



# Newsletter

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### The American Society for Adolescent Psychiatry

**A**SAP is strong, thriving and vibrant. ASAP has supported some amicus briefs which helped to produce important Supreme Court rulings. The society continues to put on an annual meeting that has high scholarly, clinical and academic content. The annual meeting is also a wonderful social and collegial event.

Plan to attend ASAP's 2006 annual meeting next March in Miami Beach! Bring your family for a great vacation and come for knowledge and clinical skills updates. Bring a colleague to the meeting to introduce them to ASAP. Share ASAP!

ASAP has a new resident/fellow paper award. Any trainee in psychiatry is eligible to submit a paper concerning adolescent psychiatry for consideration. Submissions should be sent to ASAP Central Office, c/o Frances Roton. The

## In This Issue ...

From the President .....	1
Death Penalty Overturned .....	1
For Your Calendar .....	2
American Teens & Alcohol .....	3
Book Review .....	4
Call for Papers .....	5
Annual Meeting Minutes .....	5
At The Meeting.....	6
Council Reports.....	10
Dismounting.....	10
In Our Mail .....	12

winner will have their paper presented at our Miami Beach Annual Meeting and receive expenses for hotel, meeting registration and travel (up to \$1,000). Please encourage trainees whom you know to submit a paper for consideration.

Lois Flaherty continues as our Editor of the Annals of Adolescent Psychiatry, which has great scholarly content. The Annals is the most important annual publication in the U.S. devoted solely to adolescent psychiatry. We are very proud of the Annals. Please share it with colleagues and medical libraries.

As you can see, Leonard Henschel edits a superb newsletter for ASAP. The Newsletter is the lifeblood of the society. Please send in submissions for articles and personal and professional news. It's great to know what is happening with friends and colleagues.

ASAP has had our second annual cultural benefit in Houston. We had a truly outstanding gourmet dinner at Quattro, and then attended Mark Adamo's world premier of Lysistrata or The Nude Goddess at the Houston Grand Opera. You may remember that the first benefit was in Los Angeles with dinner at Patina followed by an orchestral performance at Frank Ghery's Walt Disney Symphony Hall. Plan to attend our third benefit in Miami Beach next March. The proceeds from the benefits have been funding our new Resident/Fellow paper award.

Relations between ASAP and other

*Continued on page 2*

## THE DEATH PENALTY



Mark Wellek

### We Won! Adolescent Death Penalty Overturned by U.S. Supreme Court

**M**arch, 2005, the Supreme Court by a vote of 5-4 removed the death penalty as an option in the United States for capital crimes committed at the ages of 16 and 17. This immediately reversed the death sentences of 72 convicted men. Twenty-nine of these were in Texas alone where 60% of U.S. adolescent executions have been carried out in the past decade. In fact, only three States -Texas, Oklahoma and Virginia have recently executed teen offenders. Between January 2003 and March 2005, the total number of executions had dropped to four.

In the past, ASAP wrote letters to the governors of these states along with the American Bar Association Juvenile Justice Project. We believe that before the Supreme Court acted we helped to slow down the pace of executions and showed

*Continued on page 2*

**March 16-19,  
2006.  
Keep the Dates  
for ASAP's next  
Annual Meeting**