

Andrew C. Leon Distinguished Career Award

16th Annual Scientific Meeting
Washington, DC
20 February 2020

Andrew C. Leon, PhD

- Professor and biostatistician in psychiatry
- Weill Medical College of Cornell University
- His work heavily influenced the finding and acceptability of new drugs and treatments for mental illness
- Distinguished founding member of ISCTM



Robert K. Heinssen, PhD, ABPP

2020 Andrew C. Leon Distinguished Career Award Recipient



- As the Director of the Division of Services and Intervention Research (DSIR) at NIMH he has been a strong advocate for NIMH supported research in clinical high risk populations and first episode schizophrenia.
- He was the Study Director for the Recovery After an Initial Schizophrenia Episode (RAISE) initiative. This work demonstrated that aggressive treatment early in the course of psychotic illness can improve the outcomes of affected patients. Moreover, the initiative demonstrated that these treatments can be administered in public sector clinics in the US. This work advanced clinical trials methodology by demonstrating that randomized trials can be carried out in public sector clinics.
- Dr. Heinszen has been an active participant in ISCTM sessions.
- Dr. Heinszen has also been effective at demonstrating that the results of clinical intervention research can affect public policy. His advocacy at SAMSHA and CMS has resulted in effective first episode treatment being available to patients throughout the US.