

2. For appointment to special interest posts with responsibility for the organization of services, there is a requirement of at least one year of training in the subject of special interest approved by the relevant specialist advisory committee of the JCHPT; and two years approved training in the core discipline which is normally General Psychiatry.
3. For appointment to posts with work divided equally between two disciplines (usually General Psychiatry and Mental Handicap Psychiatry) there should be at least 18 months' experience in each area, both of which schemes must be approved by higher training by the relevant SACs.
4. Training must be in substantive posts, although three months' experience as a locum Senior Registrar in a post approved for training may be included in the total requirement of three years; and three months' experience as a locum consultant during secondment from an approved scheme may also be accepted as a part of higher training.
5. Experience in full-time research may be recognized for periods up to two years, provided that there are four sessions per week of clinical work of whatever nature. Research experience for longer periods may be recognized for higher training in certain specified posts.
6. Experience as Lecturers with Honorary Senior Registrar status is fully recognized for higher training.
7. Training undertaken on a part-time basis must be for five sessions or more per week, have a similar composition to full-time training and extend over a proportionally longer period.

### *Distinction Awards in Psychiatry (England and Wales)*

As a member of the Central Committee on Distinction Awards for the past few years, it has occurred to me that we might improve our position in the stakes by endeavouring to co-ordinate the advice rendered.

I believe that local support is of pre-eminent importance, especially at the 'C' level, and even for Higher Awards. This support comes via local 'C' Awards Committees and Regional Higher Awards Committees on which the College is not represented as an Institution.

The College has an Awards Adviser (a separate appointment from the College Regional Adviser) in each NHS Region in England and Wales, who meets the Chairman of the Central Committee on his rounds. They also participate in the deliberations of the College Distinction Awards Committee, which includes representatives of College Divisions, Sections and Groups. Although there is clearly some overlap, there are also substantial differences between the lists of names put forward through College channels from those emerging out of the local Committees. There may be good reasons for this disparity, and one would not wish to see a monolithic and exclusive selection process developing.

When Professor Linford Rees was President, he wrote a 'Note' for the *Bulletin* on Distinction Awards (March 1978, page 39). He outlined very clearly the various sources of information and advice which were used by the NHS Advisory Committee on Distinction and Meritorious Service Awards in its deliberations.

At the same time I believe that steps could be taken by College Awards Advisers to hold discussions each year with the corresponding Chairmen of the College Divisions, and with the psychiatrist members on local 'C' Awards and Higher Awards Committees. In this fashion a smaller number of names will come to the NHS Central Committee from a larger number of sources, with, hopefully, a facilitating effect on surmounting the threshold for an Award.

K. RAWNSLEY

#### **Central Committee on Distinction Awards**

##### *College nominated advisers on Awards in the Regions*

*Northern:* Dr K. Davison; *Yorkshire:* Dr J. M. Roberts; *Trent:* Professor F. A. Jenner; *East Anglia:* Professor Sir Martin Roth; *North West Thames:* Dr K. Granville-Grossman; *North East Thames:* Dr S. Crown; *South East Thames:* Dr P. H. Connell; *South West Thames:* Professor A. Crisp; *Wessex:* Professor J. L. Gibbons; *Oxford:* Professor M. Gelder; *South Western:* Dr J. B. Gordon-Russell; *West Midlands:* Dr J. Harrington; *Mersey:* Dr M. D. Enoch; *North Western:* Dr J. Johnson; *Wales:* Dr D. M. Shaw.

#### **Regional 'Higher' Awards Committees, 1985**

##### *Psychiatrist members*

*Northern:* Dr K. Davison; *Yorkshire:* Dr J. M. Roberts, Dr N. E. Crumpton; *Trent:* Professors F. A. Jenner and S. Brandon; *East Anglia:* nil; *North West Thames:* Dr P. J. Dally, Dr I. C. Lodge Patch; *North East Thames:* Dr S. Crown, Dr A. Bentovim; *South East Thames:* Professor R. H. Cawley; *South West Thames:* Professor A. H. Crisp; *Wessex:* Professor J. L. Gibbons; *Oxford:* Professor M. Gelder, Dr D. C. Watt; *South Western:* Dr J. B. Gordon-Russell; *West Midlands:* Dr J. A. Harrington; *Mersey:* Professor J. Copeland, Dr M. D. Enoch; *North Western:* Professor W. I. N. Kessel, Dr J. Johnson; *Wales:* Professor K. Rawnsley, Dr J. M. Hughes.

#### **Regional 'C' Awards Committees, 1985**

##### *Psychiatrist members*

*Northern:* Dr I. C. A. Martin, Professor D. Eccleston; *Yorkshire:* Dr M. Segal, Dr P. J. Beynon, Dr J. M. Roberts; *Trent:* Dr D. A. Toms, Dr H. M. Park; *East Anglia:* Dr R. Devine; *North West Thames:* Dr J. Steinert, Dr C. M. Tonks; *North East Thames:* Dr J. D. Hailstone, Dr J. L. Swift; *South East Thames:* Dr P. K. Bridges; *South West Thames:* Dr P. B. Storey; *Oxford:* Dr J. Aitken, Professor M. Gelder; *Wessex:* Dr J. S. Grimshaw, Dr D. H. Dick; *South Western:* Dr H. G. Morgan; *West Midlands:* Dr G. Milner; *Mersey:* Dr B. K. Brooker; *North Western:* Dr J. T. Eliot, Professor W. I. N. Kessel; *Wales:* Dr T. G. Davies.