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Biography of Roy M. Whitman, M.D. President, American College of Psychoanalysts

Roy Whitman was born in 1925 in New York City, the second son of a successful dentist. His older brother became a dentist as well and is now retired in Boca Raton, Florida.

Roy Whitman's early life was characterized by success in two major areas: academics and sports. In academics, he was the valedictorian of his grammar school class and graduated in the top 10% of his class at 15½ years at that unique, highly academic high school in New York, Townsend Harris, from whence he had a scholarship to Oberlin College. At the same time, he was the city and state champion in table tennis and was ranked second nationally. He won letters for both swimming and tennis in high school and continued to pursue both of those sports in college successfully.

When World War II started, he was at Oberlin College. He enlisted in the Army and was given the choice between fighter pilot training or medical school. He decided on the medical school ASTP program at Indiana University. He received the B.S. from Indiana University at age 18, and an M.D. from Indiana University at age 20. He waited three months to get his Indiana state license to practice medicine since that state required the age of 21.

He interned at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn and had one year of psychiatry residency at Duke University before going into the Army as a first Lieutenant and then as Captain. At Duke, he met Dean Brockman who was a fellow resident and they have remained friends ever since. The chairman at Duke, Richard Lyman, who had come from Hopkins told us about a brilliant young assistant Professor at Hopkins - Ted Lidz. Roy was surprised to cross paths with that very same Ted Lidz some 30 years later at GAP (Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry) and now succeeds him as President of the American College of Psychoanalysts. After his Army Service, he completed his residency at the University of Chicago Clinics and joined the Chicago experiment of the combined faculties of the University of Chicago, Illinois and Michael Reese psychiatric



Roy M. Whitman, M.D., New President

training programs that were concurrent with psychoanalytic training at the Chicago Institute. He graduated from there at the age of 31 and the next day Maurice Levin called to invite him to join the Department at the University of Cincinnati. He left his position as Associate Professor at Northwestern University under Benjamin Boshes where he had started his research in group process and in dreams. He also was the chief of the Department of Psychiatry at the VA Research Hospital in downtown Chicago.

Roy has been at the University of Cincinnati for the past 35 years where he has produced over 140 papers, co-authoring one book, and serving as Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry from 1980-89. (This is summarized in a paper on being a chairman that appeared in *Academic Psychiatry* two years ago. Just recently a paper was accepted by the American Journal of Psychiatry on "Separation Themes in Panic Disorder" which will be published next year. •

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BIOGRAPHY OF ROY M. WHITMAN, MD, cont.

One of the highlights of his career was when he addressed a joint session of the American Psychiatric Association and the American Psychoanalytic Association on the new research in dreams, studies on the physiology and psychology of dreams and how they are interrelated. He also addressed the plenary session of the College of Psychoanalysis ten years ago on the use of dreams in Masters and Johnson's sexual therapy.

As a member of GAP, he contributed to the Committee on Medical Education in terms of small group teaching in psychiatry and the value of taking a sex history. He then moved to the International Relations Committee of GAP where he used Kohutian concepts of self psychology to discuss the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East.

He has been a member of CAPS (Center for Advanced Psychoanalytic Studies) in Princeton since 1965 and is a member of the Coper study group of the American Psychoanalytic Association. He was appointed a Supervising and Training Analyst at the Cincinnati Psychoanalytic Institute in 1973.

In addition to his academic career, Roy continues his love of tennis and continues to compete at a national level. His most recent title is the United States Southern Seniors Double Championships held in Tennessee.

He has three children from his first marriage: Joy, who is a graduate of Indiana University and is a medical administrator at a private physician's office in Cleveland; Bruce, is an attorney in Cincinnati and Laura who is a second year Fellow in child psychiatry at Cornell and is just beginning her psychoanalytic training. From his second marriage with Esther there are two children: Rebecca, a senior at Princeton and Michael, a sophomore at the University of Michigan.

Roy's recommendations for change in our organization included inviting more women, African-Americans, and younger analysts who show promise of having productive careers to join the College. Our College, as well as many other psychoanalytic organizations are facing the problem of aging membership and we must prepare for the future.

Dr. Whitman also feels, that judiciously selected presentations from the plenary sessions or the study groups would be worth considering for publication. They will be worthy contributions to the field as well as enhancing the reputation of the college.

He and Esther will be celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary this coming May which will make the annual meeting a very special event for them! In 1994, we will be celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the College •