

April 10, 2017

Distinguished Fellowship Committee
American Psychiatric Association
100 Wilson Blvd, Suite 1825
Washington, DC 22209-3901

Dear Fellowship Committee Members:

It is with great pleasure that I am writing you to support the nomination of Jerald Grobman, M.D., to be recognized as a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association. I have known Jerry for almost 15 years, during which time he has made important and unique contributions to the field of psychiatry and mental health by focusing on a high ability, creative, talented, gifted individuals—a niche that has historically been overlooked, neglected, and often misdiagnosed. Because of his therapeutic practice, his writings, and his conference presentations, Jerry has come to be recognized nationally for his work in this area.

Jerry's clinical approach is one that these days is underappreciated because he continues to see the relevance and importance of a psychoanalytic understanding of patients. In addition, though, he has incorporated information from clinical psychology, neuropsychology, and education in ways that have allowed him to broaden his perspective to include concepts such as asynchronous development, positive disintegration, learning disabilities and twice-exceptionality, and existentialism in ways that few, if any, other psychiatrists have done. He regularly works with patients on issues deeper than just symptom control, and through his continuing education courses, he helps other clinicians also to better understand gifted clients who frequently have felt misunderstood as to how their giftedness and creativity were so central to their social/emotional/psychiatric issues. As a result, his contributions to the field and to his patients has been both unusual and outstanding, particularly with regard to understanding self-destructive underachievement, depression, and alienation felt by so many bright, creative, highly gifted individuals

I want to point out, too, how generous Jerry has been of his professional time and knowledge. For more than ten years, he has presented regularly, at this own expense, at the annual national conferences of Supporting Emotional Needs of Gifted (www.sengifted.org), as well as at other conferences for health care and educational professionals. His talks have been informative and well-grounded, and uniformly are well received and helpful, and he has made himself available on many occasions for consultations with other professionals. His published writings are excellent, and his incisive insights into the deeper psychology of emotional issues involved with giftedness are often eye-opening revelations to professionals as well as to parents and his students. His generosity in sharing his insights should not be surprising, though, since Jerry has regularly engaged in teaching and supervising psychology interns throughout his professional career. In 2013, the SENG organization recognized his significant contributions by presenting him the Distinguished Service Award.

Truly, Jerry has become a national treasure for so many! I encourage you to recognize his unique and lasting contributions to the field of psychiatry by making him a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association

Best regards,



James T. Webb, Ph.D., ABPP-CL
President

Founder, Supporting Emotional Needs of Gifted (SENG)

Former Professor and Associate Dean, School of Professional Psychology, Wright State University

Former Associate Clinical Professor in Psychiatry and Pediatrics, Wright State University School of Medicine



1650 N.Kolb, #200
Tucson, AZ 85715
Phone: 520.777.6161
Fax: 520-777-6217
www.greatpotentialpress.com

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