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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**AMERICAN GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION TO AWARD DISTINGUISHED  
FELLOWSHIP TO ROBERT H. KLEIN, PH.D., ABPP, CGP AND ALBERTO SERRANO, M.D. IN  
WASHINGTON DC FEBRUARY 22, 2008**

**NEW YORK, Feb. 1, 2008** — The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) announced today that Robert H. Klein, Ph.D., ABPP, CGP and Alberto Serrano, M.D., will be awarded Distinguished Fellowship in the Association at its upcoming meeting in Washington, DC, February 18-23 at the Hilton Washington Hotel. The award presentation will take place during the Conference Plenary, Friday, February 22 at 8:45 AM. Distinguished Fellowship is the highest honor bestowed by the Association, recognizing outstanding leadership and contributions to the field of group psychotherapy and the AGPA.

“The Distinguished Fellowship designation recognizes those who are seminal leaders, thinkers and clinicians in the field of group psychotherapy.” said Elizabeth Knight, M.S.W., CGP, FAGPA, AGPA President. “Drs. Klein and Serrano with their bodies of work and volunteer leadership in our organizations, are highly deserving of this honor.”

Dr. Klein has served in numerous leadership positions in the American Group Psychotherapy Association, including President. He is a noted and prolific author and lecturer with particular expertise in the areas of termination in group, disaster response and trauma intervention, having authored or co-authored four books, 18 book chapters and over 50 articles. He is currently in private practice and a former Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the Yale School of Medicine.

Dr. Serrano has been an active volunteer with the organization, including serving as Treasurer. He has also served in a leadership capacity in the International Association of Group Psychotherapy, including President. He is internationally recognized for his work in child, adolescent, family and group psychotherapy. He holds Distinguished Visiting Professorships at the University of Hawaii, John A. Burns School of Medicine, Hospital Britanico de Buenos Aires, Argentina and Wilford Hall Medical Center, Department of Psychiatry at Lackland Air Force Base.

Contributions in honor of Drs. Klein’s and Serrano’s Distinguished Fellowships may be made to the Group Psychotherapy Foundation at [www.agpa.org](http://www.agpa.org), or via phone at (212) 477-2677 or mail at 25 East 21<sup>st</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY, 10010; please indicate the Distinguished Fellow to be notified regarding the receipt of the gift in their honor.

This award presentation is a highlight of the AGPA's 2008 Annual Meeting in Washington DC, Feb. 18-23 at the Hilton Washington Hotel. Entitled "Passion, Power and Politics: Dynamic Interplay in Groups," this meeting attracts more than 1,000 group therapists, researchers and scientists from around the United States. Group therapists of all disciplines will gather to learn the most effective techniques in working with a variety of populations and to further their professional development with this powerful and effective treatment modality. The theme, Passion, Power and Politics, reflects the meeting's emphasis on the dynamics that occur in groups, whether small or large, public or private, that can effect change on micro and macro levels. For more information, contact AGPA at (212) 477-2677 or visit [www.agpa.org](http://www.agpa.org).

EDITOR'S NOTE: Media are invited to attend select sessions of the AGPA 2008 Annual Meeting. To register, please send an e-mail request to [dfeirman@agpa.org](mailto:dfeirman@agpa.org) or call 212.477.2677.

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### ***About AGPA***

The American Group Psychotherapy Association is the oldest and largest professional association dedicated to the field of group psychotherapy, operating through a tri-partite structure: AGPA, a professional and educational organization; the Group Psychotherapy Foundation, its philanthropic arm; and the National Registry of Certified Group Psychotherapists, a standard setting and certifying body. This multidisciplinary association has over 2,000 members, including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses, clinical mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, pastoral counselors and creative arts therapists, many of whom have been recognized as specialists through the Certified Group Psychotherapist credential. The association has 31 local and regional societies located across the country. Its members are experienced mental health professionals who lead psychotherapy groups and various non-clinical groups. Many are organizational specialists who work with businesses, not-for-profit organizations, communities and other "natural" groups to help them improve their functioning.

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