Robert S. Wallerstein Visiting Lectureship in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy

Each year, the UCSF Department of Psychiatry invites a distinguished scholar to speak on campus as part of the Robert S. Wallerstein Visiting Lectureship in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy. This lecture series is held in honor of the late Robert S. Wallerstein, MD, and focuses on showcasing psychoanalytic knowledge and clinical expertise that influence psychiatry, psychotherapy and psychoanalysis.

The 14th Annual Robert S. Wallerstein Visiting Lecture in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy

The University of California, San Francisco Department of Psychiatry will host its 14th annual Robert S. Wallerstein Visiting Lecture on Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy in spring 2019. More details will be made available in the coming months.

Watch the 2018 Wallerstein Lecture

Video of 2018 Wallerstein Lecture - Part I

Video of 2018 Wallerstein Lecture - Part II

Previous lectureship honorees

- 2018 - George Silberschatz, MD [1]
- 2017 - Deborah L. Cabaniss, MD [2]
- 2016 - Bessel A. van der Kolk, MD [3]
- 2015 - Beatrice Beebe, PhD [4]
- 2014 - Morris Eagle, PhD [5]
- 2013 - Regina Pally, MD [6]
- 2012 - Robert Michels, MD [7]
- 2011 - Arietta Slade, PhD [8]
- 2010 - Salman Akhtar, MD [9]
- 2009 - Peter Fonagy, PhD, FBA [10]
- 2008 - Glen O. Gabbard, MD [11]
- 2007 - Nancy McWilliams, PhD, ABPP [12]
- 2006 - Otto F. Kernberg, MD [13]
Robert S. Wallerstein, MD

Robert S. Wallerstein, MD, (1921?2014) was a distinguished psychiatrist, psychotherapy researcher, and psychoanalytic leader who left a legacy of a widened scope of theory and technique in the psychological sectors of psychiatry. He was an administrator who advocated for cooperation between psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers in achieving academic excellence and sought to develop a new profession, the Doctor of Mental Health. He also developed a departmental structure that worked across professional lines, leading to new ideas on research centers, educational plans, and high quality service delivery.

Dr. Wallerstein trained at the Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kansas, rising to become the foundation?s director of research and conducting a pioneering study called the Psychotherapy Research Project. He moved to the Bay Area in 1966 as the chief of psychiatry at Mount Zion Hospital, then joined the faculty of the UCSF Department of Psychiatry as a professor. Dr. Wallerstein served as department chair and director of the Langley Porter Psychiatric Institute from 1975-1985, as well as a training and supervising analyst at the San Francisco Psychoanalytic Institute, and president of both the American and International Psychoanalytic Associations.


Dr. Wallerstein was a leader by consensus. With a remarkable ability of synthesis, he strived to bring together diverse schools of theory and treatment technique. He will be remembered as a dynamic and tireless leader who contributed extensively to every organization that he led.

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