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The International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies Honors Leaders in the Profession and Announces 2012-2013 Leadership at the Annual Meeting

DEERFIELD, III. — November 28, 2012 — The International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS), an international, interdisciplinary professional organization that promotes the advancement and exchange of knowledge about traumatic stress, honored leaders and innovators in the profession and announced the group's 2012-2013 Board of Directors at its 28th Annual Meeting in Los Angeles.

"Each year ISTSS has the privilege of honoring leaders, visionaries and innovators in the field of traumatic stress treatment and research," said ISTSS President Karestan Koenen, PhD. "This year's awardees are highly deserving of these awards for the valuable contributions they've made to our field. It is my honor to recognize them."

2012 ISTSS Award Winners

Lifetime Achievement Award is the highest honor given by ISTSS. It is awarded to the individual who has made great lifetime contributions to the field of traumatic stress.

Professor Alexander McFarlane, AO, MBBS (Hons), MD, Dip. Psychother, FRANZCP

Dr. McFarlane is a past president of the Australian Society for Traumatic Stress Studies and the former Head of the Psychiatry Department at the University of Adelaide, where he is now the Head of the Centre for Traumatic Stress Studies. His work on traumatic stress dates back to the beginning of PTSD in the 1980s. He has since amassed expertise and leadership in the following PTSD-related areas: epidemiology, post-disaster stress, symptom chronology, cognitive dysfunction, neurobiology, forensics, childhood trauma exposure and many others. In his current position as head of the Centre for Traumatic Stress Studies, he is chief investigator of the Middle East Area of Operations Deployment Health Surveillance Program, which is prospectively studying 25,000 Australian Defense Force members who have been deployed to the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Frank Ochberg Award for Media and Trauma Study *recognizes significant contributions by clinicians and researchers on the relationship of media and trauma.*

Lauren Wolfe

Lauren Wolfe is a graduate student in the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. She was selected for the Ochberg Award because of her unique body of work that bridges media, academia and political activism in the service of addressing international problems of sexual violence. She wrote "The Silencing Crime," a groundbreaking report on sexual violence against journalists which received acclaim and attention from outlets all over the world. Her report is credited with inspiring other journalists to come forward to disclose their own experiences of sexual assault in the line of duty, thereby creating the opportunity to prevent this

widespread but previously unacknowledged problem. Most recently, Ms. Wolfe has led an effort to end sexualized violence as a tool of war called the *Women Under Siege Project*.

Public Advocacy Award is given for outstanding and fundamental contributions to advancing social understanding of trauma.

Jacqueline Garrick, LCSW-C

Jacqueline Garrick is a social worker, veteran and policy analyst whose own military and clinical experiences have led her to dedicate her 25 year career to educating and advocating for recognition of and advancements in treating posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among service members, veterans and their families. Most recently, Ms. Garrick was selected as a White House Political Appointee to the Department of Defense (DoD). In that capacity she has served key governmental roles, including Principal Director/Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Defense in the DoD Wounded Warrior Care and Transition Policy Office and Special Assistant for Resiliency, Readiness, and Suicide Prevention in the DoD Reserve Affairs and Acting Director of the Defense Suicide Prevention Office. As such, some of her most recent accomplishments have been directed at not only advocating for veterans but also saving their lives through enhanced public awareness and promotion of excellent science, practice and policy.

Chaim and Bela Danieli Young Professional Award recognizes excellence in traumatic stress service or research by an individual who has completed his or her training within the last five years.

Robert H. Pietrzak, PhD, MPH

Dr. Pietrzak earned his MPH from the University of Connecticut in 2003 and his PhD in clinical psychology from the same institution in 2008. He is now an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Yale Medical School also the National Center for PTSD. His work has centered on characterizing the prevalence and correlates of PTSD in military personnel with a special focus on aging. The issues examined in his research have included: stigma, barriers to healthcare utilization, traumatic brain injury, PTSD symptom structure, resilience, social support, depressive symptoms and suicide

Robert S. Laufer Award for Outstanding Scientific Achievement is given to an individual or group who has made an outstanding contribution to research in the field of traumatic stress.

Alexander Neumeister, MD

Dr. Neumeister is a professor of Psychiatry and Radiology at New York University School of Medicine. He is the former director of the Molecular Brain Imaging (NCPTSD) in the Department of Psychiatry at Yale University Medical School. He exemplifies an emerging transdiagnostic approach in psychopathology research. In addition to furthering our understanding of disorders such as depression, anorexia, pathological gambling and substance abuse, Dr. Neumeister has focused for the last decade on the neurobiology of stress-related disorders with an aim of identifying novel biomarkers and targets for psychopharmacologic intervention.

Sarah Haley Memorial Award for Clinical Excellence is given to a clinician or group of clinicians in direct service to traumatized individuals. This written and/or verbal communication to the field must exemplify the work of Sarah Haley.

Judith A. Cohen, MD

Dr. Cohen is a professor of Psychiatry at Drexel University College of Medicine and the Medical Director of the Center for Traumatic Stress in Children and Adolescents at Allegheny General Hospital. She is also a distinguished fellow of the American Psychiatric Association. Her accomplishments go beyond clinical excellence and include authorship or co-authorship of over 90 peer-reviewed publications, 39 book chapters and five books. She has been federally funded

over a dozen times. In the clinical realm, Dr. Cohen has a long and distinguished record going back to the late 1970s and including board certifications in Psychiatry and Child Psychiatry. She has demonstrated clinical excellence in treating drug and alcohol problems, preschool patients, juvenile offenders and family problems. Her signature clinical contribution is Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), which she co-developed with Anthony Mannarino and Esther Deblinger.

ISTSS Elects 2012-2013 Board of Directors

ISTSS also announced its newly elected Board of Directors members at the Annual Meeting.

"Our association is the leader in traumatic stress research and treatment," said Koenen. "We believe it is our responsibility to provide a forum for sharing the latest treatment and research methods. I am excited to welcome a new group of leaders to the ISTSS Board of Directors who will continue to carry out this vision."

ISTSS is run by a committed group of elected and unelected volunteers drawn from the various traumarelated disciplines around the world. The organization is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of 21 members, including a membership-elected Executive Committee and several ex-officio (non-voting) members.

2012-2013 ISTSS Board of Directors

Charles Engel, MD, MPH

Karestan Koenen, PhD (President)
Miranda Olff, PhD (Vice President)
Dean Kilpatrick, PhD (Treasurer)
Grete Dyb, MD, PhD (Secretary)
Eve Carlson, PhD (Past President)
Nancy Kassam-Adams, PhD (President-Elect)
Alain Brunet, PhD
Kathleen Chard, PhD
Joan Cook, PhD
Diane Elmore, PhD, MPH

Julian Ford, PhD
Yoshiharu Kim, MD, PhD
Harold Kudler, MD
Ruth Lanius, MD, PhD
Kathryn Magruder, MPH, PhD
Candice Monson, PhD
Daniel Mosca, MD
Gladys Mwiti, PhD
Meaghan O'Donnell, PhD
Eric Vermetten, MD, PhD

About the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS)

The ISTSS is an international, interdisciplinary professional organization that promotes advancement and exchange of knowledge about traumatic stress including understanding the scope and consequences of traumatic exposure; preventing traumatic events and ameliorating their consequences; and advocating for the field of traumatic stress. More information at www.istss.org.

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