental health awareness and rights, and women's rights.