Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Delighted to keep in touch with you! WPA had a very active period during the last three months. The most important event was the WPA International Congress, Cape Town, November 18-22, 2016. Theme: “Psychiatry: Integrative Care for the Community”. With more than 2,000 delegates attending, it was one of the most outstanding WPA Congresses ever held in Africa. The WPA Executive Committee, the Council and the Board also met at Cape Town and considered several matters concerning mental health and our Association. Heartiest congratulations to the South African Society of Psychiatrists, Bernard van Rensburg and their dedicated team for their excellent work.

Many of our leaders and members also participated in the International Conference on Schizophrenia held at Chennai, September 8-10, 2016, the International Mental Health Congress, Moscow, October 7-8, 2016 and the 22nd World Congress of Social Psychiatry, New Delhi, December 1-4, 2016. These events were co-sponsored by the WPA and I could participate in all of them and interact with our members. We also held a meeting of the member societies in Zone 10 at Moscow on October 8th, which was very well co-ordinated by Peter Morozov. We now look forward to the WPA meetings to be held at Cuenca, Ecuador, February 8-11, 2017, Vilnius in May 2017, and above all to the World Congress of Psychiatry, October 2017.

Please visit our newly designed website www.wpanet.org and send us your valuable comments. Wishing you happiness, peace and prosperity in the New Year.

Roy Abraham Kallivayalil
Secretary General
World Psychiatric Association

Dinesh Bhugra
President
World Psychiatric Association

St. Moritz - Mirror-like lakes, glaciers, jagged peaks, alpine forests, and oodles of sunshine make St. Moritz (in Switzerland) one of the world’s top mountain destinations. Palatial hotels and pricey restaurants are par for the course at this chic resort town, which has hosted two winter Olympics. In an alpine valley 1,800 meters above sea level, the town is divided into two parts: St. Moritz Dorf sits on a sunny terrace overlooking the Lake of St. Moritz. The other part of town, lakeside St. Moritz Bad on the valley floor, is a health resort with less expensive lodging.

The Second World Mind Matters Day on 5th September saw the launch of the WPA Report on Social Discrimination against individuals with mental illness. This report was launched formally in the House of Lords in London. A Bill of Rights for people with mental illness was also launched. It has the support of 61 international organisations and if your organisation has not signed this please add your support.

Full details of the discrimination survey were published in a special issue of International Review of Psychiatry volume 28(4). The contents are available online.

On the International Children’s Day on 20th November, WPA launched a Bill of Rights for children and young people. Developed by Dr. Gordana Milavic and Professor Bennet Leventhal and colleagues, it is available on the WPA website.

WPA-Lancet commission on Psychiatry report is expected to be published by Lancet Psychiatry early next year.

Recent Position Statements include one on environmental sustainability and on high quality training.

We had a very successful round table meetings on violent radicalisation hosted by the WPA Collaborating Centre in London and another one on early Interventions in Psychiatry hosted by Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists.

The work on setting up Diploma in Psychological Medicine aimed at psychiatrists continues apace and we hope to launch it next year.

We are still looking for examples of good clinical practice so that we can learn from each other. Please keep them coming.

Please check the website regularly and get involved.

Season’s Greetings to you and your loved ones and all stakeholders.

Dinesh Bhugra, CBE
President
World Psychiatric Association
It was a great pleasure to welcome more than 2,000 delegates to the WPA International Congress in Cape Town (WPA2016). The organizers have worked hard to ensure a comprehensive program which was aimed at setting the agenda on a number of issues. This includes Psychiatry’s and Psychiatrists’ Social Contract, as well as forming continental alliances for integrated mental health in Africa.

The Congress program had five main tracks, including neuroscience, psychotherapy, social involvement, cultural-religious-spiritual contexts in which clinical problems present, as well as integrative care - systems and the networking required to provide different levels of services in a multi-sectoral environment. The program included pre-congress lectures in Johannesburg and Cape Town, 11 pre-congress workshops, 70 lectures (9 keynote, 23 invited and 38 parallel), 122 symposia (regular, sectional, zonal and workshops), 38 oral presentation sessions, 176 poster presentations. Considering the Congress theme of Psychiatry: Integrated Care for the Community, through the WPA2016 Local Organising Committee’s Creative Arts Sub-Committee, the organizers prepared a significant creative arts component integrated into the congress proceedings.

Bernard J van Rensburg
Chair, Local Organizing Committee & President,
South African Society of Psychiatrists (SASOP) 2016-2018

WPA EC and SASOP Organising Committee: Prof. M. Takeda, Prof. M. Riba, Prof. B. Janse van Rensburg, Prof. Roy Kallivayalil, Dr. Mvuyiso Talatala, Dr. Gerhard Grobler, Dr. Ian Westmore, Prof. Edgard Belfort, Prof. Helen Herrman, and Prof. Dinesh Bhugra.

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
From the President-Elect

Next year brings a special chance for all of us to meet. As you are aware, the WPA XVII WORLD CONGRESS OF PSYCHIATRY takes place from 8–12 October 2017 in Berlin, Germany. The joint hosts are the WPA and the German Association for Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics (DGPPN).

The World Congress is an ideal occasion to take stock of the state of psychiatry in the 21st Century and the direction of future developments. We are looking forward to five excellent and successful congress days with an outstanding scientific program, fruitful discussions and attendees from all over the world.

Prof. Peter Falkai and I as chairs of the scientific committee cordially invite you to help us shape the scientific program. I do hope that you will initiate and participate in symposia, workshops and debates and in oral and poster sessions. As clinicians, researchers, service developers and policy makers and as leaders and members of our member societies, scientific sections and affiliated societies we welcome your suggestions. Please enrich the congress program and submit your abstract by the dates shown on the website at www.wpaberlin2017.com/registration/call-for-abstracts.html. Dr Julie Holzhausen at the Scientific Secretariat on +49-(030)-2404-77218 or wpa2017@dgppn.de is ready to help, as are all of us in the Scientific Committee. We look forward to your scientific contribution and to seeing you in Berlin next year.

I also look forward to meeting in Ecuador and Lithuania before the World Congress; and to following up the discussions at congresses in Australia and in Mexico in 2018.

In the meantime, I hope you can look back on your year’s work with satisfaction and see positive change ahead. I join in wishing you peace, health and satisfaction for 2017.

Helen Herrman
WPA President-Elect

From the Secretary for Scientific Meetings

The WPA International Congress in Cape Town (18-22 November 2016) was a great success. On behalf of the EC of WPA, I would like to congratulate the chair of the Congress, Bernard van Rensberg and colleagues of the South African Society of Psychiatrists (SASOP). The Cape Town Congress has turned out to be an unforgettable event for all of the participants because of its high level scientific program, vivid discussion among speakers and audience, enjoyable social events, and warm hospitality of our colleagues in Cape Town.

The 17th World Congress of Psychiatry will be held in Berlin, 8-12 October next year (2017) in collaboration with the German Association for Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics (GDPPN), under the theme of “Psychiatry of the 21st Century: Context, Controversies and Commitment” (www.wpaberlin2017.com). Considering the rich program with high scientific caliber, the coming World Congress will be the most important one for psychiatrists all over the world.

WPA organizes different kinds of meetings, including World Congress, International Congress, Regional Congress, Thematic Conference, in addition to co-sponsored meetings. The World Congress of Psychiatry is the largest one with several thousand participants in every three years. The past World Congress were 16th in Madrid (2014), 15th in Buenos Aires (2011), 14th in Prague (2008), 13th in Cairo (2005), 12th in Yokohama (2002), 11th in Hamburg (1999), and 10th in Madrid (1996). The World Congress of Psychiatry is the most important event for WPA in terms of science and finance.

Masatoshi Takeda
WPA Secretary for Scientific Meetings

HAVEN YOU RECENTLY VISITED THE WPA WEBSITE?

WWW.WPANET.ORG
From the Secretary for Scientific Sections

Welcome to the new addition of WPA News!
I am pleased that WPA Scientific Sections are actively promoting and disseminating scientific knowledge around the globe. With an impressive number of Sections (now 72) their work has been acknowledged across a number of domains including teaching, training, clinical and academic areas.

WPA's international congress at Cape Town witnessed a big presence of our Sections. The Scientific programme included 28 symposia / workshops / Round table sessions organised by WPA Sections. This meeting was indeed well represented by the Sections and WPA as well as the local organisers are thankful to all Sections for their keen interest in this meeting.

Similarly, Sections business meeting was attended by more than chairs or representatives of more than 25 sections where we discussed current updates about sections functioning.

We hope for a continuous enthusiasm of Sections' leadership for their next years work towards further contributions to the excellence of scientific knowledge and the development of innovative approaches in psychiatric practice.

Afzal Javed
WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections

From the Secretary for Finances

Dear colleagues,

Summarizing the second year of the current EC, we can surely confirm that all main financial problems are now resolved. The main potential financial revenues are collected thanks to all organizations that were paying fees very punctually. We hope there won’t be any problem connected with the payments by the organizers of the congresses.

Only expenses that are necessary for the regular functioning of the organization, and those which are extremely necessary in long-term perspective are carried out, and as promised, the purpose is not to reduce the expenses but to increase effectiveness of expenditures.

Currently, the issues of membership fees and the development of a new scale of voting strength are being discussed in the Planning Committee. The results of this discussion will be submitted for your consideration soon. Since the current election procedures were established about 15 years ago, they no longer reflect real relations and should be revised.

Accordingly, in 2017 the WPA General Assembly will take place and of course, the election of governing body. I urge to be more careful and responsible towards the issues of nominating and election of candidates. It is very important to have leaders with high organizational and professional skills in governance of such a large organization as WPA. During the course of our association’s history there were times when high organizational skills were combined with the high academic level, but it’s more of an exception. Being a member of the nomination committee, I, obviously, will not be able to support any candidate, but my call is to elect the candidates with high organizational qualities.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to wish Happy New Year and Merry Christmas to all of you, good health, happiness and every success.

Armen Soghoyan
WPA Secretary for Finances

HAVE YOU RECENTLY VISITED THE WPA WEBSITE?

➔ WWW.WPANET.ORG
From the Secretary for Scientific Publications

Dear Colleagues,

It is with deep respect, admiration and joy that we report that under the expert leadership of WPA Past President Mario Maj, *World Psychiatry* has become Number 1 among psychiatric journals in terms of impact factor (new value: 20.205), also entering the top 50 of all scientific journals indexed by Thomson Reuters. We congratulate Professor Maj on this incredible achievement and sincerely thank him for the important scientific work he is bringing to us, throughout the world.

The Operational Committee on Scientific Publications had an excellent meeting in Belgrade, Serbia. Co-chair Dusica Lecic-Tosevski, Professor Peter Tyrer, and Chair Michelle Riba were invited to participate, at the invitation of Professor Lecic-Tosevski in the XV Congress of Serbian Psychiatric Association, Belgrade, Serbia, October 12-15, 2016. Several members of the Operational Committee made presentations at the WPA IC Cape Town. Prof. Christopher Szabo has helped to organize a symposium regarding publications.

The members of our Committee are:

Michelle Riba - Chair
Dusica Lecic Tosevski - Co-chair
Reinhard Heun
Peter Tyrer
Christopher Szabo
Alfredo Cía
Prabha Chandra
Joao Mauricio Castaldelli-Maia

Prof. Heun continues to work with Presidents of the WPA Member Societies, letting them know of our desire to include various open access journals to the WPA website, under scientific publications. This would be a way to provide free learning resources for researchers and clinical psychiatrists worldwide. We asked our Presidents to propose national journals that would be perceived as relevant for this WPA website, as well as to obtain any necessary permissions. We have appreciated the wonderful support and help from our WPA Secretary General Roy Kallivayalil and the WPA Executive Committee for their advice and support of this effort. We have received such enthusiastic response from so many Presidents. Prof. Prabha Chandra has so graciously offered the help of an excellent research assistant who will help in collating and organizing the material. Please let us know if you have suggestions, ideas or relevant journals that can be uploaded to this site. You can contact me at mriba@umich.edu or Professor Heun.

We are very pleased to report on the innovative project, the WPA Iberoamerican journal Library in Spanish, that has been organized by Professor Alfredo Cía, who is the Website Director and Scientific Editor. It is a project aimed to gather, in a single website, all the psychiatric journals published in Spanish in digital version, searching by means of keywords (including issues of the last 2 years), having a permanent update on the arrival of new issues, with open and free access to registered health professionals.

The following journals in Spanish have been incorporated into the website:

1. *World Psychiatry* (WPA, spanish version)
2. *Revista Latinoamericana de Psiquiatría de APAL* (Latino American Psychiatric Association)
3. *Psiquiatría y Salud Menat* (Sociedad Española de Psiquiatría)
4. *Revista Chilena de Neuro-Psiquiatría* (SONEPSYN)
5. *Revista de Psiquiatría del Uruguay* (SPU)
7. *Trastornos del Ánimo* (Unidad de Trastornos Bipolares, Univ. de Chile)
8. *Sinopsis* (Revista de la Asociación de Psiquiatras Argentinos)
9. *Alcmeon* (Revista de la Asociación Argentina de Psiquiatras)
10. *Anxia* (Revista de la Asociación Argentina de Trastornos de Ansiedad)
11. *Revista Colombiana de Psiquiatría* (ACP)

We are indebted to Professor Cía for his extraordinary work and passion for this Project and his devotion towards the community, in the areas of prevention and psychoeducation.

In addition, over the last several months, several of our WPA colleagues have asked for the WPA logo to be used for new books that will be published. We have a process for this review and for providing the WPA logo. If you are planning on publishing a book that you think would benefit from having the WPA logo, please let me know so that I can send you the documents that will be reviewed prior to the release of the logo.

Other important projects:

We look forward to a WPA Book from our dear colleague from Paraguay, Professor Julio Torales, which will be geared towards medical students and residents. We applaud the work of our dear colleague Professor Petr Morozov, who is helping to translate scientific works into Russian/English and who has been an active member and colleague in WPA Scientific Publications.

As always, we appreciate the excellent work from our Secretariat, Secretary General Roy
From the Secretary for Education

We are pleased to inform you of the preparations of several roundtables on current issues of interest (e.g. Emigration and Mental Health, Adolescence and Violence, Poverty). During the WPA International Congress in Cape Town last November took place the roundtable: Principles and Priorities in a Training Curriculum in Psychiatry. During the 22nd World Congress of Social Psychiatry in New Delhi in November 30-December 4, we also participated in the Symposium: Integrating Social Psychiatry and Global Mental Health in Medical Education: A New Way Forward, obtaining information of relevance for our Core Curriculum.

In December 2016, we have finished with the first educational online course: Expert in Mental Health Emergencies (Alcala University, Henares, Madrid, Spain), with good impact, certifying 45 Ecuadorian psychiatrists - by Alcala University. We are planning to translate the course into English for its appliance in South Africa and East Europe. Likewise, the online course ‘Intercultural Competence in Health Context’ of the Vall d’Hebron University Hospital, Barcelona, Spain, beginning: January 2017.

WPA Educational Activities:
1. Zone 3 Activity and WPA Secretary for Education, Dominican Society of Psychiatry, VIII National Congress, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, October 20-22, 2016. Round Table: Migration and Mental Health. Good attendance and excellent evaluation. The round table resulted in a consensus that was given to the Minister of Health.

2. APAL - Latin America Psychiatric Association, Antigua, Guatemala, October 29-November 1, 2016. WPA Speakers: Dinesh Bhugra (UK), Helen Herrman (Australia), Silvia Gaviria (Colombia-Zone 4), Virginia Rosabal (Costa Rica-Zone 3), Edgard Belfort (Venezuela). Excellent evaluation and contributions.

3. Round Table: Adolescence and Violence, Mexico DF, Mexico, November 23, 2016. WPA Attendants: Dinesh Bhugra (UK), Virginia Rosabal (Costa Rica-Zone 3), Edgard Belfort (Venezuela). Results: Mexican Declaration, Prevention and rehabilitation treatment of violence effects on adolescent’s mental health. It was published and promoted in social mass media TV and Press.

4. WPA International Congress, Cape Town, South Africa, November 18-22, 2016. Lecture: Postgraduate training curriculum in Psychiatry in developed and developing countries. Round Table: Principles and Priorities in a Training Curriculum for Psychiatrists. Operational Committee on Education Meeting. Core Curriculum in Psychiatry: WPA Educational Perspective, define the role and profile of psychiatrists at present and in the coming years and Training Curriculum. Attendents: Dinesh Bhugra (UK), Edgard Belfort (Venezuela), Maria-Luz Casimiro-Querubin (Philippines), Michel Botbol (France), Bulent Coskun (Turkey), Fabrizio Delgado (Ecuador), Silvia Gaviria (Colombia), Marc Hermans (Belgium), Roger Ng (Hong Kong), Pedro Ruiz (USA).


Edgard Belfort
WPA Secretary for Education

Abraham Kallivayalil, Pamela Atiase, and Francesca Sotgiu who help develop and produce World Psychiatry Newsletter and the leadership of President Dinesh Bhugra and President-Elect Helen Herrman.

Thank you and happy and healthy holiday season to all.

Michelle Riba, M.D., M.S.
WPA Secretary for Scientific Publications
OBITUARY

Prof. Costas Stefanis

IN MEMORIAM:
COSTAS STEFANIS
(1928-2016)

Psychiatry is a discipline and a profession of great complexity from several viewpoints, and one with a variety of declared aspirations and ideals. To delineate that complexity and to profess those aspirations and ideals is not very difficult, and if you do that, people (your fellow psychiatrists, other mental health professionals, colleagues of other medical disciplines, residents, students, patients, their relatives, journalists, the general public) will listen to you with various degrees of attention and trust. But much more powerful and cogent will your argument be – as always happens within communities of human beings – if you can put forward a model, a prominent example of a person who has been able to concretely incarnate through his life that complexity and to successfully pursue those aspirations and ideals. For psychiatry of the past fifty years and of many years to come, Costas Stefanis has been and will be such a person.

If one crucial element of the complexity of psychiatry is to preserve its identity as a clinical discipline, deeply rooted in the realm of medicine, while at the same time being genuinely and concretely community oriented, providing its users with a wide range of services (including housing, employment, education, support in everyday living and in crisis situations) as close as possible to the place where they live, then this is something that Costas Stefanis has been able to put in practice and to promote at the international level for several decades. He has been an outstanding clinician and an internationally recognized scholar in several areas of clinical psychiatry – depression being just one of them – while being at the same time a pioneer of community psychiatry in his country and at the international level – in concrete terms, well beyond mere statements and formal endorsements.

If another essential element of the complexity of psychiatry is the multiplicity of vulnerability, protective and precipitating factors which interact in the etiology of mental disorders, and the difficulty to build up models of that interaction and to plan, organize and implement truly integrative research programmes, then this is something that Costas Stefanis has been able to address successfully both in the institutions he led in Athens (the University Department of Psychiatry and the University Research Institute of Mental Health) – where he established intensively interacting research units in experimental neurophysiology, neurochemistry, developmental neurobiology, sleep and chronobiology, as well as social psychiatry and psychiatric epidemiology, epidemiology of psychoactive substance abuse, and evolution of mental health services – and at the international level, through his scientific production and his leadership of a variety of organizations and committees, including the World Psychiatric Association and the International Committee for Prevention and Treatment of Depression.

If some degree of political involvement is becoming increasingly common for psychiatrists working in the community at a certain level of responsibility, but this involvement should ideally not consist of an empty ideological commitment or a narrow-minded activism in favour of a group or a faction, being used instead as an opportunity to improve the strength and the image of one’s profession and to promote concrete initiatives in favour of the entire population and in particular of patients and their carers, then this is what Costas Stefanis has been able to achieve, especially during his mandate as Minister of Health of his country and – for a certain period – President of the Council of Ministers of Health of the European Union. Among these achievements are the endorsement by the Council of Ministers of a document on Mental Health and Stigma Against Mental Illness, which has become a reference point for several national programmes in that area, and the approval by the Greek Parliament of some major laws on public health, on reform and decentralization of health services, and on the organization of primary health care, including provisions for prevention and social reintegration.

If a major problem, but at the same time a significant richness, of psychiatry has always been the coexistence within the discipline of a variety of theoretical orientations, which need to be harmonized in a coherent unitary framework, then the work of Costas Stefanis as the President of the World Psychiatric Association for six years (1983-1989) has been exemplary, marking the ending – to quote his own words in a paper he published at the end of his mandate1 – of “an era marked by internal rifts and seething conflicts”, through the establishment within the Association of a variety of scientific sections constructively interacting with each other.

If a priority for our profession is to actively promote the rights of persons with mental health problems while avoiding to become a passive instrument of special
interest groups driven by ideological allegiances, then the work of Costas Stefanis in leading the production of the WPA Statement on the Rights and Legal Safeguards of the Mentally Ill, adopted by the WPA General Assembly in Athens in 1989, and in obtaining the revision, in 1984, of a draft of a United Nations document on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities – that was going to depict psychiatry, had he not successfully intervened, as a prison system from which patients have to be protected – has been of paramount importance.

Thus, if we need today a model to put forward in order to document the peculiar complexity of our discipline and our commitment to pursue its declared aspirations and ideals, Costas Stefanis has provided us with such a model through his life and professional career. And it is with humility and respect that we honour today his memory.

Mario Maj
WPA Past President (2008-2011)

Reference
Summit meeting for psychiatry and psychotherapy

It’s happening in autumn 2017: the WPA WORLD CONGRESS OF PSYCHIATRY, one of the most important scientific congresses. Where does the field of psychiatry and psychotherapy stand today? What demands are being made of the field? What can it do? And what impulses can be expected from medical research? Under the overall theme “Psychiatry of the 21st Century: Context, Controversies and Commitment” international experts from science, politics and society will deal with these complex issues and examine them from various perspectives.

Register now for the WCP 2017 and submit your scientific contribution!

Enrich the congress programme with your scientific contribution and share your insights with other professionals. Whether in a fascinating symposium, informative workshop or interesting poster presentation, scientists and practitioners have many and varied opportunities to actively participate.

Renowned experts from all over the world, including Andreas Kruse (Germany), Graham Thornicroft (United Kingdom), Prabha Chandra (India) and Jair de Jesus Mari (Brazil) and many others, will give insights into current findings from science and care. The educational programme of the congress will also allow you to study certain topics in more depth and update your knowledge.

IMPORTANT:
The deadline for abstract submission for Regular, Zonal and Section Symposia and Workshops has been extended to 6 February 2017.


Julie Holzhausen, Scientific Secretariat
Phone: +49 30 240477218
Email: wpa2017@dgppn.de
SLOVAK PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

The XIIth Slovak Psychiatric Convention was held in Košice, Slovakia on 23-25 June 2016. The event was organized by the Slovak Psychiatric Association. As the biggest event in the Slovak mental health society with a long tradition, it was attended by 474 delegates, mainly from all over Slovakia, as well as invited guests from Czech Republic and other countries. Dr. Afzal Javed, WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections delivered a plenary talk on “Recovery & Psychosocial rehabilitation: Current updates”. The main theme “Psychiatry and Medicine Nowadays” was communicated in more than 100 oral presentations, 20 posters and 6 workshops. Social activities gave an opportunity for delegates to spend a pleasant time in this lovely Slovakia’s second largest city.

In Slovakia, we are also looking forward to the 17th Czech and Slovak Psychiatric Convention with the main topic, Together for Changes in Psychiatry, organized by the Slovak Psychiatric Association in October 2017. The event will be held in Bratislava. We hope that this topic will open not only current scientific topics but also the dialogue about active cooperation of Slovak and Czech mental health professionals. It is our great pleasure that our event is WPA co-sponsored. We welcome you to join us. All the information is available at the website: www.psychiatry.sk.

Lubomira Izakova
President, Slovak Psychiatric Association

PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

XV Psychiatric Days of Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Symposium XV Psychiatric Days of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo, 11-12 November, 2016) was organized by the Psychiatric Association of Bosnia-Herzegovina in collaboration with Clinic for Psychiatry (University Clinical Centre) Sarajevo and was held under the EPA patronage and with WPA co-sponsorship. The main topic of the meeting was “Psychiatry and Medicine Nowadays”, communicated in more than 100 oral presentations, 20 posters and 6 workshops. Social activities gave an opportunity for delegates to spend a pleasant time in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The capture for the picture can be Discussion after the sessions. In the picture are: Prof. Norman Sartorius (Switzerland) as discussant (standing right), Prof. Abdulah Kučukalić (BH) standing. In first row (sitting) are from right to left: Prof. Miro Jakovljević (Croatia), Profs. Izet Pajević and Mervludin Hasanović, and a young colleague from Bosnia and Herzegovina.
The 24th World Congress of Psychiatric Genetics (WCPG) was held in the Jerusalem International Convention Center on October 30 - November 3, 2016. “This is the first time that the WCPG comes to Israel. One of the main reasons we succeeded in bringing this meeting to Jerusalem is the high level of research in Israel in general and in this field too” said Dr. Yoav Kohn, chairman of psychiatry at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical Faculty.

The conference’s theme was: Bridging the gap between genes, brain function and psychiatry. Many sessions discussed the biological significance of the findings of the effect of genetic changes on brain function, as found in studies in humans and in animal models. Other sessions discussed ethical implications of genetic research and our ability to give patients the results of genetic tests under conditions of current knowledge. The conference was attended by approximately 360 psychiatrists and researchers in basic sciences from about 40 countries, including 80 from Israel. There were five plenary lectures by some of the best researchers in the world, 2 workshops, 15 symposia, 8 sessions of oral presentation and more than 130 posters. The scientific quality was very high. One of the highlights of the conference was the guest speaker, European Prize winning writer Amos Oz, who spoke about his book “A tale of love and darkness” based on his mother who died of suicide.

Haim Belmaker, President
Israeli Psychiatric Association
Yoav Kohn, Chair, WCPG 2016, Jerusalem
The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) is pleased to introduce an International Corresponding Membership category for specialist qualified psychiatrists outside of Australia and New Zealand. For more information, including the International Corresponding Membership annual fees and application form, please visit https://www.ranzcp.org/Membership/About-membership/Becoming-a-member.aspx

RANZCP 2017 Congress, Adelaide, Australia, 30 April – 4 May 2017

The Annual Congress of the RANZCP will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre in 2017. The conference, with the theme ‘Speaking our minds. Telling our stories’ will boast an exciting and comprehensive scientific program with international keynote speakers including, Professor Anthony Bateman (UK), Professor Sir Mason Durie (New Zealand), Professor Navneet Kapur (UK), Dr. Charles Kellner (USA), Commissioner Professor Helen Milroy (Aust), and Professor Dame Til Wykes (UK).

The program will also feature twenty pre-congress workshops covering an array of sub-specialties and interest areas; two debates, clinical updates on anxiety disorders, PTSD, and psychotherapy; and an Asia Pacific Mental Health Forum. We look forward to welcoming you to Adelaide in 2017.

International Engagement, 2016

In 2016, as the RANZCP President, I have had the opportunity to participate in a range of stimulating scientific conferences throughout the world. It has been a great privilege to have participated in the WPA’s regional conference in collaboration with the Philippine Psychiatric Association in Manila, and the International Congress held with the South African Society of Psychiatrists in Cape Town. It has been a very stimulating year and I look forward to continuing the close connections developed along the way between the RANZCP and all those I have worked with throughout the year.

Malcolm Hopwood
President, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists
SRI LANKA COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

We have grown from 36 members in 2003 to 103 in 2016. With the expansion of the College, new activities have started - the continuous professional development program and introduction of sub-specialties such as child psychiatry and forensic psychiatry to name a few.

A decades old terrorist movement ended in 2009. With the return of peace, many psychiatrists have returned to Sri Lanka sacrificing the luxuries and benefits they received in the western countries. The main objective of the College in the coming years will be to empower our psychiatrists who now are deployed throughout the island. While further strengthening the continuous professional development program, steps are being taken to provide robust infrastructure for them to deliver their services optimally. The College commencing at the constitutional level will expand with the collaboration of the Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka and other governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. Research will be another area that will be strengthened. We thank the WPA for their continuous support.

Chathurie Suraweera
Hon Secretary, Sri Lanka College of Psychiatrists

SYRIAN ARAB ASSOCIATION OF PSYCHIATRISTS

On world mental health day, 10th of October 2016, the Syrian Arab Association of Psychiatrists collaborated with GOPA-DERD in implementing a workshop under the name of “mental health in Syria, problems and solutions”. The workshop included a show presented by DERD’s Psycho-social Support program’s team with the title “multiple methods of approaching regarding post trauma and the accompanied depression”. Subjects included psychiatry in the community and teaching it in Syria with the continuous crisis, in addition to implementing two workshops that handled mental health problems in Syria and their suggested solution. We have also launched our website psysyr.org.

Mazen Hedar
President, Syrian Arab Association of Psychiatrists

L to R: Dr. Carolin Mohsen, Prof. Mazen Hedar, Dr. Abdulkhader Alhasan, Dr. Solaiman Kasoha, and Dr. Fadi Jreej.

MEXICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

The Mexican Psychiatric Association recently, on November 2 and 3 in Mexico City, organized the Round Table Adolescence and Violence. The WPA President Prof. Dinesh Bhugra was our main guest with Dr. Virginia Rosabal, and Prof. Edgard Belfort, from WPA.

Our Fiftieth Anniversary Congress was held in Mexico City “Fifty years of compromise with Psychiatry, Medicine and Mental Health” on November 18-21, 2016.

Next year, on November 16-20, 2017, we will have our National Congress “Psychiatry and Mental Health: Neuroscience, Clinical Psychiatry and Socio Community”. The event will be held in Merida Yucatán in the southern part of Mexico.

Enrique Chávez León
President, Mexican Psychiatric Association
**Indian Psychiatric Society**

This year, we have organized core office bearer meetings, EC meetings, special consensus meetings on Mental Health Care Bill, co-sponsoring of National and International conferences and many more CME programmes under the able leadership of the Chairpersons and Conveners of the Sub-Committees/Specialty Sections/Task Forces. It’s really a year full of academic feast. Members of the Indian Psychiatric Society have given consensus opinion on Mental Health Care Bill; a position statement was issued on behalf of IPS and was successfully handed over to Hon. Minister of Health Mr. J.P. Nadda, Govt of India in the Parliament, New Delhi by the President Dr. G. Prasad Rao, Vice-President Dr. (Brig) MSVK Raju, Immediate Past President Dr. Vidyadhar Waive and Hon. General Secretary Dr. Gautam Saha.

The Indian Psychiatric Society welcomes you to the Annual National Conference at Raipur, Chattisgarh, India from 3rd January to 8th January 2017. For more information, please visit www.ancips2017.com

G Prasad Rao, President
Gautam Saha, General Secretary
Indian Psychiatric Society

**Indian Association for Social Psychiatry**

We have organised the 22nd World Congress of Social Psychiatry, New Delhi, November 30-December 4, 2016 which was a grand success with 1,100 delegates from 50 countries participating. It offered rich scientific content with 15 Plenary Lectures, 75 symposia, 15 workshops, 18 free paper sessions, 10 poster sessions, other special sessions and a dedicated Young Psychiatrist Tract attended by 32 awardees from all over the world. The Congress was co-sponsored by WPA.

Prof. Tom Craig delivered the Presidential address and Prof. Julian Leff, the Yves Pelicier Prize Lecture. Prof. Norman Sartorius, Prof. Stephen Scott, Prof. Dinesh Bhugra, Prof. Vijoy K Varma, Prof. Eliot Sorel, Prof. Vikram Patel, Prof. Helen Herrman, Prof. Mohan Isaac, Prof. Driss Moussaoui, Prof. Lawrence Kirmayer, Prof. José Miguel Caldas de Almeida, Prof. RS Murthy, and Prof. Roy Kallivayalil delivered Plenary Lectures. Cultural and musical evenings added to the traditional Indian hospitality. The WASP General Assembly elected the following new office bearers for 2016-2019:

- President
  - Prof. Roy Abraham Kallivayalil (India)
- President-Elect
  - Prof. Rachid Bennegadi (France)
- Secretary General
  - Prof. Fernando Lolas (Chile)
- Treasurer
  - Prof. Marianne Kastrup (Denmark)

Also, please treat this as our advance invitation for the 23rd WASP Congress to be held in Paris, November 20-22, 2019.

Rakesh Chadda, Chair, Org Committee
BS Chavan, Secretary
Indian Association for Social Psychiatry

**Psychiatrists’ Association of Nepal**

We are pleased to announce the 6th National Conference of the Psychiatrists’ Association of Nepal (PANCONKTM 2017) to be held on 17-18 February 2017 at Kathmandu. It is our privilege to extend a warm invitation to you for your valuable participation. Theme: “Mental Health Access To All”. Venue: Hotel Annapurna, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Date: 17-18 February 2017
Website: www.webpan.org

E-mail: pancon2017@gmail.com
Nirmal Lamichhane
General Secretary, Psychiatrists’ Association of Nepal (PAN)
ARMENIAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

The first Community Care House was opened in Armenia (Spitak City) in April 2016. It is a first community based institution for people with long-term mental health problems. Before that, the persons with mental and intellectual disabilities who need shelter were residing in Vardenis Nursing Home, where there were about 450 people or in psychiatric hospitals. The complex preparatory work preceded the opening of Care House in cooperation with Armenian Psychiatric Association.

The place for new Community Care House was selected with special attention. It was decided to situate Community House in Spitak City, one of the cities of Armenia that was almost destroyed by severe earthquake back in 1988 and now reconstructed. By the end of April 2016, the Community House started to operate. During the first two months, new residents adapted to new conditions, opportunities and freedom. Residents began to participate in the Community House life, acquiring independent living skills. Residents began to get acquainted with neighbors and now the Community House is open for guests and visitors. At this point, we can state that the reintegration program succeeds and hope that the community supported housing will soon replace large closed institutions as a modern approach for social reintegration.

Armenian Psychiatric Association and the Center for Psychosocial Recovery have created Stress and Pain Management Center in Yerevan, Armenia (September 16, 2016). Stress and Pain Management Center is the first center of its type in the region. The Center aims at comprehensive approach to the problems of stress and pain prevention, diagnosis, management and treatment process. During this short time period the experts of the Center had participated in more than a dozen TV programs, interviews, conferences, had organized theoretical and practical courses and trainings on interconnection of pain and stress, palliative care, stress management, stress response resources development, art therapy and relaxation techniques in stress management. The center cooperates with the Armenian Association for the Study of Pain.

Armen Soghoyan
President, Armenian Psychiatric Association

ITALIAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION (SOCIETA ITALIANA DI PSICHIATRIA)

During 2016 various media conferences were organized and articles on the free online press were published to make the public opinion aware about issues as: cannabis legalization, psychiatric treatment of depression, the closing of forensic psychiatric hospitals and the Involuntary Commitment. Soon the 4th 2016 edition of the Journal “The Evidence Base Psychiatric Care” will be disposable on the website www.psichiatria.it.

On top of that in collaboration with the Press Italian association (UNAMSI) three events (Milano 20 June 2016, Roma 25 October 2016, Napoli 14 November 2016) were organized to improve the way newspaper writes about psychiatry and psychiatric patients,
The 34th Brazilian Congress of Psychiatry - 34th BCP - was held in São Paulo in November 2016. It was the “BCP Gold” of the Brazilian Association of Psychiatry as part of its 50th anniversary. There were more than 160 scientific sessions and nearly 500 psychiatrists speakers, scientists, and researchers from Brazil and 50 of them from abroad. Antonio Geraldo da Silva, President of the Brazilian Association of Psychiatry (BAP) was the Chairman of the 34th Brazilian Congress of Psychiatry – BCP.

During the 16th Annual Meeting of the International College of Geriatric Psychoneuropsychopharmacology” and “5th International Congress on Psychiatry and the Neurosciences”, 6-8 October 2016, Athens, Greece, co-sponsored by WPA, the above three Sections contributed to the scientific program with the following events:

- The symposium “Diagnosis and Intervention for neuroprogression in psychiatric disorders” organized by the WPA Section on Immunology and Psychiatry; it was chaired by A. Halaris (USA) & M. Maes (Australia) and the difficulties of our public mental health services due to economic crisis and the increase of duties especially after the closing of forensic hospitals. During the national congress on depression (November the 11th and 12th), a national campaign against depression was launched together with the President of the Italian senate health commission.

Claudio Mencacci, President
Bernardo Carpiniello, President-Elect
Enrico Zanalda, Secretary General
Italian Psychiatric Association

News from WPA Sections
WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections, Afzal Javed, afzal.javed@ntlworld.com

WPA Intersectional Seminar titled “Applicability of immunological, sleep research and evidence-based approaches in Clinical Psychiatry”. Faculty seen in front row are (L to R): D. Dikeos, K. Fountoulakis, C. Soldatos, and A. Halaris.
AFFECTIVE DISORDERS

The International Society for Affective Disorders (ISAD) represents the World Psychiatric Association’s Section on Affective Disorders. ISAD is hosted at the world renowned Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience, King’s College London. Prof. Jan Scott, University of Newcastle, UK, is the current Chair of the section, Prof. Sagar Parikh, University of Toronto is Co-chair, and Prof Gregor Hasler, University of Bern is Secretary.

ISAD held a joint meeting with the International Society for Bipolar Disorders in Amsterdam on 13th to 16th July 2016. It was a meeting of two of the most influential and important meetings of the mood disorders community: The 18th Annual Conference of the International Society for Bipolar Disorders held jointly with the 8th Biennial Conference of The International Society for Affective Disorders. Prof. Allan Young is the President of the ISAD, and Dr. Manuel Sanchez de Carmona is the President of the ISBD. This was our largest international mood disorders conference attracting over 1100 delegates. The meeting offered young researchers an amazing opportunity to present their work with a dazzling variety of posters, over 470, in three separate sessions. There is a short movie available on You Tube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dunY9xt8kpo

Caroline Loveland
Section on Affective Disorders

FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY

Our Section has had a busy year. The highlight for the Section was the very successful WPA co-sponsored International Conference on Forensic Psychiatry “Forensic Psychiatry and Prison Psychiatry between Medicine and Law”, in Ohrid, Macedonia in October 2016. In lovely surroundings at Lake Ohrid, about 150 delegates from a range of European countries as well as North and South America, Asia and Australia spent three inspirational days exchanging knowledge and ideas on best practice in prison and forensic psychiatry. Our special thanks go to Prof. Antoni Novotni and the Psychiatric Association of Macedonia (FYROM) for the excellent organisation of the event.

L to R: Prof. Norbert Konrad, Prof. Helen Hermann, Dr. Nicoletta Tataru, Marija Ralева, Vesna Sendula Jengic, Harald Dreßing, and Prof. Antoni Novotni.

At the WPA International Congress in Cape Town we have partnered with the Section on Early Career Psychiatrists to organise a session on training in forensic psychiatry in different countries. This is a very important session as attracting, training and retaining young colleagues is crucial for the strength of our specialty in the future.

Looking ahead, we are planning to submit a number of sessions for the World Congress in Berlin, covering a range of topics. We also hope to offer a workshop on risk assessment. Hope to see you there!

Birgit Völlm
Secretary, Section on Forensic Psychiatry
There was an International Symposium on Sexual Medicine and Psychiatric in the last Portuguese Congress of Psychiatry of the Portuguese section that had as speakers Mario Lourenço, Susana Renca, and Angel Luis Montejo (from Salamanca University) which I presided with Fatima Gysin.

In relation to other initiatives for the next year (2017) that have the collaboration of the members of our section as lecturers or participants, we can enumerate the following meetings: WAS Congress in Prague in May, the APA meeting in June in San Diego, the Congress of Portuguese Language Association (ASMELP) in June in Cape Vert.

We are also preparing two symposiums for the next World Congress of WPA – Berlin.

We are organizing two chapters in books on Human Sexuality with articles of some of our colleagues; one on ADVANCES IN PSYCHIATRY to be edited by WPA and the other PSYCHOBIOLOGY OF HUMAN SEXUALITY ed. by Prof. Kostas Fountoulakis.

Solution-Focused Therapy and Positive Psychiatry

As physicians shift care from a disease-centered clinical method, there is a need for a compatible counseling paradigm. The Solution Focused approach is a competency-based model that minimizes emphasis on past problems and failings and instead emphasizes patients’ best hopes for their desired future, strengths and resources. Solution-focused therapy is an evidence-based, brief therapy, practical approach that is uniquely adapted and easily integrated within patient centered care. It fits very well within positive psychiatry, and utilizes language that is both hopeful and optimistic. Solution-focused therapy puts ownership of patients’ health back into their hands, eliciting the control, authority, and responsibility over their own lives. Expanding hope and pos-
A roundtable on banning the participation of psychiatrists in the interrogation of detainees was successfully held at the WPA meeting in Cape Town. Sadly, we are concerned about the upheaval of human rights in the context of global development, involving refugees and displaced individuals. In 2016, we have seen vulnerable groups, especially torture survivors and unaccompanied minors trying to escape war and persecution in their own countries, being increasingly mistreated or denied protection along route or in host countries. In the case of torture survivors, an increasing number of reports show that this group is denied protection as stipulated in the UN CAT, including forced return to countries where they have been subjected to maltreatment. Harassment, denial of travel and academic freedom, and even imprisonment of fellow medical doctors and psychiatrists who offer healthcare and expertise for victims of torture in their home countries has been reported, of which notable mentions are Professor Aida El Dawla (Egypt) or Professor Sebnem Korur (Turkey). Our Section encourages so much needed support by the international medical community for our colleagues, that lives to the ethical demands of both the WPA and WMA ethical codices in critical situations.

Gabriel Diaconu
Co-chair, Section on Psychological Consequences of Torture and Persecution

EARLY CAREER PSYCHIATRISTS

2nd Congress of Early Career Psychiatrists

The Congress took place in Athens, Greece on 20-23 October 2016 with the theme of “Bridging Science and Culture”. The congress is the result of the fruitful collaboration of the Early Career Psychiatrists Section, Young Psychiatrists Network, the Early Career Psychiatrists Council of the European Psychiatric Association and the ECPs section of the Hellenic Psychiatric Association. Many other ECPs associations were also involved. The congress had 152 participants from 29 different countries.

The organizing committee consisted of Raphael Psaras (Greece)-Congress President, Athanasios Kanellopoulos (Greece)-Congress Vice-President, Hussien Elkholy (Egypt)-Congress Honorary President, Olivier Andlauer (France), Nikolaos Kokras (Greece) and Christina Dalla (Greece). Medical students are acknowledged for assisting the organizing committee and attending the congress, which hopefully will positively impact their view of psychiatry. The congress is one of the main successes of the ECPs section collaborations, achieving its main purpose to promote networking and enhance professional exchange among early career psychiatrists worldwide.

Hussien Elkholy, Mariana Pinto da Costa, and Prashanth Puspanathan
Section on Early Career Psychiatrists

8-11 FEBRUARY 2017


Organizer: Ecuadorian Association of Psychiatry. Collaboration: WPA/WPA Secretariat for Education. Contacts: a) Dr. Leopoldo Abda (leopoldo.abad.teran@outlook.com) b) WPA Secretory for Education, Prof. Edgard Belfort (belfort.ed@gmail.com)
HIV/AIDS PSYCHIATRY

Members of the WPA Section on HIV/AIDS Psychiatry met at the APM Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas on November 11, 2016 where Dr. Kelly Cozza chaired a course on antiretroviral and psychotropic medication management for persons with HIV, and Dr. Brent Hagar chaired a symposium on the neuroscience of HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders. As part of an invited series of articles in Psychiatric Times by Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine Special Interest Groups, members published: Cohen MA, Cozza KL, Bourgeois J, Moghimi Y, Douaihy A. The role of psychiatrists in HIV prevention. Psychiatric Times 3/22/16 http://www.psychiatrictimes.com/comorbidity-psychiatry/role-psychiatrists-hiv-prevention


Please note that our Section now has a new listserv address: hiv-aids@list.apm.org

We invite you to attend our meetings and explore our web page at: http://apm.org/sigs/oap

We welcome new members and invite you to join our SIG at: http://www.apm.org/sigs/oap/signup.shtml

Mary Ann Adler Cohen, Chair
Jordi Blanch, Secretary
Section on HIV/AIDS Psychiatry

PSYCHOANALYSIS IN PSYCHIATRY

National Symposium: Contributions of Psychoanalysis to the clinic of problematic abuse
The psychiatrists are confronted nowadays, paradigmatically, with clinical situations of problematic abuse disorders and the relationship with the subjectivity that carries them. We emphasize the encounter between the personality with the substance, the object of use and abuse is contingent, the determinant is the previous personality.

Chair: Dr. Graciela Onofrio (Argentina)
Secretary: Dr. Juan Carlos Fantin (Argentina)
Speakers: Dr. Juan Carlos Fantin (Arg), Dr. Juan Eduardo Tesone (Arg), Dr. Graciela Onofrio (Arg), Dr. Santiago Levin (Arg)

National Symposium: Civilization and its Discontents: contemporary readings
Chairs: Dr. Guillermo Belaga (Argentina) and Dr. Graciela Onofrio (Argentina)
Speakers: Dr. Virginia Ungar, Dr. Silvia Baudini, Dr. Gustavo Stiglitz and Escuela de Orientación Lacaniana

These events will be held during the XXXII Congreso Argentino De Psiquiatría, April 26-29, 2017 at Mar del Plata, Argentina.

Graciela Onofrio
Secretary, Section on Psychoanalysis in Psychiatry

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
Professor Otero was born in Havana, Cuba in 1940, where he lived and worked until his death on March 4, 2016. Through a distinguished academic and research career he became Professor of Psychiatry at Havana University and Editor of the prestigious Revista del Hospital Psiquiátrico de La Habana. Along with Professor Carlos Acosta he created and edited the pioneering Glosarios Cubanos de Psiquiatría as national adaptations of the Mental Disorders chapters of the 9th and 10th revisions of the International Classification of Diseases. This fundamental work stimulated the development of APAL’s Latin American Guide of Psychiatric Diagnosis, which he led along with Professors Carlos Berganza and Javier Saavedra. His scientific stature and creativity was also displayed by his chairmanship of the Section of Classification and Diagnosis of both the Latin American Psychiatric Association and the World Psychiatric Association. While carrying out these responsibilities, he cultivated a legion of friends and colleagues across the world who deeply admired and loved him. We all recognized in him a human being with unparalleled love for truth, sensibility, honesty and generosity, as well as a gifted musician and poet, who marked with ethical humanism all what he did and touched.

Juan Mezzich, Carlos Berganza, Javier Saavedra, Ihsan Salloum, and Michel Botbol on behalf of WPA Section on Classification, Diagnostic Assessment and Nomenclature

Happy and Prosperous New Year 2017 to all our readers!
News from WPA Zonal Representatives

ZONE 1 (CANADA)

A Position Paper on Europe Migrant and Refugee Crisis has been released and is on the WPA website.

A Position Paper and Competency-Based Curriculum on Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Violence against Women has been developed by Donna Stewart (Canada) and Prabha Chandra (India) with an international advisory committee. This Position Paper and Curriculum have been approved by the WPA EC and are now posted on the WPA website under “News”, “Position Papers and Curriculum”, and “Action Plans”. Since the Curriculum was released last month the WHO, and several universities, including an Ontario medical school have indicated that they will use it to teach medical students, residents and update practising psychiatrists.

I have been a contributor to WPA News, CPA News Express, the Canadian Journal of Psychiatry and an upcoming edition of World Psychiatry relating to my WPA-CPA work. I have presented at WPA and CPA Congresses.

Donna Stewart
Zonal Representative for Zone 1 (Canada)

ZONE 2 (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

In the United States, mental health is a bipartisan issue affecting millions of Americans from all walks of life. The American Psychiatric Association (APA) pledges to continue its progress to improve mental health in the United States and work with President-Elect Donald Trump’s administration to ensure America’s population receives the care they need. Following a recent report by the U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Vivek Murthy, drawing attention to the current drug and alcohol addiction public health crisis in the United States, APA President Dr. Maria A. Oquendo, supported the call for collective coordinated action to help prevent alcohol and drug misuse.

Courses and lectures on current treatments of substance use and addictive disorders by internationally recognized experts and organizations will be available at the upcoming APA Annual Meeting, 20-24 May 2017 in San Diego, California. Psychiatrists and trainees outside the United States are encouraged to review the preliminary meeting guide online at psychiatry.org/annual meeting and register early to secure their accommodations.

Psychiatrists and trainees are also encouraged to consider joining the APA as an international member through psychiatry.org/international.

Edmond H. Pi
Zonal Representative for Zone 2 (United States of America)

ZONE 3 (MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN)

We have been working on the Plan of Action presented in 2014 giving technical expertise to psychiatrists of different countries of Zone 3 and working the Policy of Mental Health with Health Sector in Costa Rica, coordinating with the psychiatric associations of Guatemala, México and Dominican Republic to perform Round Tables, with the Costa Rican Migration authorities and Health Sector a Round Table in Mental Health and Migration was also realized in two parts. We have conducted WPA Symposia in Guatemala, in Costa Rica, and the Dominican Republic.

Virginia Rosabal
Zonal Representative for Zone 3 (Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean)
## ZONE 4 (NORTHERN SOUTH AMERICA)

We are working to inform and be a bridge between the WPA and the associations of the different countries that I represent and to promote the inclusion of issues related to the mental health of women in the agenda of the congresses that are developed in the region. This year we have celebrated the VI International Congress of Women’s Mental Health, with the support of IAWMHA. We also aim to promote the development of a curricular reform for the teaching of psychiatry, which should favor the education based on competences. For them we have been working with the Education Secretary of the WPA and his team.

Silvia L. Gaviria
Zonal Representative for Zone 4
(Northern South America)

## ZONE 5 (SOUTHERN SOUTH AMERICA)

On the occasion of APSA Congress, held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, from April 26 to 30 2016, took place the Second WPA Zone 5 Regional Meeting. The main theme was: Emergent and main problems from Psychiatry in the South Cone. Psychiatric experts and authorities from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay confirmed their participation. The conclusions obtained in the Meeting were shared in wpanet.org. A Statement with the conclusions has been attached to this report (below).

This WPA digital library, to be launched at the beginning of 2017, will be useful to different users in around 25 countries, especially health professionals and students who cannot access conventional libraries, owed to geographical or scarcity of time reasons.

The WPA Zone 5 national psychiatric associations of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay during a Regional Meeting, arrived at the following conclusions:

1) MENTAL HEALTHCARE POLICIES: Some of our countries have passed mental healthcare laws. In some nations, these laws proved to be obsolete and barely applicable to the present scenario. We believe that the national psychiatric associations should have an active participation in the elaboration of mental healthcare bills.

2) PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING: Physicians receive poor training in mental health. We must retrieve the value of the physician and the psychiatrist role in particular as essential members of the interdisciplinary team in mental healthcare.

3) ADDICTIONS: Abuse and addiction disorders have increased representing a problem for public healthcare. Despite the constant production of new illegal substances, alcohol abuse and dependence keep standing as the most prevalent problem. We face a scenario of an ever-growing number of addicts and consumption at a younger age.

4) VIOLENCE IN SOCIETY: All around the region, violence in its many forms has significantly increased, especially against vulnerable groups.

5) STIGMA AND SEGREGATION: Stigma and segregation towards those with mental disorders and towards the psychiatric and mental health care practice.

6) CONDITIONS OF PSYCHIATRY PRACTICE: Administered Medicine nowadays is exerting inappropriate pressure on the conditions of psychiatric practice; consultation timing is reduced, psychopathological perspective is undermined and therapeutic tools are limited.

Alfredo H. Cía
Zonal Representative for Zone 5
(Southern South America)
**ZONE 6 (WESTERN EUROPE)**

In this year’s work as WPA representative for Zone 6 I followed my plan aiming at using all the opportunities to reinforce or develop the links established with the Western Europe member societies. I undertook the following:

1) In relation with the Royal College of Psychiatrists (UK), I was able to get involved in the editorial committee of International Psychiatry (British Journal of Psychiatry International) in which I have been appointed for various contributions.

2) In relation with the World Association of Dynamic Psychiatry and ALFAPSY (both WPA affiliated associations) we organized a two-day symposium in Munich in June 2016 on the psychotherapeutic training in Psychiatry.

3) As WPA Zonal Representative and on behalf of the French Federation of Psychiatry, I have also been appointed as member of the auditing committee on the place of psychiatry in the determinants and in the follow up of radicalized adolescent and their follow up.

4) On behalf of the French Federation of Psychiatry and with the help of several colleagues from Western Europe, we are preparing a survey on the current educational system for Psychotherapy in Psychiatry.

5) I also did all I could to find a way to bring back French Psychiatry in UEMS in both, General and Child Psychiatry.

Michel Botbol  
Zonal Representative for Zone 6  
(Western Europe)

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**ZONE 7 (NORTHERN EUROPE)**

In April 2016, the meeting of the joint committee of the Nordic Psychiatric Associations was held in Stockholm. I represented WPA at these meetings where we discussed matters regarding past and future Nordic Psychiatric Congresses. Additionally, the JC_NPA publishes two journals, Nordic Journal of Psychiatry and the Nordic Psychiatrist. The next congress will be held in 2018 in Reykjavik. I have worked with the Lithuanian Psychiatric Association in order to arrange the Inter Zonal Congress in Vilnius in May 2017.

I have disseminated to the national association and provided material for the Bulletin. I participated in “People on the Move” (Refugee crisis in Europe) symposium in Hamburg organized by the WPA-TPS. I gave a talk on this subject at the FPA Conference in Helsinki. I have disseminated the information to the Nordic Psychiatrist. I will also keep close contacts directly with each national association and dissemination of information and inquires when necessary.

Jyrki Korkeila  
Zonal Representative for Zone 7  
(Northern Europe)

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**ZONE 8 (SOUTHERN EUROPE)**

Some of the Zonal activities during September-November 2016 and 2017

1) November 19th, 2016: A Zonal symposium within the WPA International Congress, Cape Town. Topic: Integrating Primary Care and Mental Health in Southern Europe.

2) November 20th, 2016: A lecture by me, titled: The central role of the General Practitioner (GP) in the integrative care in the community.

3) December 13th, 2016: The Israeli Psychiatric Association will host Prof. Wolfgang Gaebel, President of EPA. Prof. Gaebel will talk about difficulties psychiatry is facing in Europe and the use of mechanical restraints in European countries.

4) 2017: Zonal meeting in Milan, Italy in collaboration with the Italian Psychiatric Association and the Italian Association for Research in Schizophrenia (Dr. Zanaila).

5) 2017: An additional Zonal Conference will be organized in a different country (most probably in Greece) and then in the Berlin WPA Congress.

6) Three contributions from the Zone appeared in WPA News.

7) The WPA Directory 2015 and 2016 is updated regularly by the Zonal Representative.

Zvi Zemishlany  
Zonal Representative for Zone 8  
(Southern Europe)
Some of the activities were:
• Organization and support of mutual exchange of young psychiatrists, and participation of all national associations to the 2nd World Congress of Early Career Psychiatrists, Greece, November 2016.
• Organization and support to different educational and training activities organized in the WPA Zone 9.
• Collaboration with the South Eastern Health Network – Mental Health Unit WPA Zone 9 (SEE network).
• Support of exchange of expert, and trainees among zone associations.
• Initiatives for establishment of joint projects in the WPA Zone 9 (researches EU programmes).

Stojan Bajraktarov
Zonal Representative for Zone 9 (Central Europe)

The 6th Meeting of the Presidents of the WPA Zone 10 psychiatric societies took place in Moscow, Russia on October 7, 2016. The Meeting was attended by the Presidents of most psychiatric societies of the Eastern European WPA Region: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, and Russia. The Representative of Ukraine had been invited but was unable to attend the Meeting. For the first time three members of the WPA Executive Committee - Roy A. Kallivayalil (WPA Secretary General), Afzal Javed (Secretary for Scientific Sections), and Armen Soghoyan (Secretary for Finances) - participated in such a meeting.

After welcoming the participants, the WPA Regional Representative Prof. Petr Morozov informed the Presidents about the development of the WPA Zone 10 Action Plan. Participants discussed the series of overview from the last EPA Congress, presented by 10 young psychiatrists from the countries of the WPA Zone 10 in the framework of the East European Educational WPA-Servier Academy. The Presidents agreed on the rules of its publications. They discussed also the question of translation of the WPA journal “World Psychiatry” into Russian, further organization of a of Symposium “25 Years After - Psychiatry in Post-Soviet Space” with the participation of the psychiatric leaders of the WPA Zone 10.

The next Meeting of the Presidents of the WPA Zone 10 psychiatric societies will take place in October 2017, during the WPA World Congress in Berlin.

Petr Morozov
Zonal Representative for Zone 10 (Eastern Europe)

The 3rd annual Armed forces psychiatry congress was held on 4-6 May 2016 with the title “Recent and important issues in psychiatric practice and knowledge” in the Military academy in Cairo. The congress was co-sponsored by the WPA and included national and international speakers. Al-Azhar International Psychiatric congress was held on 7-8 September in Meridien Heliopolis, Cairo. There were a total of 450 attendees from different institutions and Arab countries with lots of topics discussing recent updates in psychiatric practices with special emphasis on cultural and Islamic aspects. Prof. Hisham Ramy presented past and future of CBT.
Members from the psychiatric societies within Zone 11 shared in workshops and symposia in the WPA congress in Cape town 18-22 November. A zonal symposium, two intersectional symposia - one with the Section on Early Career Psychiatrists about training of psychiatric residents in the field of religion and spirituality and the other with the Section on Genetics in Psychiatry about psychiatric challenges in the 21st century were held.

Nahla Nagy
Zonal Representative for Zone 11
(Northern Africa)

ZONE 12 (MIDDLE EAST)

The Middle East is at war, Syria, Iraq, and Yemen are in real trouble and demands on mental health services are very high. Some countries have no psychiatric associations, like Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman. Meetings took place in Saudi Arabia, UAE, and the 14th Pan Arab conference on psychiatry was the major activity. We plan to encourage more activities to help countries in civil wars, and working with professionals.

Wahid Sarhan
Zonal Representative for Zone 12
(Middle East)

ZONE 13 (CENTRAL AND WESTERN AFRICA)

Lots of difficulties have been encountered establishing contact with psychiatry associations in the zone. Even the two other associations registered in the past are no longer active. Ghana has a sizable number of psychiatrists but no association meetings have been held for a few years. Plan: Discuss the possibility of hosting the Association of Psychiatrists in Nigeria meeting in Accra, Ghana with the aim of helping restart the Ghana Psychiatric Association.

Owoidoho Udofia
Zonal Representative for Zone 13
(Central and Western Africa)

ZONE 14 (EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA)

Zone 14 had a relatively fruitful year which started by the Zonal Representative approaching several countries in the Zone to organize themselves into organizations and register as members of WPA. This resulted in several new WPA Association Members from Zone 14. Of particular note was Ethiopian Psychiatric Association moving to Zone 14, but by following due process. We have encouraged each of the country association to conduct regular activities on continued education. However, we have experienced problems. Two of these stand out. Firstly, there are still communication barriers between English, French and Portuguese speaking countries within the Zone. Secondly some countries have very few psychiatrists and in some only one psychiatrist. They were encouraged to include other mental health professionals and organize themselves into some association.

David M. Ndetei
Zonal Representative for Zone 14
(Eastern and Southern Africa)

ZONE 15 (CENTRAL AND WESTERN ASIA)

2014-2015: Rehab services provided to the survivors of the Army Public School massacre (150) families adopted by Horizon welfare agency (NGO). This included the provision of home based-mental health and other services and by the local community centre, and treatment facility in Ibadat Hospital Peshawar Pakistan. Free ongoing support to more than 2000 needed.

In 2015-2016: Continuation of previous year’s activity, successfully achieved the goals in the Army Public School Rehab project including completing a research study of PTSD and need assessment. Brave launch of CHITRAL outreached service provision to the af-
Mental Health Care Bill in India was passed and the Indian Psychiatric Society had submitted its recommendations to the Government. Suggestions and cooperation would be sought from other associations. The World Congress for Social Psychiatry, co-sponsored by WPA, was held at New Delhi, India from 30th November to 4th December 2016 and ANCIPS (Annual National Conference by Indian Psychiatric Society) would be held from 5th January to 8th January 2017 at Raipur. Both the platforms would be ideal for interaction with representatives of other member societies for consensus to evolve uniform mental health policies. Planned to promote more interactions by jointly organizing conferences in this region.

T.V. Asokan
Zonal Representative for Zone 16 (Southern Asia)

We will promote and encourage WPA meetings in Zone 17 to be WPA co-sponsored, and I will encourage actively members in Zone 17 to join WPA activities. In particular, there is a good example of partnership model between Asian countries for treatment and rehabilitation in Korea, such as the Yongin mental hospital, WHO Collaboration Center for psychosocial rehabilitation and community mental health. They are focusing not only on research and clinical practices but also rehabilitation and mental healthcare polices. I would like to share this experience with WPA members, including Zone 17 member societies.

Min-Soo Lee
Zonal Representative for Zone 17 (Eastern Asia)

As WPA Zonal Representative, I work alongside RANZCP. I am in contact with the RANZCP secretariat and am aware that the College forwards reports on important events directly to WPA for publication in the newsletter.

International RANZCP Congress of Psychiatry: Congress welcomed 1,300 delegates in Hong Kong and solidified links with the Asian region. The College’s premier annual event was held in Hong Kong earlier this year. This marked over 25 years since the College last held a Congress outside Australia or New Zealand.

Francis Agnew
Zonal Representative for Zone 18 (Australasia and the South Pacific)
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL APPROACHES TO PSYCHOSIS

The 20th International Congress of the ISPS will take place in the UK, 30th August-3rd September, 2017. We are delighted that our plenary speakers and pre-conference workshop leaders include: Alison Brabban, Jacqui Dillon, Grainne Fadden, Kwame McKenzie, Jim van Os and Peter Groot, Anne Berit Eie Torbjørnsen, Jon Vidar Stromstad and Svein Friis, David Shiers and Chris Dowrick, Lucy Johnstone and Rachel Waddingham. One of our aims with this conference is working together with partners in other organisations, reaching out well beyond our traditional allies to try and make the conference not just about change, but also a step towards change. We look forward to working with the WPA and hope to welcome lots of WPA members in Liverpool.

Booking is open at www.isps2017uk.org
Abstract submission deadline: 01/12/2016
Early bird registration deadline: 31/01/2017
Further information about the ISPS can be found at www.isps.org
Contact: isps@isps.org

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF PSYCHIATRIC TRAINEES

The EFPT continues its central mission of facilitating collaboration and sharing between trainees and early career psychiatrists. We were proud to co-organise the recent 2nd World Congress of Early Career Psychiatrists in Athens, Greece this October. With such a diverse gathering, it was a valuable opportunity to share the past, present and future of EFPT. President, Dr Ekin Sönmez and Past-President, Dr Livia De Picker co-chaired the symposium ‘Shaping the future of Psychiatry for 25 years’.

As part of our commitment to trainee lead research, we have now officially launched the EFPT Porto Research Award. Applications are now open for trainee lead projects working in WHO designated Europe region countries. An award will be made to the inaugural winner to recognise their success and to assist them in furthering the aims of their research. Please log onto http://efpt.eu/about/awards/porto-research-award to find out more.

Seán Naughton
Secretary-General, European Federation of Psychiatric Trainees
**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ETHNOPSYCHOLOGISTS AND ETHNOPSYCHOTHERAPISTS**

In October 2016, the elections of members of the Russian Academy of Sciences took place. Nikolay Bokhan (Professor, M.D., President of the IAEE) has become academician of the RAS. Nikolay Bokhan was congratulated by his colleagues from Tomsk and many other cities of Russia who had gathered on 1-2 November 2016 for participation in the conference devoted to the 35th anniversary of the Mental Health Research Institute. During the conference, our colleagues from Moscow, Saint-Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, Kazan, Ufa, Tula, Tymen, Barnaul, Novosibirsk, Irkutsk, Kemerovo, Novokuznetsk, Omsk, Chelyabinsk, Surgut, Achinsk, Abakan, Krasnoyarsk, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Khabarovsk, Ulan-Ude, Kyzyk, and Yakutsk shared their experience and problems in the field of mental health care. The international status to our event was given by participation of specialists from Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan.

Svetlana Vladimirova
International Association of Ethnopsychologists and Ethnopsychotherapists

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BIPOLAR DISORDERS (ISBD)**

The new, interactive ISBD.org has opened up new possibilities for sharing materials and interacting with the ISBD membership, inspiring new educational initiatives and benefits. We are cultivating a group of Core Curriculum Contributors to create Clinical Notes, single-topic documents based on research that can be used by doctors, therapists, social workers, and other caregivers to discuss key aspects of bipolar disorder with their patients. Past webinars can be accessed by members in the searchable Webinar Library, while our new video series features ISBD members - who are also top researchers and clinicians - presenting topics in their areas of specialty. Visit ISBD.org/membership to learn more about the benefits of joining the ISBD.

**EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATIONS OF FAMILIES OF PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS**

From the beginning of its existence EUFAMI has advocated for people with severe mental health problems and their families to have a right to social inclusion and not to experience discrimination. We have always believed that both the physical and mental health of all citizens should be promoted and enhanced in a non-discriminatory environment through building psycho-social capabilities, healthy lifestyles and mental health promotion in families, schools and workplaces. EUFAMI is honoured and proud to be the recipient of the UPA (United to Help) recognition. The UPA award honours people and organizations who play a leading role in the fighting against mental ill health stigma and discrimination. EUFAMI Vice-President Martine Frager-Berlet received from Filipa Palha on the 26th of November.

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**3-6 MAY 2017**

**WPA Inter Zonal Congress “Changing Psychiatry, Changing Society, Changing Self”, Vilnius, Lithuania**

Contact: Assoc. Prof. Alvydas Navickas MD, PhD (President, Lithuanian Psychiatric Association)
Emails: a) alvydas.navickas@mf.vu.lt b) info@psichiatrija.lt Website: www.wpavilnius2017.com
Future WPA Scientific Congresses and Meetings

February 2017


15-16 February 2017: 10th Kasr Al Ainy Annual International Psychiatry Congress “Psychiatry in the 21st Century: Integration vs. Isolation”, Cairo, Egypt. Organizer: Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University. Collaboration: EPA. Contact: Azza El Bakry. E-mail: azza_bakry13@yahoo.com

March 2017

6-9 March 2017: “7th World Congress on Women’s Mental Health”, Dublin, Ireland. Organizer: International Association for Women's Mental Health. Contact: Debra C. Tucker. E-mail: debra@iawmh.org

24-26 March 2017: The 6th World Congress of Asian Psychiatry (6th WCAP 2017), Abu Dhabi, UAE. Organizer: Asian Federation of Psychiatrists Association (AFPA). Contacts: 1) Prof. Shigenobu Kanba (skanba@npysch.med.kyushu-u.ac.jp) 2) Dr. Afzal Javed (afzal.javed@ntlworld.com) 3) Dr. Samia Abul (samia_abul@hotmail.com) Website: www.afpa.asia

24-26 March 2017: Thirteenth Workshop on Costs and Assessment in Psychiatry “MENTAL HEALTH POLICY AND ECONOMICS”, Venice, Italy. Organizer: WPA Section on Mental Health Economics. Contact: Massimo Moscarelli. E-mail: moscarelli@icmpe.org Website: www.icmpe.org

March-April 2017


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: 1) International Foundation Erich Fromm (IFE) 2) Erich Fromm School of Psychotherapy 3) University of Florence and others. Contact: Prof. Dr. Maria Ammon. E-mail: dapberlin@t-online.de Website: www.WADP2017.org

23-29 April 2017: RSP Educational Program “The 13th School for Early Career Psychiatrists”, Suzdal, Russia. Organizer: Russian Society of Psychiatrists (RSP). Contact: Professor Peter Morozov. E-mails: a) prof.morozov@gmail.com b) suzdal@psychiatr.ru Website: psychiatr.ru/events/499/


May 2017

3-6 May 2017: WPA Inter Zonal Congress “Changing Psychiatry, Changing Society, Changing Self”, Vilnius, Lithuania: Contact: Assoc. Prof. Alvydas Navickas MD, PhD (President, Lithuanian Psychiatric Association). Emails: a) alvydas.navickas@mf.vu.lt b) info@psychiatrija.lt Website: www.wpavilnius2017.com

25-28 May 2017: “5th International Congress on Neurobiology and Psychopharmacology”, Chalkidiki, Greece. Organizer: International Society on Neurobiology and Psychopharmacology. Collaboration: WPA Section on Evidence Based Psychiatry. Contact: Dr. KN Fountoulakis. E-mail: kostasfountoulakis@gmail.com Website: www.psychiatry.gr
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

14-16 September 2017: “6th European Conference on Schizophrenia Research”, Berlin, Germany. Organizer: European Scientific Association on Schizophrenia and Other Psychoses. Contact: Prof. Wolfgang Gaebel. E-mail: wolfgang.gaebel@esasnet.eu

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-hansaer.de Website: www.wpaberlin2017.com

19-21 October 2017: 17th Czech-Slovak Psychiatric Convention “Together for Changes in Psychiatry”, Bratislava, Slovakia. Organizer: Slovak Psychiatric Association. Contact: Lubomira Izakova, M.D., PhD. E-mail: luba.izakova@nextra.sk Website: www.psychiatry.sk

2-5 November 2017: World Federation for Mental Health World Congress 2017 “Skill training in Autism: From Diagnosis to Intervention”, New Delhi, India. Organizer: Caring Foundation, New Delhi. Contact: Dr. Sunil Mittal. E-mail: sunil.manu@gmail.com Website: www.wfmhindia.com

19-21 November, 2017: 5th International Conference of Psychotraumatology and Mediation, 2017 (5PM-2017) “Wars, Trauma, Migrations and Global Mental Health for refugees in Developed countries and in Developing countries for civil populations and refugees: what innovations in the treatment, in mediation, conflict management and human rights”, Centre International de Conférences, Geneva (CICG), Switzerland. Organizers: Institute of Psychotraumatology and Mediation University of Geneva, Geneva University Hospitals. Collaboration: State of Geneva, Swiss Federal Government and many other national and international humanitarian and professional associations, organizations, etc. Contact: Dr. Issack Biyong. E-mail: ibiyong@ipm-int.org

WPA CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION IN LATINO AMERICA: CUENCA, ECUADOR, FEBRUARY 8-11, 2017

WPA International Conference on Education in Latino America: Perspective in Education and Research
World Psychiatric Association (WPA) / Ecuadorian Association of Psychiatry
Educational Symposium / WPA Secretary for Education / Ailancyp.
Organizer: Ecuadorian Association of Psychiatry. Collaboration: WPA/WPA Secretary of Education. Contact persons: a) Dr. Leopoldo Abda (leopoldo.abda.teran@outlook.com) b) WPA Secretary for Education Prof. Edgard Belfort (belfort.ed@gmail.com)

You are cordially invited!

International Speakers
Dinesh Bhugra (UK), Helen Herrman (Australia), Roy Abraham Kallivayalil (India), Belfort Edgard (Venezuela), Masatoshi Takeda (Japan), Michelle Riba (USA), Armen Soghoyan (Armenia) Afzal Javed (Pakistan), Michel Botbol (France), María López Ibor (Spain), Roger Ng (Hong Kong), Ma Luz Querubín (Philippines), Enrique Camarena (México), Silvia Gaviria (Colombia), Francisco Collazos (Spain), Javier Quintero (Spain), Marc Hermans (Belgium), Virginia Rosabal (Costa Rica), Freddy Pagnussat (Uruguay), Edwing García (Honduras), Pedro Ruiz (USA), Bulent Coskun (Turkey), Constantin Soldatos (Greece)

Some topics
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