



*Announcing the
Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research
Neal E. Miller New Investigator Award*



Neal E. Miller (1909-2002) was the first psychologist to receive the National Medal of Science, the second president of the Society for Neuroscience, the twenty-first president of the American Psychological Association and a founder and the first president of the Academy. He pioneered the application of learning theory to behavioral therapies and the use of chemical and electrical stimulation to analyze the brain/s mechanisms of behavior, homeostasis, and reinforcement. His career spanned more than half a century. Throughout his life, he exemplified ingenuity, perseverance, integrity, and humanitarian values.

The Neal E. Miller New Investigator Award, established on the occasion of the 80th birthday of the Academy's most distinguished Fellow, is presented annually for imaginatively conceived and carefully conducted research. Miller said, "Be bold in what you try; cautious in what you claim." The Academy hopes that this award will encourage young scientists to pursue research in that spirit. In keeping with the Academy's interdisciplinary traditions, the award will be given to an early-career physician or scientist for outstanding research in one or more of the following areas:

- 1.the interaction between behavior and biological mechanisms in homeostasis, the maintenance of health, the pathophysiology of disease, or the susceptibility to illness;
- 2.the development or evaluation of behaviorally based therapeutic interventions for the primary prevention, secondary prevention, or treatment of disease or injury; or,
- 3.basic theoretical or empirical studies in any scientific discipline or mathematics with implications for behavioral medicine research--this includes instrumentation, methods of analysis, studies of fundamental brain mechanisms including anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, or pharmacology of regulatory systems.

The award will consist of a plaque, a modest cash award, and support to attend the 2021 Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research (ABMR) annual meeting in Santa Cruz, CA on Friday, June 18th – Monday, June 21st, 2021. The award recipient will deliver the Neal E. Miller New Investigator Award lecture at the annual meeting.

ABMR members are encouraged to nominate outstanding young scientists for this year's award. The selection committee is particularly interested in nominees at the rank of Assistant Professor, who would be eligible for membership in ABMR within a few years of receiving the award. **Please consider nominations of scholars underrepresented in biomedical research, particularly minorities and women.** This emphasis reflects the committee's goal of using the award as a pipeline to recruit and engage new members. With that said, post-doctoral fellows, instructors, and candidates in other faculty positions (at a rank less than Associate Professor) will also be considered.

Candidates will be evaluated on their cumulative record of scientific achievement in the focal areas described above. The committee requests that nominators include a single article, book, or chapter, which best reflects the candidate's scientific contributions.

Nomination packages should include (1) a letter of support from an ABMR member, (2) the candidate's updated curriculum vitae, and (3) a single article, book, or chapter that best exemplifies the candidate's scientific contributions. Either published or in-press works are acceptable; for the latter, a final acceptance letter from the editor should be included. If the work has multiple authors, a letter from the candidate's collaborators should also be included, describing that role that s/he played in the project.

All materials are to be sent, in electronic form to Paige A. Green, Ph.D., MPH, ABMR Secretary, at paige.green@nih.gov. The deadline for receipt of nomination packages is **Wednesday, September 30, 2020**. Contact Paige by email or 240-276-6899 for questions about the nomination process or required materials