FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 21, 2017

The College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy (CPSP) announces that it has awarded the Rev. Eric J. Hall the 2017 Helen Flanders Dunbar Award for "Significant Contributions to the Clinical Pastoral Field." This award was presented at the CPSP 27th Plenary, held in Orlando, Florida, March 19-21. The presentation was made by Robert Charles Powell, MD, PhD, ex-officio member of the Governing Council.

In his introduction, Dr. Powell described the work of the Rev. Eric J. Hall, stating: "A new outsider now has tried to discern the essence – the commonality – of what the various clinical pastoral organizations have been trying to accomplish. This new outsider has tried to see and to hear “between the lines.”

The Rev. Eric J. Hall is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the recently formed Spiritual Care Association (SCA), as well as President and CEO of the HealthCare Chaplaincy Network.

Helen Flanders Dunbar (May 14, 1902 - August 21, 1959) was a colleague of Anton Boisen and an important early figure in U.S. psychosomatic medicine and psychobiology, as well as being a preeminent advocate for the cooperation of physicians and clergy in efforts to treat the whole person in their care for the sick. Without the leadership of Dunbar, the Boisen movement would not likely have succeeded as it has.

CPSP organized in 1990 as a clinical pastoral organization committed to the reassertion of the wisdom of Anton T. Boisen and Helen Flanders Dunbar, whose teachings had been eclipsed by mid-twentieth century. CPSP presents itself as a theologically based covenant community, dedicated to "the recovery of soul." Visit CPSP.ORG for more information.