



DECEMBER 2015

WWW.WPANET.ORG

Message from the Secretary General



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Hearty greetings to you! Since publication of our last issue, we had WPA Regional Congress, Kochi, India: September 25-27, 2015. It was a grand event attended by more than 1,200 delegates. The 'WPA Kochi Statement' was also adopted at the Congress. Hearty congratulations to Kuruvilla Thomas and his team.

This was followed by the WPA International Congress, Taipei November 18-22, 2015 which was a grand success. 2,149 participants from more than 55 countries attended this congress. The excellent scientific program consisted of Lectures, Symposia, workshops and poster presentations. Hearty Congratulations to Frank Chou and his team.

Our newly designed website www.wpanet.org has gone live on October 25, 2015. Some of the highlights and state-of-the-art features of our new newly designed website are: Functional Features like WPA GroupThink! (an Interactive WPA Discussion Forum with restricted access to all member countries), Meetings Calendar with Opt-in Reminder facility, Responsive design (device compatible), Digital Gallery, Upgraded CMS, Hyperlinks and Archiving besides many other technology features. Kindly do visit the website and send us your valuable comments.

We are looking forward to WPA Regional Congress at Manila February 4-6, 2016. Kindly do attend. We thank WPA President Dinesh Bhugra and the EC for their support and guidance. We are sorry, this will be the last edition in print of the WPA News, due to financial constraints. But the WPA News will continue in the electronic format for providing information and up-to-date news.

Thanking you,

Roy Abraham Kallivayalil
Secretary General
World Psychiatric Association

Message from the President



Dinesh Bhugra

Dear Friends,

You may recall that WPA has set up a **WPA-Lancet Commission on Psychiatry** to ascertain the future of our profession in early part of the 21st century. Separately I have sent you the link for the survey. Please respond and also encourage your members, colleagues and other stakeholders to respond too. We would like a global and wide response. The qualitative aspects were completed at the WPA International Congress in Bucharest and the quantitative survey has already been piloted. The revised deadline is for publication of the results and recommendations is summer 2016.

Needs of psychiatrists and their roles do vary across various countries due to resources and public expectations and therefore we need as full a picture as possible. Hopefully, this project will enable us to identify skills and competencies required of a psychiatrist in modern clinical practice. Following this we will be in a better position to develop suitable and appropriate curricula and training for future psychiatrists.

We celebrated **World Mind Matters Day** on 4th September with the launch of WPA Position Statement on Social Justice for those with Mental illness and also statement on migrants and asylum seekers. We hope that this will become an annual event. We aim to draw attention of policy makers to focus on outcomes based parity between physical and mental illness and funding for research and service development.

Various **task forces** are working hard to help develop curricula and policy statements which will be launched during the course of next year. A series of **round table discussions** will be starting early next year on a range of topics.

This is the last print edition of the newsletter. This painful decision was taken in order to save money. From next year the newsletter will continue to be available on the website on a regular basis. Season's Greetings to you, your members and families.

Yours faithfully,

Dinesh Bhugra
President, World Psychiatric Association



L'Escalade, or Fête de l'Escalade is an annual festival held in December in Geneva, Switzerland, celebrating the defeat of the surprise attack by troops sent by Charles Emmanuel I, Duke of Savoy during the night of 11–12 December 1602. The celebrations are usually held on 12 December or the closest weekend. The festivities start with a 5 mile race through the Old Town and culminate the following weekend with a torchlight procession of over 1000 marchers.

General matters of WPA

(including Regional, International and World Congress announcements)

■ WPA REGIONAL CONGRESS KOCHI, INDIA

WPA Regional Congress Kochi 2015 was held at Le Meridien Hotel Kochi from 25th to 27th November 2015. The total number of delegates was 1183. The conference was inaugurated by the Governor of Kerala Hon. Justice P. Sathasivam. The President of World Psychiatric Association Prof. Dinesh Bhugra in his Presidential remarks highlighted the activities of WPA. Winners of the Kochi Young Psychiatrists Fellowship award were greeted by the Governor.

The Scientific programme was tightly packed. Concurrent sessions were held in 13 halls. There were nineteen plenary and two

lectures by distinguished faculties. The academic package included thirty symposiums, ten workshops, seventy four free papers, sixty six posters. WPA Kochi Statement was drafted



Hon Governor of Kerala Justice P Sathasivam inaugurating the WPA Regional Congress, Kochi, India on September 25, 2015. Also seen in the picture are Kuruvilla Thomas (Congress Secretary), Dinesh Bhugra (WPA President), Roy Abraham Kallivayalil (Secretary General, WPA), MC Nair (Chair, org committee) and TV Asokan (ZR Zone 16).



Valedictory event of WPA Kochi. Seen in the picture are MC Nair, P Joseph Varghese, CJ John, Kuruvilla Thomas, VG Wave (President IPS), Afzal Javed (Secretary for Sections), Dinesh Bhugra (WPA President), Helen Herrman (WPA President-Elect), Roy Abraham Kallivayalil (SG), Michelle Riba (Secretary, Publications), Edgard Belfort (Secretary, Education), Armen Soghoyan (Secretary, Finance), PV Xavier and K Sudarsan.

by Indian Psychiatric Society which was approved by WPA Executive Committee.

Kuruvilla Thomas
Congress Secretary

■ WPA – KOCHI, INDIA STATEMENT ON MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND INTEGRATED SERVICES

WPA REGIONAL CONGRESS 25-27 September 2015, KOCHI

WHEREAS, mental and behavioral disorders affect more than 25% of all people at some time during their lives;

WHEREAS, one in four families is likely to have at least one member with a mental or behavioral disorder;

WHEREAS, mental health services should be cost effective, affordable and integrated with primary health care services;

WHEREAS, around 20% of all patients seen by primary health care providers have one or more mental health disorders, but are often not detected;

WHEREAS, psychological morbidity is commonly associated with physical disease and are seen, but not often detected by primary health care providers;

WHEREAS, there is a need to train primary health care staff, in management of basic mental and behavioral problems;

WHEREAS, there is a need to recognize mental health morbidity by doctors from other specialties and make appropriate treatment or referrals;

WHEREAS, training in psychiatry and behavioral science during under-graduate medical studies has significantly changed in most western nations;

WHEREAS, better undergraduate psychiatric training in low and middle-income countries will decrease stigmatization of the mental health profession and mental health services;

WHEREAS, undergraduate physicians trained in psychiatry will be able to provide basic mental health services at primary care level and will liaise better with mental health professionals;

WHEREAS, there is a need to increase mental health awareness by psychiatric education and keeping up with the advancements, for early diagnosis and management of mental and behavioral disorders by non-psychiatric medical fraternity;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT

United Nations member states should adopt the need to integrate mental health into primary health, at all tiers of health care services, primary, secondary and tertiary levels and to achieve the above objectives

Be it further resolved to that thrust should be given to National Mental Health policies by appropriate initiatives by the governments

Be it further resolved that, concerned authorities should include psychiatry in the curricula of undergraduate medical training and strengthen psychiatric faculty in medical colleges;

United Nations member states should allocate the necessary administrative, financial, and technological, resource training and education in their endeavor to provide better mental health care services including suicide prevention; and

Be it further resolved that these goals be included in the updated United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and implementation of this resolution.

Prof. Dinesh Bhugra, President, WPA and Congress President

Prof. Helen Herrman, President-Elect, WPA and Co-Chair, Scientific Committee

Prof. Roy Kallivayalil, Secretary General, WPA

Dr. Vidyadhar Watve, President, Indian Psychiatric Society

Dr. N.N. Raju, General Secretary, Indian Psychiatric Society

Dr. Kuruvilla Thomas, Organizing Secretary, WPA – Kochi

■ WPA INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS, TAIPEI, NOVEMBER 2015

The Congress held at Taipei, Taiwan, November 18-22, 2015 was a grand success. The President of the Republic of China, Ma Ying-jeou addressed the Opening Ceremony and wished the event big success.

2,149 participants from more than 55 countries attended this Congress. The excellent scientific program consisted of 9 Keynote Lectures; 12 State of the Art Lectures; 8 Special Lectures; 107 Main Sessions; 3 Satellite Symposia, and 502 poster presentations with the involvement from all over the world.

WPA President Dinesh Bhugra addressing the Congress.



Opening Ceremony of the WPA IC Taipei. Seen in the picture are L to R: Prof. Susan Shur-Fen Gau, Prof. Masatoshi Takeda, Prof. Frank Huang-Chih Chou, President of the Republic of China Ma Ying-jeou, WPA President Prof. Dinesh Bhugra, Prof. Helen Herrman, and Prof. Yuan-Hwa Chou.



Closing Ceremony: WPA President Dinesh Bhugra and WPA Secretary for Scientific Meetings Masatoshi Takeda with the Best Poster Award Winners.

Please visit our website at <http://www.wpaic2015.tw/> for Congress photos and abstract content.

**Frank Huang-Chih Chou, M.D., M.S., Ph.D.
Director, WPA IC Taipei 2015**

HAVE YOU RECENTLY VISITED THE WPA WEBSITE?

→ WWW.WPANET.ORG

From the President-Elect

I would like to end the year by commenting on the community of support in the WPA. It is founded on the aspirations and achievements of the many thousands of members of our 138 member societies. In a year full



Helen Herrman

of human tragedy and disillusion at the global level, it is heartening to see the people in WPA intent on the task of improving the mental health of our patients

and their families and the broader communities, especially those suffering serious adversities.

I am grateful for the help, advice and warm welcome during the year from member societies and affiliated associations and the support this represents for WPA. It is enormously encouraging in the work with our Association. Helping to translate individual aspirations and achievements into national and global efforts are responsibilities we share. As a global association, the WPA is in a unique position to support and amplify the efforts of national

and regional societies and to work in partnership with other global organisations.

The WPA Planning Committee is now at work to plan for continuing action in the triennium 2017-2020. We are defining the major topics on which to focus, and a process of consultation about them.

I thank colleagues in the WPA leadership as well as our member societies for help and friendship, and look forward to working together in the year ahead.

Helen Herrman
WPA President-Elect

■ World Psychiatry: reaching as many psychiatrists as possible worldwide



Mario Maj

World Psychiatry, the official journal of the World Psychiatric Association, reaches now, with its paper and electronic versions, more than 40,000 psychiatrists in 125 countries. It is produced in seven languages: English, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, Russian, French and Turkish.

Its current impact factor is 14.225, ranking no. 3 among all psychiatric journals. Only *Molecular Psychiatry* and the *Archives of General Psychiatry* have a slightly higher impact factor, 14.496 and 14.480 respectively.

The first and most important aim of the journal is to inform as many psychiatrists as possible worldwide on recent significant clinical, service and research developments, using a language that can be assimilated by most of

them, focusing on those issues which are relevant to their professional growth and everyday clinical practice, and making an attempt to reach also those psychiatrists who are not able to read English. The second aim is to give voice to psychiatrists from all regions of the world, by encouraging submission of research papers and reports on mental health policy issues or innovative service modalities.

The access of the average psychiatrist to international psychiatric journals is nowadays becoming more and more difficult. This is not only due to financial reasons (the majority of psychiatrists worldwide cannot afford a personal subscription to even one international psychiatric journal, and many academic centers are now reducing the number of journals to which they subscribe), but also to the objective difficulty in understanding the language, the concepts and the technical details, and the lack of motivation to read articles which do not have an obvious clinical relevance. The traditional gap between the small circle of researchers and the multitude of psychiatric practitioners is thus becoming wider and wider. *World Psychiatry* represents a response to this situation.

Mental health care is the main topic of the journal. Priority is given to contributions dealing with the organization of mental health services throughout the world and to international collaborative research on new interventions. A second priority is psychopathological and biological research which appears solid and relevant to clinical practice. A specific request is made to the contributors to use a very clear and simple language, avoiding concepts and terms which would not be understood by the majority of psychiatrists worldwide.

All back issues of the journal can be freely downloaded from the PubMed system (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals/297/>). All WPA Member Societies and Scientific Sections are welcome to provide a list of their members who wish to receive regularly free of charge the electronic version of the journal.

Mario Maj
Editor, *World Psychiatry*

From Secretary for Education



Edgard Belfort

The Operational Committee on Education met on November 17, 2015 at Taipei. The Committee Chair

is Dr. Edgard Belfort, Secretary for Education of the WPA EC. The Co-chair is Maria Luz Casimiro-Querubin (Philippines) and its members are Roger Ng (Hong Kong), Fabrizio Delgado (Ecuador), and Constantin Soldatos (Greece), Marc Hermans (Belgium). In order to fulfill this mandate, the

Committee recommends a training needs survey, recognizing the possibility of a huge variance across its member societies. Once approved by the EC, this survey will be implemented with the support of all member societies and zonal representatives. The results will give valuable input in defining

the educational strategies and activities of the WPA in the next 2-3 years. The results of this survey will subsequently be published for the information of the member societies. The data will also provide valuable input to the planned WPA Diploma Course for mental health, amongst others. The views of the members of the Operational Committee on Education represent the range of issues that challenge psychiatry worldwide.

Dr. Fabrizio Delgado, Past President of the Ecuadorian Association of Psychiatry, thinks that the most obvious problem in his region is the gap in the standard of care between the public and the private sector. This gap is highly influenced by the budget allotted for the particular institution. There are continued efforts to standardize education through a university curriculum that runs for 3-4 years. The training is largely hospital based and provides exposure to acute and chronic cases. Trainees are also exposed to various specialties that include addiction psychiatry, child and adolescent psychiatry and consultation – liaison psychiatry.

Dr. Roger Ng, also a member of the Operational Committee and Vice-President of the Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists, states that their organization has the vision of improving the psychiatrist:patient ratio to 1:10000. However, there has been a general shortage of medical graduates in Hong Kong

that translates into a shortage of psychiatric trainees in the past five years. There has also been a steady number of specialist psychiatrists moving from the public sector to private practice, leading to a shortage of experienced psychiatrists taking care of the poor and ill patients with serious mental illness.

Dr. Maria Luz C. Querubin, Co-chair of the Operational Committee and current President of the Philippine Psychiatric Association, shares that the Philippines is beset with health human resource gaps similar to that of Hong Kong. Based on 2015 data, there are 643 registered psychiatrists for a population of 102 million. This occurs in the bigger context of international migration. Disaster mental health and the inculcation of a public mental health perspective will play key roles in the training of more responsive young psychiatrists.

Dr. Marc Hermans, founding member of the Flemish Psychiatric Association, has had extensive work as a member of the Committee on Education of the European Psychiatric Association. Europe draws from a rich tradition in clinical psychiatry and the founding of various theoretical frameworks. The Sections of Psychiatry and of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (CAP) in the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) have worked towards harmonisation of standards of training within Europe. In many countries

working circumstances are far less attractive for psychiatrists as compared to other specialists contributing to a wave of transeuro-pean migration of medical doctors.



Members of the Operational Committee on Education.

The World Psychiatric Association plays a crucial role in developing policies and directions to guide member countries towards bridging the gaps between health care demands and the capacity of the health systems to respond. The members of the Operational Committee believe that its mandate is to lead educational initiatives that will directly impact on closing the gaps between mental health care demands and the capacities of health care providers.

Edgard Belfort
WPA Secretary for Education

From Secretary for Finances



Armen Soghoyan

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to congratulate all of you on the coming New Year and Christmas. 2015 was the first year of

the acting Executive Committee, and from the financial point of view it was not bad, but it could have been better. We enter 2016 with some unspecified issues, but which can not adversely affect the WPA functioning. We can view an obvious improvement in membership fees payment discipline and will introduce the mechanisms to regulate conferences related issues, the results of which will be felt in 2016. We have also some proposals

that are aimed at improving the WPA financial policy, and as it was promised, will increase revenues and improve the cost efficiency.

I wish all of you health, success, financial stability and development as well as peace and the victory of good in our rapidly shrinking world.

Armen Soghoyan
WPA Secretary for Finances

WPA PUBLICATIONS

WPA Secretary for Scientific Publications, Michelle B. Riba, mriba@umich.edu



■ WPA SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS AND JOURNALS

Michelle Riba, M.D., M.S

We continue to actively support and help members who want to publish their works. At a recent WPA International Congress meeting in Taipei, several workshops were organized to help early career psychiatrists get published. These were quite successful and well received. We will continue to try to have such workshops at future WPA conferences and look forward to hearing from WPA members who might want to participate. Journal editors and book authors would be very welcomed to participate on these panels so they can share their experiences and thoughts and reflections on mentorship. Please let me know of your interest, via the WPA Secretariat.

The WPA official journal, *World Psychiatry*, has now reached an impact factor of 14.225, ranking no. 3 among psychiatric journals

(only Molecular Psychiatry and the Archives of General Psychiatry have a slightly higher impact factor, 14.496 and 14.480 respectively). It is produced in seven languages: English, Chinese, Spanish, Russian, Turkish, French, and Arabic. It is sent free of charge to all psychiatrists whose e-mail addresses are provided by WPA Member Societies and Sections. All back issues of the journal can be freely downloaded from the PubMed system (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals/297/>).

The WPA Executive Committee met in Kochi, India on September 27, 2015 and approved the creation and development of an Iberoamerican Digital Journal and Psychiatric Library in Spanish and Portuguese, under the general coordination of Alfredo H. Cía, WPA Zone 5 delegate. Prof. Cia will be

responsible for the Scientific, Technical and Financial aspects of the Digital Library and his work will also include the creation and organization of international teams and the Editorial Committee. The group will be seeking to obtain funding in order for the WPA to accomplish its objectives.

Books on a number of topics are being developed as part of primary care psychiatry themes. Physical Exercise Interventions for Mental Health, eds. Linda Lam and Michelle Riba. Springer, is nearing completion. I wish everyone and their families a joyous, healthy, peaceful, and happy Holiday Season.

Michelle Riba

WPA Secretary for Scientific Publications

Upcoming WPA Major Meetings

WPA Secretary for Scientific Meetings, Masatoshi Takeda, m-takeda@aino.ac.jp



■ WPA REGIONAL CONGRESS 4-6 FEBRUARY 2016 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

The Philippine Psychiatric Association is hosting the World Psychiatric Association Regional Congress in Manila on February 4-6, 2016 with the theme "Psychiatry and Society in the 21st Century". This serves as a watermark in Philippine psychiatry as the congress features resource speakers who are

luminaries in the field, including Dr. Allan Tasman (U.S.A.); Dr. Roger McIntyre (Canada); Dr. Philippe Huguelet (Switzerland); Dr. Edgar Belfort (Venezuela); Dr. Helen Herrman (Australia); Dr. Masatoshi Takeda (Japan); and others.

Both the plenary and parallel sessions make for a comprehensive and well-balanced program as it features timely and noteworthy topics in the context of the global backdrop. Please visit our official website, [\[manila2016.com\]\(http://manila2016.com\), for further information on accommodation, registration and the full programme. We hope as well that you will extend this invitation to colleagues and friends in the field. See you in Manila!](http://wpa-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Lou Querubin

President, Philippine Psychiatric Association

Rene M. Samaniego, Public Relations Officer

■ WPA INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS 6-10 JULY 2016 ISTANBUL, TURKEY

Organizers:

- a) Psychiatric Association of Turkey
 - b) Turkish Neuropsychiatric Society
- Contact: Dr. Levent Küey
 E-mail: kueyl@superonline.com
 Website: www.wpaistanbul2016.org

■ WPA INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS 18-22 NOVEMBER 2016 CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

The first announcement for this congress, with the opening of registration and the call for the submission of abstract and symposia proposals, is being made on the **30th November 2015** (www.wpacapetown2016.org.za).

The theme of this congress is "***Psychiatry: Integrative Care for the Community***" and will explore concepts, controversies and

consequences of Psychiatry's responsibility and accountability to society in terms of its scope of practice and of Psychiatry's social contract.

This will be the biggest psychiatric congress organized locally by the **South African Society of Psychiatrists (SASOP)** and will be the first time that a WPA International Congress is being held in South Africa. The congress is expected to attract about 2000-2500 local, African and other international psychiatrists and other delegates from around the world. The organizers of the congress



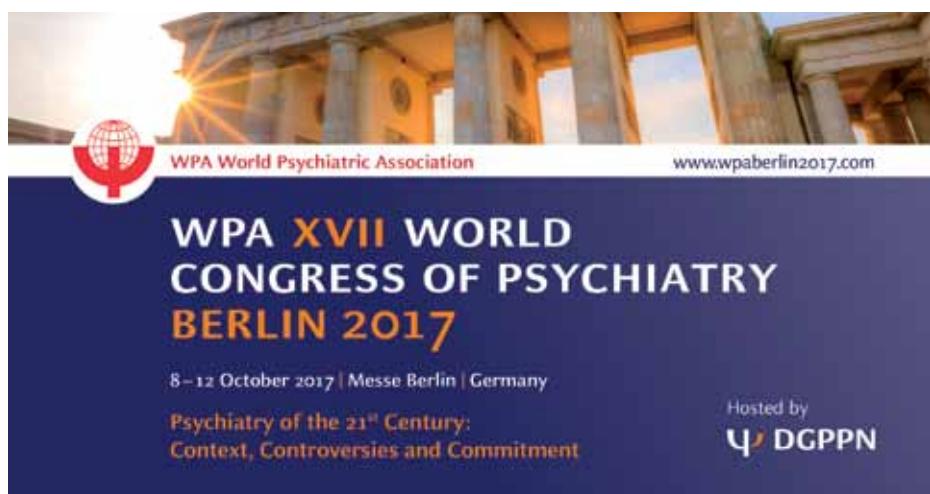
Attending WPA IC Taipei 18-22 November 2015 from South Africa – L to R: Rowan Moss (Scatterlings), Mvuyiso Talatala, Solly Rataemane, and Bernard Janse van Rensburg (SASOP).

recently attended the WPA International Congress Taipei, 18-22 November 2015.

■ WPA XVII WORLD CONGRESS OF PSYCHIATRY 8-12 OCTOBER 2017 BERLIN, GERMANY

The World Psychiatric Association is committed to improving the health care of psychiatric patients through raising standards of training, education as well as clinical practice by providing added value. This Congress will be an excellent opportunity to share academic developments, research and clinical developments as well as build on social interactions and support each other.

The Theme for the Congress is "***Psychiatry of the 21st Century: Context, Controversies and Commitment***". Several countries across the globe are providing innovative services in spite of limited resources. This Congress provides a platform to discuss



such developments and how we can learn from each other by sharing experiences and lessons. This World Congress is an ideal opportunity to take stock of the state of psychiatry in the 21st century and the direction of future travel. More information at www.wpaberlin2017.com.

Contact: Prof. Peter Falkai
 E-mail: wpa2017@cpo-hanser.de

Scientific Secretariat:
 Julie Holzhausen
 E-mail: wpa2017@dgppn.de
 Website: www.wpaberlin2017.com

■ GENEVA PRIZE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN PSYCHIATRY

It is intended to acknowledge an individual (with no restriction as to gender, age or nationality), or an institution or association (with governmental or non-governmental status) for exceptional achievement at regional, national or international level in:

- Promoting equity and humane qualities of care for people with mental illness.
- Reducing negative discrimination of the mentally ill.
- Defending the rights of people with mental illness, and supporting the application of ethical principles in psychiatric services.

The Prize, consisting of a diploma, a medal, and a monetary award of 20,000 Swiss Francs, is awarded once every three years, usually during the WPA World Congress of Psychiatry. The Prize is funded by the Republic and Canton of Geneva (Switzerland) through the Geneva University Hospital, and by the Swiss Federation of Psychiatrists and Psychotherapists. The next Prize will be awarded during the World Congress of Psychiatry in October 2017, in Berlin.

For detailed information, please visit www.geneva-prize.ch or www.wpanet.org. All nominations will be examined by a Jury appointed by the Board of the Foundation.
DEADLINE for nominations for the 2017 Prize is MARCH 31st, 2017.

Professor François Ferrero
President of the Prize of the Geneva Foundation for Human Rights in Psychiatry
E-mail: francois.ferrero@unige.ch

Guidelines for nominations:

- Nominations for the Prize can be made by individuals, institutions or associations.
- Self-nominations/applications are not acceptable.

News from Member Societies

■ SRI LANKA COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

The College actively supports the development of mental health services throughout the country and has been successful in providing reasonable mental health care in all districts. The more recent developments of the College are aimed at improving quality of care delivered. The College has focused on rewarding outstanding regional psychiatrists, capacity building programmes and continuous professional development programmes in order to fulfill this quest. The activities of the College have resulted in establishing cordial relationships with all

stakeholders contributing to an improved profile of the discipline. It also strengthened the links with other Colleges and Associations of Psychiatry worldwide.

The prime academic activity of the college the annual academic sessions will be held from 27th to 30th May 2016, in association with the International Conference of Asian Federation of Psychiatrists and the World Psychiatric Association. Eminent world psychiatrists will be joining hands with young psychiatrists in Asia making this a unique experience where culture, natural beauty and serenity would come together in an academic arena.



From L to R: Dr. Dulshika Amarasinghe Wass (Honorary Secretary, SLCPsych), Prof. Naotaka Shinjuku (Founder President AFPA), Prof. Samudra T Kathriarachchi (President, SLCPsych), Dr. Murray Patton (President, RANZCP), Dr. Stephen Vethanayagam (President, Association of Sri Lankan Psychiatrists, UK).

Samudra Kathriarachchi
President, Sri Lanka College of Psychiatrists

SLOVAK PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

The Slovak Psychiatric Association (SPA) currently has more than 600 members and 10 Sections. A new Committee of the SPA was elected in June 2014 with its president Lubomira Izakova. The Committee's main objective is to promote continuous education in fast-evolving field such as psychiatry. It was a great honor for the SPA that Peter Janík, member of the Committee, was chosen as one of the five winners for Early Career Psychiatrist Fellowship Program at the WPA

Regional Congress, Kochi, India in September 2015. He had participated actively at the Congress and discussed issues of psychiatry in Slovakia and other countries.

The SPA has great pleasure to invite you to the XII Slovak Psychiatric Convention, which will be held on 23-25 June 2016 in Košice a beautiful city in the east of Slovakia. It is the biggest event in the Slovak mental health congress calendar with a long tradition. The main theme is "Psychiatry and Medicine Nowadays".

Lubomira Izakova
President, Slovak Psychiatric Association



SOCIETY OF GEORGIAN PSYCHIATRISTS

WPA Regional Conference: Tbilisi

Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted to invite you to Tbilisi, Georgia for the regional conference of the World Psychiatry Association "Mental health, directions and challenges" from 27-30 April, 2016. The Conference is organized by the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) in col-



laboration with the Society of Georgian Psychiatrists (SGP) and the Alliance for Better Mental Health (ABMH) will bring together practitioners, researchers and educators from the world who are engaged in mental health care. The leading national and international

experts will discuss the modern approaches and future directions in mental health care.

Besides, unique cultural heritage and cuisine are excellent additional incentives to visit Georgia and attend this conference. For more information, please visit the conference website: <http://wpatbilisi.ge>. We are looking forward to welcome you in Tbilisi.

Eka Chkonia
President, Society of Georgian Psychiatrists
geopsysociety@gmail.com

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

The International RANZCP Congress of Psychiatry will be held in Hong Kong from 8-12 May 2016 at the Hong Kong Convention Centre, in association with the Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists. The Congress will provide an extensive scientific program that will attract global mental health leaders to Hong Kong, to promote and enhance psychiatry within the region. The latest developments in psychiatry will be discussed by world-class speakers including Professor Naomi Fineberg (UK), Dr. Nitin

Gogtay (USA), Professor Robert Howard (UK), Professor David Nutt (UK), Professor Thomas Schlaepfer (Germany), Professor Peter Tyrer (UK), and Dr. Frank Yeomans (USA). More information is available on the website: www.psychiatrycongress2016.com. We look forward to seeing you at this memorable event for a vibrant scientific and social program set in the exciting surrounds of Hong Kong.

RANZCP's new International Corresponding Member category

The RANZCP is pleased to announce the launch of its new International Corresponding Member category in 2016. International Cor-

responding Membership of the RANZCP will be available from 2016 to qualified psychiatrists with a minimum of five years' experience, who are in good standing with their relevant registering body and professional association.

Psychiatrists interested in joining the RANZCP can register their interest in International Corresponding Membership via membership.ranzcp.org.

Malcolm Hopwood
President, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP)

■ ARGENTINEAN ASSOCIATION OF PSYCHIATRISTS

Argentinean Association of Psychiatrists Congress

We thank everyone for your participation in our **23rd International Congress of Psychiatry**, held from 28 to 30 October in the Auditorium of the Universidad Católica Argentina of Puerto Madero, with a total attendance of **4,099** professionals and students of mental health and related areas. We had 109 round tables, 48 posters, 31 courses, 26 conferences, 4 industry symposiums and 4 conferences were developed. It was attended by 15 foreign guests and 536 speakers. We appreciate the valuable collaboration of the pharmaceutical industry



and institutions that have made this event possible.

The AAP showed that interdisciplinarity is not a sermon, but a practice. The same occurs on a daily basis in our monovalent hospitals which, despite being despised by the system, remains the bastion of restraint

and care of dispossessed. We look forward to your presence at the **24th International Congress of Psychiatry** to be held from 5th to 7th October 2016.

Patricia Saavedra Camacho
Comité Organizador 23º Congreso
Asociación Argentina de Psiquiatras

■ ARGENTINEAN PSYCHIATRISTS ASSOCIATION

It is a pleasure to invite you to the XXXI Meeting of the Argentinean Psychiatrists Association (APSA) that will take place in the beautiful city of Mar del Plata (Argentina). Usually it is attended by more than five thousand Argentine colleagues and from other countries, which exchange their

experiences, research and everyday work enthusiastically.

This year we hope to gather our large community around a crucial topic considered very important in our present practice and educational programs: "Psychotherapy in Psychiatry". Hoping that you find this invitation interesting, we will be very glad if you decide to join us in Mar del Plata!



Analía Ravenna
President, Argentinean Psychiatrists Association

■ ECUADORIAN ASSOCIATION OF PSYCHIATRISTS - CORE PICHINCHA

The "Mental Health Conferences 2015" was held with excellent welcome from our associates and other mental health personnel. These events had the sponsorship of the Health Secretary from Ecuador, and the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador. On July 27 we had the meeting related to "Mental Health Team", on September 10 we discussed "Psychotherapy", on October 17 we presented "Liaison Psychiatry", and on

November 21 we had the theme "Sexuality".

On September 11 to 13 we supported a Neuro psychopharmacology Event in La Mirage - Cotacachi with special guests, on October 3 we had the Second Annual Sportive Meeting with our associates and their families for social integration, and on October 28 to 30 we had the II Meeting of



A psychiatrist meeting celebrated in Mompiche on October 29th, 2015.

Neuroscience in Mompiche-Esmeraldas; it was supported by WPA, APAL, and our National Association of Psychiatry.

We had some distinguished international participants such as Edgard Belfort, Enrique Camarena, Dinesh Bhugra, Pedro Ruiz, Javier Quintero-Gutierrez, Francisco Collazos, Xiorella Mazarella, and national

speakers like Leopoldo Abad and Fabrizio Delgado. The Association is developing Guides for Psychiatric Management of mental pathology, related with the Ecuadorian reality.

José Mosquera A.
President, Ecuadorian Association of Psychiatrists (2015-2016)

■ HELLENIC PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

The Hellenic Psychiatric Association in collaboration with the Society of Preventive Psychiatry and the Psychiatric Association for Eastern Europe and the Balkans has organized the **4th Psychiatric Congress of Eastern Europe and the 3rd International Congress on Preventive Psychiatry** in Athens on 12-15 November 2015 (www.preventive-psychiatry2015.com). The congress was a great success.

Highlights were the following:

- Panel discussion on “Dignity in Mental Health”, the theme of this year’s World Mental Health Day
- Five symposia on Psychiatric Preven-

tion: Genetic Psychiatric Counseling, Prevention in Childhood and Adolescence, Prevention in the Family, Prevention in the Armed Forces and Prevention in the Workplace

- There was a wrap-up symposium at the end with representatives of each of the five symposia, coordinated by Prof. George Christodoulou
- A symposium organized by the European Psychiatric Association under the leadership of Wolfgang Gaebel, Manuel Carrasco and Nikos Christodoulou on the Mental Health consequences of the current economic disaster
- Three impressive exhibitions of photographs and paintings

The Section on Preventive Psychiatry of the WPA played a cardinal role in the congress.



From the photographic exhibition of refugees (Dimitra Stasinopoulou).

Section officers Nikos Christodoulou, Olga Karpenko, Jennifer Newton, and Rodrigo Ramalho organized a special symposium of the Section.

George Christodoulou
Honorary President, Hellenic Psychiatric Association

■ ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS (UK)

On 10th November 2015 the winners of the Royal College of Psychiatrists’ awards were announced during a ceremony attended by some 300 guests at its headquarters in London. The awards are now in their 7th year. Royal College of Psychiatrists’ President Professor Sir Simon Wessely, congratulating the shortlisted candidates said “These awards ceremonies grow every year. It is so important to recognise and acknowledge the impact people make to the profession and to those people they help, and to remind ourselves of the fact that we do provide excellent psychiatric care.”

Presenting the Lifetime Achievement Award to Professor Peter Tyrer from the Imperial College’s Centre for Mental Health in London was journalist and author, broadcaster and political aide, Alistair Campbell. An outspoken ambassador for mental health, Mr. Campbell said “It is really important we have these awards to fight for what psychiatrist do. Shout louder about what you do; it has an impact.” Details of all the 2015 RCPsych Award winner can be found on <http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/discoverpsychiatry/rcpsychawards2015.aspx>



Presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Award to Prof. Peter Tyrer (left) by Alistair Campbell.

■ PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

The traditional Annual Symposium with international participation, XIV Psychiatric Days of Bosnia and Herzegovina, was held in Hotel "Saraj" in Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina) on 23rd-24th November 2015. This year we focused for the first time on mental health of the children, adolescents and women with main theme "Current topics from child and adolescent psychiatry and women's mental health". As in previ-

ous years, during our Annual Symposium was held the General Assembly with information and reports of the Association's activities in previous year as well as Action Plan (2015-16), presented by Prof. Abdulah Kučukalić, President of the PABH.

Our Symposium was co-organized by Department of Psychiatry, University Clinical Centre Sarajevo and supported by Medical Chamber of Sarajevo County who provided CME points for the Symposium. Course participants received specially designed



PABH General Assembly.

materials with course accreditation and Certificate of Attendance with CME points.

**Abdulah Kučukalić, President
Goran Račetović, Secretary General
Psychiatric Association of
Bosnia-Herzegovina**

■ ARMENIAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

On October 1st, 2015 Armenian Psychiatric Association and Centre for Psychosocial Regulation came up with new initiative - the opening of the first RECOVERY COLLEGE in Armenia and in the region. This kind of Social Enterprise Model is working in developed countries that are passing the deinstitutionalization process, such as England. Armenia had a unique advantage to skip all mental health reforms that European countries passed through and to apply best

practices and models available, such as RECOVERY COLLEGE at once.

The training is provided by mental health professionals and peer consultants or peer educators, who had an experience of recovery after serious mental health problem. The participants are not identified with the social role of the client or patient but they identify themselves as a student, which protects them from stigmatization and self-stigmatization. The RECOVERY COLLEGE will have first graduates on December 24, this year.



From L to R: Mane Shushanyan, Armen Soghoyan (Scientific Director of CPSR), Lusine Babayan, Narine Holikyan, Lilit Baghdasaryan, Gohar Mnatsakanyan, Nune Petryan, Svetlana Muradyan, Karen Manvelyan, and Meline Varagyan.

**Armen Soghoyan
President, Armenian Psychiatric Association**

■ INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL PSYCHIATRY

The 22nd National Conference of IASP Agra, November 6-8, 2015, co-sponsored by WPA and WASP was a great success. Prof. Mohd Muzammil, Vice Chancellor Dr B R Ambedkar University, Agra inaugurated the conference while Secretary General WPA Dr. Roy Abraham Kallivayalil addressed as the Guest of Honor. The scientific sessions were well attended by the delegates. "Car-

egivers - the fulcrum of social psychiatry in India" was the theme of the conference and key speakers were S K Khandelwal, Mohan Isaac, S K Chaturvedi, R C Jiloha, Debasish Basu, G Prasad Rao and Rakesh Chadda. Thanks to Organising Committee led by U C Garg and Anil Gaur and Executive Committee IASP led by Sudhir Khandelwal and B S Chavan for a successful event.

**UC Garg
Organising Committee**



22nd Annual Conference of IASP at Agra, India. WPA Secretary General Roy Kallivayalil lights the lamp. Also seen in the picture are BS Chavan, Prof. Mohd Muzammil (Vice-Chancellor), UC Garg, SK Khandelwal, and Rajiv Gupta.

■ NORWEGIAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

The Norwegian Medical Association (NMA) has prepared a report on the total health of persons with serious mental disorders called "A dignified life", published in April 2015.

The associations for adult and child & adolescent psychiatry challenged the NMA to put mental health on the agenda for all physicians in Norway, and the NMA answered by inviting the societies for mental health, dependency and general practice to prepare a joint document. The focus was set on the seriously mentally ill, and in particular their decreased life-length due to somatic co morbidities.

In her introduction to the report, the then President of the NMA Hege Gjessing called for early and correct diagnostics as a basis for joint action for persons with mental disorders, dependencies and dual diagnoses. Norwegian physicians want to support persons with serious mental disorders when they establish their independent, dignified life. We are hoping for a breakthrough.



Anne Kristine Bergem

Anne Kristine Bergem
President, Norwegian Psychiatric
Association

■ ITALIAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

The Italian Psychiatric Association (S.I.P.) held its 47th national congress, 11-15 October 2015 in the breathtaking venue of Giardini Naxos, just outside Catania (Sicily). Prof. Dinesh Bhugra, President of WPA addressed the meeting and outlined the current state in the field of psychiatry at an international level as well as the potential for growth of the discipline.

The themes included psycho-pharmacological and psychosocial treatments and reha-

bilitation in cases of severe mental disorders. The recent closing of the country's last six asylums for the criminally insane ("O.P.G.") was evaluated. During the conference, the Italian Psychiatric Association's General Assembly also renewed its administrative offices for the next three years, appointing as President Claudio Mencacci (Milan) on the hospital side and, as President Elect, Bernardo Carpinello (Cagliari) on the academic one. The two new Presidents voiced their

wishes for a close relationship and collaboration with sister societies at a European level, and for a growing role of Italian psychiatry within the WPA.

Massimo Clerici
Chairman, Italian Association for
Research in Schizophrenia

■ INDIAN PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY

The 68th Annual National Conference of Indian Psychiatric Society (ANCIPS 2016) is being held at the Peoples World, Bhopal, January 21-24, 2016. Two million people live in Bhopal in splendid harmony basking in the glory of its history and heritage. The great emperor Asho-

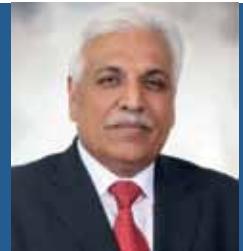
ka launched his peace offensive from here 2200 years ago! More than 125 symposia and workshops will run; 600 papers will be presented: a veritable feast for the academic gourmet. Unwind from high pressure academia by taking a leisurely cruise in the lake close to the venue.

The balmy winter of Bhopal is a perfect setting for bringing people closer. Please visit www.ancips2016.com for information.

VG Watve, NN Raju, Brig MSVK Raju
Indian Psychiatric Society

News from WPA Sections

WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections, Afzal Javed, afzal@afzaljaved.co.uk, afzal.javed@ntlworld.com



Message from Secretary for Scientific Sections

Welcome to the last edition of 2015 WPA News!

I am pleased that the WPA Scientific Sections have remained active during the last quarter of 2015. The Sections have organised different sessions and symposia during WPA sponsored and co-sponsored meetings. We have also been organising Intersectional educational programmes and Intersectional Forum at WPA conferences. This activity was well attended by young psychiatrists at WPA International Congress at Taiwan. The addition of Positive Psychiatry as a new Scientific Section adds further value to our list



WPA Operational Committee on Scientific Sections meeting in Taiwan, November 2015. Seated: Gordana Milavic and Gisèle Apté. Standing: Malcolm Hopwood, Afzal Javed, and Khachatur Gasparyan.

of Sections. Various Sections continued with their programmes on “Promotion of Mental

Health” as a part of WPA’s action plan for 2014-2017. The WPA Section on Religion, Spirituality and Psychiatry prepared their position statement and it is hoped that this will be published in *World Psychiatry*.

The new website of WPA has attracted many new additions from Sections for their respective pages and I am delighted that Sections are now using our website with more interest and enthusiasm.

Afzal Javed

WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections

WPA Intersectional Educational Programme, Taipei

Intersectional collaboration has emerged as an important theme in the Sections’ work during this quarter. It is in this perspective that WPA organizes special sessions, seminars, and forums in different international and regional meetings highlighting the contributions of Sections in academic and educational areas. A special session focusing on intersectional educational programmes was organised at WPA International Conference,



Attendees of WPA Intersectional Educational Programme session in Taiwan, November 2015.

Taipei, Taiwan November 18-22, 2015. The speakers included Prof. Thomas G. Schulze (Chair, Section on Genetics in Psychiatry), Prof. Cesar A Alfonso (Section on HIV/AIDS Psychiatry), Dr. Gordana Milavic (Section on Child and Adolescent Psychiatry), and Prof. Malcolm Hopwood, member, Sections Operational Committee.

Afzal Javed

WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections

HAVE YOU RECENTLY VISITED THE WPA WEBSITE?

→ **WWW.WPANET.ORG**

■ GENETICS IN PSYCHIATRY

Psychiatric Genetics Workshop at Cairo, Egypt, September 11, 2015

On Friday September 11, 2015, Dr. Vishwajit Nimgaonkar, WPA Genetics in Psychiatry Section Co-chair helped to organize a workshop on Psychiatric Genetics at the 5th International Conference of Mansoura University Psychiatry Department held at Cairo, Egypt. Along with Dr. Nimgaonkar, the workshop was led by Dr. Salwa Tobar, Professor of Psychiatry, Mansoura University and Dr. Alex-

andra Vieira, Associate Professor of Dental Surgery, University of Pittsburgh. The workshop included an initial didactic portion covering workshop covering formal genetic concepts, molecular methodology, phenotyping, genetic counseling, and societal issues. The didactic lectures were followed by an interactive workshop in which typical genetic counseling and ethical issues were discussed. Over 100 psychiatric faculty members, residents and medical students participated enthusiastically in the workshop.



A section of attendees at the workshop.

Vishwajit Nimgaonkar
Co-chair, WPA Section on Genetics in Psychiatry

■ RURAL MENTAL HEALTH

The WPA Rural Mental Health Section presented “Rural Global Health Symposium on providing services to communities and preventing Suicide” at the WPA regional congress at Kochi, India held in September. The symposium was well attended by delegates from India, New Zealand, and the UK. Some key pragmatic ways were identified to serve rural communities following a lengthy and lively discussion.

The Section also organised a workshop on “Train the Trainers in mental health using

the Global Mental Health Assessment Tool (GMHAT/PC)”. This was intended to provide training to experienced psychiatrists who could take a lead in training frontline workers on mental health. A multi-media workshop was well received by the delegates who have since taken projects of training rural and primary care workers in mental health.

Vimal Sharma
Co-chair, WPA Section on
Rural Mental Health



Vimal Sharma (Section Co-chair) presenting symposium at WPA Kochi, India.

■ PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION



At the WPA Regional Congress, Osaka, June 2015.

Our Section has been very active and organized workshop/symposium in many international meetings. At the 5th World Congress of Asian Psychiatry (WCAP) which was co-sponsored by the WPA, the Section organized a workshop

entitled “Promoting Psychosocial Rehabilitation in Asia” on 3 March 2015 at Kyushu University, Japan. Speakers included Tae-Yeon Hwang, Tadashi Takeshima, Abdul Kadir Abu Bakar, Su-Ting Hsu, and Imran Ijaz Haider.

At the WPA Regional Congress in Osaka in June this year, the Section presented symposium on “Partnership for Psychosocial Rehabilitation” with speakers composed of Afzal Javed, Tae-Yeon Hwang, Junichiro Ito, and Pichet Udomratn. This symposium was attended by many participants and generated a lot of interest on psychiatric rehabilitation. The Section also organized an international workshop

on “Psychosocial Rehabilitation: Needs and Opportunities” at the 14th Annual Meeting of the International Mental Health Conference which was held in Bangkok, Thailand. Michaela Amering, Nalaka Mendis, Golam Rabbani, and Afzal Javed were speakers while Pichet Udomratn was a discussant and chairperson for this workshop. The Section is looking forward to organizing future activities in the upcoming years.

Pichet Udomratn
Chair, WPA Section on Psychiatric Rehabilitation

■ PSYCHIATRY OF INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

The 10th Congress of European Association for Mental Health in Intellectual Disability (EAMHID) entitled "Integrating different ap-



From L to R: Johan De Groef, Marco O. Bertelli, Roger Banks, president elect, and Raymond Ceccotto, president EAMHID.

proaches in the neurodevelopmental perspective" was held in Florence (Italy) from the 9th-11th September 2015. In the neurodevelopmental perspective, the psychiatry of intellectual disability is finally moving from a marginal to a central place within general psychiatry. It contributes significantly to a new conceptualisation of mental health, starting from the link between early specific cognitive deficits and psychopathological vulnerability, specific difficulties in determining the grade of functional impairment, clinical distress and symptom detection. The considerable progress in this field that has been made in the last 30

years is reflected through the high and significant numbers reached by this congress. More than 650 participants from over 32 different countries around the world attended. Furthermore, four official publications were dedicated at the congress: two special issues of 'Advances in Mental Health & Intellectual Disability', one special issue of the 'Journal of Intellectual Disability Research', the official scientific journal of the EAMHID.

Marco O. Bertelli
Past Chair, WPA Section on Psychiatry of Intellectual Disability
Annamaria Bianco, CREA researcher

■ PSYCHIATRY AND HUMAN SEXUALITY

The Section was active with many members participating in varied activities. Dr. Dinesh Bhugra, President of WPA delivered the first Annual Oration of the Department of Psychiatry, JSS Mysore on 23rd September 2015. He spoke on "Psychiatry in the 21st Century". The annual Conference of Indian

Psychiatric Society 2016 at Bhopal in January will have a special session on Endocrines and Sexuality. A Newsletter on the Section is also being planned.

TS Sathynarayana Rao
Secretary, WPA Section on
Psychiatry and Human Sexuality



■ RELIGION, SPIRITUALITY AND PSYCHIATRY



Front row L to R : John Cox, John Peteet, Frederico Leão, Homero Vallada, Quirino Cordeiro, Uriel Heckert, Alexander Moreira-Almeida, Alexandre Rezende, Giancarlo Lucchetti. Back row L to R: Bernard van Rensburg, Alan Fung, Arjan Bram, Letícia Alminhana, Alessandra Lucchetti, and Anahy Fonseca.

Considering the action plan for 2014-2017 that the WPA Section on Religion, Spirituality and Psychiatry (WPA-SRSP) adopted towards the

end of 2014, much progress has been made in the past year to achieve the set outcomes. These include, e.g., that: a WPA position statement on Religion and Spirituality has been developed, submitted to WPA Executive Committee and formally adopted; the Section's website informing about news, events and resources (papers, books, videos, groups, research tools) has been changed and updated (www.religionandpsychiatry.org); and the first of three listed conferences/meetings - the *1st Global Meeting in Spirituality and Mental Health*, was held in Florianópolis, Brazil from 4-7 November 2015.

The next meeting of the Section is planned to be during the WPA International Congress in Cape Town, South Africa from 18-22 November 2016. The international profile of the WPA-SRSP has also been strengthened by collaboration with religion and spirituality interest groups/sections of national psychiatric associations in the UK, Netherlands, Brazil, South Africa, and the USA.

Alexander Moreira-Almeida, Chair
Bernard van Rensburg, Secretary
WPA Section on Religion, Spirituality and Psychiatry

■ URBAN MENTAL HEALTH

At the recently concluded WPA International Congress (WPA IC 18-22 November 2015, Taipei, Taiwan), The WPA Section on Urban Mental Health organized two Symposia. The first one was "Mental Health and Vulnerability in Urbanization" and the second one was "Impact of Urbanization to mental health-From Disaster to Internet Addiction and Hikikomori". Papers at both

symposiums covered key issues on urban mental health around the world. The Section will continue its scientific contributions at upcoming WPA congresses in 2016 and the WPA World Congress in Berlin in 2017.

Naotaka Shinfuku, Chair

Norman Sartorius, Co-chair

Takahiro A. Kato, Secretary

WPA Section on Urban Mental Health



From Left: Min-Soo Lee (Korea), Naotaka Shinfuku (Japan), Norman Sartorius (Switzerland), Helen Herrman (Australia), Atsuro Tsutsumi (Malaysia), and Pornjira Pariacharakul (Thailand).

News from Zonal Representatives

■ WPA ZONE 7 (NORTHERN EUROPE)

The Danish Psychiatric Association and the Joint Committee of the Nordic Psychiatric Associations hosted the 31st Nordic Congress of Psychiatry in Tivoli Congress Center from 20-23 September 2015. The Congress was a great success with 900 delegates representing 26 different countries. The majority of delegates were Danish, but all Nordic and Baltic countries had smaller or larger groups of psychiatrists attending. Both psychiatry and child/adolescent psy-

chiatry were represented during the Congress. The scientific program ranged from high quality state-of-the-art lectures to an abundance of symposia and posters representing new Nordic research but also other European and American perspectives on clinical best practice. Furthermore, the scientific committee ran a speakers contest for young scientists, and the three best posters were awarded. Throughout all days, the Congress venue

was also a forum for lively discussions and social networking among the delegates.

Now the task has been given to the Icelandic Psychiatric Association to arrange the 32nd Nordic Congress of Psychiatry I Reykjavik, Iceland from 13-16 June 2018.

Jyrki Korkeila

WPA Zonal Representative for Zone 7 (Northern Europe)

■ ZONE 1 (CANADA)

Approximately 1000 psychiatrists gathered in Vancouver in October 2015 for the Canadian Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting. A wide range of sessions addressed topics of interest to trainees and practising psychiatrists. The Distinguished Member Lecture by Dr. Elliot Goldner asked "What Will Improve the Mental Health of Canadians?". Over 300 people attended a plenary session by Kidnap Victim Amanda Lindhout who spoke about "Freedom in Forgiveness". A family physician who provides palliative care (Denise

Marshall), a critical care and palliative care internist (James Downar), and a psychiatrist who co-chairs the Professional Advisory Committee of Dying with Dignity (Derryck Smith) discussed issues pertaining to the 2015 Supreme Court of Canada ruling that physician-assisted death is the right of every mentally competent Canadian who is enduring intolerable suffering. As legal, regulatory and health professional experts try to understand how this will affect practice in 2016, this session was of special interest to psychia-

trists who will likely be included in capacity assessment for physician-assisted death. The session included practical considerations, ethical and moral aspects and broad reflections on existential issues such as suffering and attitudes toward death.

Donna Stewart

WPA Zonal Representative for Zone 1 (Canada)

■ WPA ZONE 12 (MIDDLE EAST)

The zone is in turmoil. Syrian, Yemeni, and Palestinian psychiatric societies have requested help in facing the demands on mental health. I am trying to organize some educational activities in the zone in the coming year with focus on refugees, displaced persons, and trauma. There is understanding of the situation in the Middle East and full

support for the initiative to help member societies in the zone to ameliorate the tremendous demands on the psychiatric services.

The situation in Gaza strip – Palestine is very difficult with one qualified psychiatrist for two million population with urgent needs. The newly elected President and executive

committee of the Syrian Arab Association of Psychiatrists are very active.

Walid Sarhan

WPA Zonal Representative for Zone 12 (Middle East)

■ WPA ZONE 10 (EASTERN EUROPE)

On September 23-26, 2015 in Kazan, jointly with the all-Russian Conference “Psychiatry at the stage of reforms: problems and perspectives” took place the XVI Congress of psychiatrists of Russia. Among the Congress participants were 1,257 researchers and practicing psychiatrists, psychotherapists, addictologists, medical psychologists, social workers, public health administrators from all Russian regions, as well as from the other countries. WPA was represented by Prof. H. Hermann and Dr. A. Soghoyan. The event schedule included 26

sections and 13 satellite symposiums, during which more than 400 reports were introduced, and over 1100 was reached in abstracts (authored by more than 1800 specialists). 327 representatives from 65 regional branches took part in the RSP Congress.

Prof. Nikolai Neznanov (St.-Petersburg) was elected President; Zurab Kekelidze (Moscow), Oleg Limankin (St.-Petersburg), Peter Morozov (Moscow), Kausar Yakhin (Kazan) became RSP Vice-Presidents.

Peter Morozov

WPA Zonal Representative for Zone 10 (Eastern Europe)



Opening ceremony of the RSP Congress.

■ WPA ZONE 2 (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

American Psychiatric Association (APA)



Medical leadership for mind, brain and body.

Psychiatrists, including APA International Members, are encouraged to visit the new APA Learning Center to review the catalog of availa-

ble online courses to complement and enhance their individual and group learning. The APA Learning Center provides over 200 activities on clinical and medical topics, such as psychotherapy, psychopharmacology, integrated care, and according to each psychiatry subspecialty. For more information, please visit <education.psychiatry.org>.

The APA was recently selected to be one of 39 U.S. based organizations to receive federal funding to train 3,500 psychiatrists over the

next four years in integrated mental health care. The 2016 APA Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 14-18, 2016, in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. For more information, please visit <psychiatry.org>.

Edmond Hsin-tung Pi

WPA Zonal Representative for Zone 2 (United States of America)

ehpi@usc.edu

■ WPA ZONE 15 (CENTRAL AND WESTERN ASIA)

On December 16, 2014 the massacre of children in Army Public School by terrorist left 150 children and teachers dead spreading a shock wave locally, nationally as well as in the region. Keeping in view the sensitivity of such incident Horizon NGO, WPA, WAPR and the Royal College of Psychiatrist South East Division collaborated for measure to activate post trauma skill development in stakeholders to include school teachers, students,

medical community, media, and religious leaders. As a first step a 4-day training symposium and workshop was organized by a local NGO Horizon and financially supported by Ibadat Hospital Peshawar, Pakistan.

Eminent Medical Scholar, Vice Chancellor Khyber Medical University Professor M. Hafizullah and Prof. Tariq S Mufti, Principal Rehman Medical College, Peshawar accept-

ed the perceived need to include the trauma management in undergraduate medical curriculum. WPA endorsed this whole activity as accredited CME.

Khalid Mufti

**WPA Zonal Representative for Zone 15
(Central and Western Asia)**

■ WPA ZONE 8 (SOUTHERN EUROPE)

A Zonal Symposium titled "Community Mental Health and Primary Care in Southern Europe" was held in the WPA Congress in Bucharest (26 June 2015).

The Italian reform, resulted in closure of all state hospitals and establishing a comprehensive network of outpatients and residential facilities, was introduced by Dr. Enrico Zanalda, Secretary of the Italian Psychiatric

Association. Similar reforms occurred in Israel and Cyprus. In most Southern Europe countries, General Practitioners (GPs) are already expected to diagnose, treat and manage mild to moderate mental illnesses. According to the OECD Report, 71% of patients in Greece, Italy, and Spain and 80% in Portugal seek help for psychological and emotional problems from the GP, much more often than from psychiatrists or psychologists.

There is a need to improve the coordination and integration of mental health and primary care.

Zvi Zemishlany

**WPA Zonal Representative for
Zone 8 (Southern Europe)**

News from Affiliated Associations

■ SPANISH SOCIETY ON DUAL DISORDERS

IX National Course on Dual Pathology and Gender, Toledo, 18-19 November 2015

This meeting dealing on 'Alcohol, Dual Pathology and Female Gender' has been organized by the Society's Board strongly supported by the Society's local members.

The differences in male/female dual disorders and alcohol should be highlighted, as they are to be associated, among other, to environmental conditions, neurobiological and psychosocial factors, profession, personality and education, all of which are conditioned by her gender. The recent programs created to face this situation of female gender, alcohol and dual disorders, are largely presented

in the course, as well as improving the awareness and providing updated new and more effective methods to approach women presenting these disorders.

Nestor Szerman

President, Spanish Society on Dual Disorders/Sociedad Española de Patología Dual (SEPD)

■ INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BIPOLAR DISORDERS

Dr. Ben Goldstein and Dr. Eric Youngstrom will present a three-part webinar series "Myth busting Pediatric Bipolar Disorder: Reviewing the Research to Improve Assessment and Treatment". The sessions will identify symptoms and risk factors, recognize frequency of occurrence in various settings, and explore available assessment procedures to aid in diagnosis and treatment response measurement.

Part I: Assessment - Wednesday, December 9th at 3:00pm EST

Part II: Biology - Wednesday, January 13th at 3:00pm EST

Part III: Treatments - Wednesday, February 10th at 3:00pm EST

Learn more and register at <http://www.isbd.org/education/webinar-series/upcoming-webinar-schedule>.

Membership enrollment and renewal is now open for 2016. Please visit www.isbd.org today to ensure that you receive your ISBD Membership benefits in the coming year!

Jill Olds

International Society for Bipolar Disorders

■ INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL APPROACHES TO PSYCHOSIS

The ISPS will be holding its 20th International Congress 'Making Real Change Happen' in Liverpool, UK - 30th August to 3rd September 2017. Confirmed plenaries include Jacqui Dillon, Jim van Os, Allison Brabban, and Grainne Fadden. Further information at <http://www.isps2017uk.org>.

The ISPS journal 'Psychosis' recently expanded to four volumes / year. The ISPS book series continues to expand each year and now contains over 20 books. The ISPS Charter of Good Practice in psychological therapies for people experiencing psychosis, and further information about the ISPS can

be found at www.isps.org; contact person: Antonia Svensson, International Organiser, isps@isps.org.

■ EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF PSYCHIATRIC TRAINEES (EFPT)

For many years now EFPT has supported the establishment of national trainee associations in countries where one did not exist yet. The EFPT Maintaining and Establishing a National Trainee Association Working Group (MENTA WG) saw significant changes to its activities this year.

In 2015, the EFPT MENTA WG also successfully helped establish three new national psychiatric trainees' associations in Europe: in Poland, Spain, and FYR Macedonia, bringing the total number of such associations to 35. The MENTA WG invites any enquires about establishing or maintaining a national train-

ee association from colleagues anywhere in the world. Please contact MENTA chair Dr Tomasz Gondek at enta-wg@efpt.eu or visit www.efpt.eu/wg/menta-wg/ for more information.

Howard Ryland

Secretary General, European Federation of Psychiatric Trainees

■ INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ETHNOPSYCHOLOGISTS AND ETHNOPSYCHOTHERAPISTS

The Mental Health Research Institute jointly with Section of Ethnopsychiatry of the Russian Society of Psychiatrists and the International Association of Ethnopsychologists and Ethnopsychotherapists organized carrying out the II Russian-Chinese Scientific-Practical Conference "Relevant Issues of

Biopsychosocial Rehabilitation of Patients with Affective Disorders" which took place on October 7, 2015 in Tomsk.

Nikolay Bokhan, President, IAEE

Irina Kupriyanova, Secretary, IAEE

Svetlana Vladimirova



Future WPA Scientific Meetings

February 2016

1-28 February 2016: "17th Edition of the International Virtual Congress Psiquiatria.com (Interpsiquis 2016)". Online. Organizer: Psiquiatria.com (Dr. Pedro Moreno and Dr. Jerónimo Saíz). Contact: Dr. Pedro Moreon Gea (pmoreno@psiquiatria.com) E-mail: congreso@interpsiquis.com Website: www.psiquiatria.com/interpsiquis2016

4-6 February 2016: WPA Regional Congress "Psychiatry and Society in the 21th Century", Manila, Philippines. Organizer: Philippine Psychiatric Association. E-mails: a) philpsych.org@gmail.com b) philippinepsych@gmail.com Website: <http://wpamanila2016.com>

23-25 February 2016: "2nd International Women's Mental Health Conference", Le Meridian Hotel, Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia. Organizer: King Abdulaziz Airbase Armed Forces Hospital. Collaboration: 1) International Association for Women's Mental Health 2) Saudi Psychiatric Association 3) Arab Federation of Psychiatrists 4) Saudi Commission for Health Specialties. Contact: Dr. Nada Al-Zaidi. E-mail: dr_nmz@hotmail.com Website: www.wmh-afh.com

25-27 February 2016: 3rd Annual International Congress of Cognitive Behavior Therapy "Beyond the basics: Into evidence-based practice", New Cairo, Egypt. Organizer: The Egyptian Association of Cognitive Behavior Therapy (EACBT). Contact: Dr. Reham Aly. E-mail: eacvt12013@gmail.com Website: www.eacbt.com/2016

March 2016

24-26 March 2016: 5th International Conference of Psychotraumatology and Mediation "War, Trauma, Migration and Global Mental Health for refugees in Developed and Developing countries", Geneva, Switzerland. Organizer: Institute of Psychotraumatology and Mediation. Contact: Dr. Issack Biyong. E-mail: ibiyong@ipm-int.org Website: <http://icpm-cipm.org/>

March-April 2016

29 March-1 April 2016: "Psychiatric epidemiology meets genetics: the public health consequences", Munich, Germany. Organizer: WPA Section on Epidemiology and Public Health. Collaboration: 1) WPA Section on Genetics in Psychiatry 2) University of Munich. Contact: Erasmus Conferences Tours & Travel S.A. E-mail: info@wpaepi2016.org Website: www.wpaepi2016.org/

April 2016

1-2 April 2016: 8th Malaysian Healthy Ageing Conference "Making Mental Health a priority for Healthy Ageing", Kuala Lumpur,

Malaysia. Organizer: Malaysian Health Ageing Society. Collaboration: Malaysian Mental Health Association. Contact: Dr. Philip George. E-mail: drphilgeorge@gmail.com Website: <http://8mhas2016.wix.com/mhas2016>

7-9 April 2016: 12th International Conference on Psychiatry "Psychiatry in General Medicine", Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Organizers: Saudi German Hospital & Saudi Psychiatric Association. Collaboration: 1) Psychiatric Hospital Jeddah 2) Egyptian Psychiatric Association 3) Institute of Psychiatry, Ain Shams University 4) Psychiatry Department, Cairo University 5) Motmaenna Psychiatric centre. Contact: Dr. Mohamed Khaled. E-mail: moh.khaled.hamed@gmail.com Website: http://jed.sghgroup.com.sa/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=293&Itemid=42&lang=en

14-16 April 2016: "XVIII Jornadas Nacionales de Patología Dual", Madrid, Spain. Organizer: Sociedad Española Patología Dual (SEPD). Contact: Dr. Nestor Szerman. E-mails: a) secretaria@secretariadual.com b) jornadas@patologiadual.es Website: www.patologia-dual.com

27-30 April 2016: WPA Regional Conference "Mental health, directions and challenges", Tbilisi, Georgia. Organizers: 1) Society of Georgian Psychiatrists (SGP) 2) Alliance for Better Mental Health (ABMH). Contact: Eka Chkonia. E-mail: geopsysociety@gmail.com Website: <http://wpatbilisi.ge>

29-30 April 2016: "MENAMAT/ECNP 4th International Psychosis and Anxiety Treatment Guideline Congress", Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Organizer: Global Communication and presentation Training INC (A Canadian registered Corporation). Collaboration: The Saudi Psychiatric Association /UAE ministry of Health and ECNP (European College of Neuropsychopharmacology). Contact: Dr Hany Shafey. E-mail: shafeyhi@gmail.com Website: www.menamat.com

May 2016

8-12 May 2016: "2016 International RANZCP Congress of Psychiatry", Hong Kong, China. Organizer: Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists. Collaboration: Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists. Contact: Malcolm Hopwood. E-mail: president@ranzcp.org

25-28 May 2016: 13th Congress of the European Federation of Sexology "Sexology; body, mind, and culture", Dubrovnik, Croatia. Organizer: European Federation of Sexology. Collaboration: Croatian Association for Sex Therapy. Contacts: a) Goran Arbanas b) Chiara Simonelli. E-mail: efs2016@aimgroup.eu Website: <http://web.aimgroupinternational.com/2016/efs/>

26-29 May 2016: "1st Congress on Evidence Based Psychiatry: From research to Clinical practice", Corfu, Greece. Organizer: International Society on Neurobiology and Psychopharmacology. Collaboration: WPA Section on Evidence Based Psychiatry (formerly: Section on Research Methods in Psychiatry). Contact: Dr. KN Fountoulakis. E-mail: kostasfountoulakis@gmail.com Website: www.psychiatry.gr

27-30 May 2016: "13th Annual Academic Sessions of Sri Lanka College of Psychiatrists and International Conference of AFPA", Colombo, Sri Lanka. Organizers: Sri Lanka College of Psychiatrists and AFPA. Contact: Prof. Samudra Kathriarachchi. E-mail: samudratk@gmail.com Website: www.slcppsych.lk

June 2016

2-4 June 2016: 112th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology (JSPN) "Psychiatry - Honest and true - Pilgrimage to the origin", Makuhari, Japan. Organizer: Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology (JSPN). Contact: Prof. Kazuhiko Nakayama. E-mail: jspn112@congre.co.jp. Website: www.congre.co.jp/jspn112/

2-4 June 2016: VI International Congress on Dual and Addictive Disorders "A Challenge for Humanity", Lisbon, Portugal. Organizer: Associação Portuguesa de Patologia Dual. Contact: Celia Franco. E-mail: celiacfranco@gmail.com

9-12 June 2016: XI Czech Psychiatric Association Meeting "Mental Health - Public Affair" Spindleruv Mlyn, Czech Republic. Organizer: Czech Psychiatric Association. Contact: Doc. Martin Anders (President) and Prof. MUDr. Jiří Raboch (Vice President). E-mail: cpssjezd@guarant.cz Website: www.cpssjezd.cz

July 2016

6-10 July 2016: WPA International Congress "Integrating clinical, community, and public health in psychiatry", Istanbul, Turkey. Organizers: 1) Psychiatric Association of Turkey 2) Turkish Neuropsychiatric Society. Contact: Dr. Levent Küey. E-mail: kueyl@superonline.com Website: www.wpaistanbul2016.org

September 2016

8-10 September 2016: International Conference on Schizophrenia (ICONS) Seventh Edition "Schizophrenia - the Puzzle and the Perspective" Chennai, India. Organizer: Schizophrenia Research Foundation (SCARF, India). Collaboration: Indian Psychiatric Society, WASP. Contact: Dr R Thara. E-mail: thara@scarfindia.org Website: www.iconsofscarf.org

September-October 2016

28 September-1 October 2016: "Psychiatrie au Futur! 2084", Brussels, Belgium. Organizer: SIP Société de l'Information Psychiatrique. Contacts: a) Gisèle Apter (gisele.apter@gmail.com) b) Jean Oureib (jean.oureib@gmail.com)

October 2016

12-15 October 2016: XV National Congress of the Serbian Psychiatric Association "Pathways and Crossroads of Psychiatry", Belgrade, Serbia. Organizer: Serbian Psychiatric Association. Contact: Dusica Lecic Tosevski. E-mails: a) dusica.lecictosevski@eunet.rs; b) dusica.lecictosevski@gmail.com

13-15 October 2016: "Forensic Psychiatry and Prison Psychiatry between Medicine and Law", Ohrid, Macedonia. Organizer: Psychiatric Association of Macedonia (FYROM). Collaboration: WPA Section on Forensic Psychiatry. Contact: Prof. Dr. Antoni Novotni. E-mail: prof.novotni@gmail.com Website: www.pzmak.com

20-22 October 2016: 14th International Conference of the Arab Federation of Psychiatry and 4th Conference of the Jordanian Society of Psychiatry "The future of Mental Health in Arab World". Organizer: Arab Federation of Psychiatry. Collaboration: Jordan Society of Psychiatry. Contact: Walid Sarhan E-mail: wsarhan34@gmail.com Website: www.pan-arab-psychiatrists-congress2016.com

27-29 October 2016: XIX National Congress of Psychiatry in 2016 "Psychiatry. On the first line of medical specialties", Palma, Majorca. Organizer: Spanish Society of Psychiatry. Contact: Prof. Miguel Bernardo

November 2016

18-22 November 2016: WPA International Congress "Psychiatry: Integrative Care for the Community", Cape Town, South Africa. Organizer: South African Society of Psychiatrists. Contact: Prof. Bernard van Rensburg. E-mails: a) bernard.sasop@mweb.co.za b) charlene@soafrica.com Website: www.wpacape2016.org.za

November-December 2016

30 November-4 December 2016: 22nd World Congress of Social Psychiatry - WASP 2016 "Social Psychiatry in Rapidly Changing World", New Delhi, India. Organizer: Indian Association for Social Psychiatry. Contact: Dr. RK Chadda. E-mails: a) drchavanbs@gmail.com b) secretariat@wasp2016.com Website: www.wasp2016.com

December 2016

15-17 December 2016: "The Asia Pacific Conference of IALMH", Bangalore, India. Organizer: Department of Psychiatry, MVJ Medical College & Research Hospital, Bangalore. Contact: Ganesan Gopalakrishnan. E-mail: sowmanasya@gmail.com

March-April 2017

30 March-2 April 2017: "V International Congress of Dual Disorders: Addictions and other Mental Disorders", Madrid, Spain. Organizers: Sociedad Española Patología Dual (SEPD). Contact: Dr. Nestor Szerman. E-mails: a) secretaria@secretariadual.com b) secretariat@icdd-congress.com. Website: www.icdd-congress.com

April 2017

19-22 April 2017: 18th World Congress of the World Association for Dynamic Psychiatry (WADP) "Creative processes in psychotherapy and psychiatry", Florence, Italy. Organizer: World Association for Dynamic Psychiatry (WADP). Collaboration: International Foundation Erich Fromm (IFE), Erich Fromm School of Psychotherapy, University of Florence, and others. Contact: Prof. Dr. Maria Ammon. E-mail: dapberlin@t-online.de Website: www.WADP2017.org

May 2017

25-28 May 2017: "5th International Congress on Neurobiology and Psychopharmacology", Chania, Crete, Greece. Organizer: International Society on Neurobiology and Psychopharmacology. Collaboration: 1) WPA Section on Psychiatry in Private Practice 2) WPA Section on Evidence Based Psychiatry. Contact: Dr. KN Fountoulakis. E-mail: kostasfountoulakis@gmail.com Website: www.psychiatry.gr

August-September 2017

30 August-3 September 2017: 20th International Congress of ISPS "Making Real Change Happen", Liverpool, UK. Organizer: The International Society for Psychological and Social Approaches to Psychosis. Contacts: a) Dr. Brian Martindale b) Antonia Svensson. E-mail: isps@isps.org Website: www.isps.org

October 2017

8-12 October 2017: WPA World Congress of Psychiatry "Psychiatry of the 21st Century: Context, Controversies and Commitment", Berlin, Germany. Organizer: German Association for Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics. Contact: Prof. Peter Falkai. E-mail: wpa2017@cpo-hanser.de Website: www.wpaberlin2017.com

MATTERS FOR WPA NEWS

Please send all matter for publication in the WPA News to Prof. Roy Abraham

Kallivayalil, Secretary General, wpasecretariat@wpanet.org.

A copy may be marked to roykalli@gmail.com

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WORLD PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION
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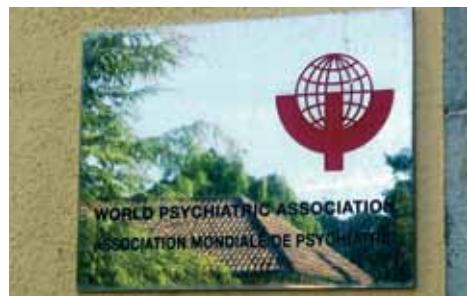
WEBSITE: WWW.WPANET.ORG

The World Psychiatric Association (WPA)

The WPA is an association of national psychiatric societies, presently 138, spanning 118 different countries and representing more than 200,000 psychiatrists.

The WPA organizes the World Congress of Psychiatry, International and Regional Congresses, and Thematic Conferences. With its 72 scientific sections, it promotes collaborative work in specific domains of psychiatry. It has developed ethical guidelines for psychiatric practice, including the Madrid Declaration.

Its website is currently visited from almost all countries across the world and the WPA News is widely disseminated. Various educational programmes and series of books had been produced including an E-Learning long distance programme. World Psychiatry, the WPA official journal, could be freely downloaded from PubMed Central and the WPA website (www.wpanet.org).



What are its Aims?

The core missions of the WPA include the following:

- To encourage the highest possible standards of clinical practice
- To increase knowledge and skills about mental disorders and how they can be prevented and treated
- To promote mental health
- To promote the highest possible ethical standards in psychiatric work
- To disseminate knowledge about evidence-based therapy and values based practice
- To be a voice for the dignity and human rights of the patients and their families, and to uphold the rights of psychiatrists
- To facilitate communication and assistance especially to societies who are isolated or whose members work in impoverished circumstances