

Donaghue Dictionary: Healing

On September 17th, Dr. Eric Cassell delivered the Donaghue Foundation's first Andrews Lecture, focusing on the importance of "healing" as a goal of medicine. The Foundation strongly concurs with Dr. Cassell's conviction that healing, as opposed to simply treating or curing, needs to be pushed to the forefront of our conversations in health care and in our medical school curricula, for it places the spotlight on the whole person and on each unique person's experience rather than just upon clinical symptoms, statistics or disease. Treatments and cures are necessary, but they are not alone sufficient to occupy our thinking and our training. Readers interested in pursuing the subject would do well to read Cassell's *Nature of Suffering* and S. Kay Toombs' *The Meaning of Illness*.

