
3rd Quarter 2001

Greetings

On July 9-13, 2001 thirty-six years after its first Regional Meeting ever, WPA came back to London for a European Regional Meeting hosted by the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Its rich program, 2001: A Mind Odyssey, highlighted the multicultural role of the arts in psychiatry, the emergence of a WPA network of European organizations, an address by WHO Director General on World Health Day dedicated this year to mental health, and a Symposium on International Classification and Diagnosis sponsored by the classification components of WPA and WHO. Much of this success was due to the outstanding organizational capacities of the Royal College of Psychiatrists presided by Prof. John Cox and the recognized strength of its educational and scientific units.

The London event illustrates the growing interest of our largest Member Societies to participate energetically in WPA activities. This enhances our institutional potential to promote psychiatry and mental health across the world, including developing countries.

Another major institutional development during this Quarter has been the preparation of an Action Plan in response to the triennial WPA General Survey completed by over 90% of WPA Member Societies and other components. It is being formulated by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Zonal Representatives in the Board and reflects our Association's commitment to democratic openness and to the effective fulfillment of our institutional responsibilities.

As this issue of "WPA News" was going to press, the whole world was shocked by the unthinkable tragedy in New York and Washington. We would like to assure you that, in spite of deep psychological scars that may take time to heal, the spirit of New Yorkers remains unbent. The WPA Secretariat continues to function at full capacity and to help in any way it can. All of us have been profoundly moved by the many expressions of concern we have been receiving from friends and colleagues around the world. Thank you for your support!



(L to R) Mr. J. Bowis, Prof. J. J. Lopez-Ibor, Prof. J. L. Cox, and Dr. G. H. Brundtland at the opening of the WPA European Regional Meeting in London.

Dr. G.H. Brundtland (WHO Director General) surrounded by leaders of the WPA, Royal College of Psychiatrists, and other participants at the WPA Regional Meeting in London, July 2001.

ON RECENT WPA EVENTS

The successful WPA European Regional Meeting this July in London, attended by delegates from over 60 countries, was the framework for a number of important WPA events, some of which are highlighted here.

A Full Executive Committee Meeting:

On July 8, the WPA EC met at the Queen Elizabeth II Convention Center to deal with a crowded agenda. It received new applications for Affiliated Associations and Special Individual Members, and received the 2nd Quarter issue of WPA News.

A draft of an EC Action Plan in response to the recent WPA General Survey was discussed. The Review Committee reported on its productive interactions with the Chinese Society of Psychiatry on complaints involving Falun Gong practitioners in China. The Planning Committee presented the results of a consultation with WPA components regarding a Permanent Secretariat.

The bases for the 2002 Jean Delay Prize and for a competition towards a core professional congress organizer were discussed. The completion of an Arab volume for the series on Images of Psychiatry was reported and plans for a WPA Journal were agreed to. Progress on a CME credits program and a Post-Graduate Curriculum survey were reviewed. Work on a Sections' volume on Recent Advances in Psychiatry and a Directory of WPA Sections was noted and new Sections on Psychoanalysis in Psychiatry and on Personality Disorders were established.



Meeting of the emerging WPA Network of European Organizations held in London, July 2001.



Participants in a Cross-Sectional Meeting on Psychiatry and Ecology, Telecommunications and Conflict Resolution in San Marino, May 2001.

An Emerging WPA European Network

Also on July 8, a meeting of representatives of WPA Member Societies and of the European Union of Medical Specialties Section and Board of Psychiatrists took place at the headquarters of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. It was organized by the WPA European Zonal Representatives (Drs. B. Martindale, V. Krasnov, K. Pylkkänen, P. Smolik and S. Cervera) with the support of the WPA Secretary General.

The WPA president, Prof. J. J. Lopez-Ibor opened the meeting and its 35 participants were welcomed by Prof. J. Cox, president of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, who offered the venue and financial support. The meeting was held in workshop style, facilitated by Dr. D. Armstrong.

The discussions concluded that there is a great deal to be gained from organizational developments within and between WPA member societies to ensure better chances of contributing to and benefiting from impending European wide developments, particularly on trans-national mental health policy initiatives.

Important decisions were made to plan that such meetings happen at least annually, to form a WPA European Information Network, and to make an initial focus on psychiatry in medical student education, especially aspects reflecting stigma against psychiatry. Issues of resources need to be addressed to assist the newly independent European countries to contribute to these meetings.

Symposium on International Classification and Diagnosis

On July 12 and 13, a Symposium on International Classification and Diagnosis under the sponsorship of the WPA and WHO Classification Components, the American Psychiatric Association, the Chinese Society of Psychiatry, the French Federation of Psychiatry, the Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology, the Latin American Psychiatric Association, and the US National Institute of Mental Health, was held in London.

It was organized by Profs. J. E. Mezzich, T. B. Üstün and J. L. Cox and included presentations on general perspectives, topical reviews of experience with current diagnostic systems, conceptual bases for the development of future diagnostic systems, evolving adaptations and annotations of the International Classification and the exploration of integrative approaches and future steps.

The symposium conclusions reflected the interest of the participating institutions and scholars to work actively toward a more integrated and culturally-informed international system of psychiatric diagnosis. The proceedings will be published in a double issue of *Psychopathology*, official journal of the WPA Section on Clinical Psychopathology.



Participants in the Symposium on International Classification and Diagnosis sponsored by the WPA and WHO Classification Components and held at the WPA European Regional Meeting in London, July 2001.

ON UPCOMING REGIONAL MEETINGS AND WORLD CONGRESSES

XII World Congress of Psychiatry

The XII World Congress of Psychiatry in Yokohama, August 24-29, 2002 is quickly approaching. Under the general theme of Partnership for Mental Health, a rich scientific program includes symposia, lectures, courses, workshops, papers, poster and a special track for young psychiatrists. An exciting cultural and social menu completes the fare. There is still time to submit symposia and other presentation formats. Furthermore, WPA Member Societies are cordially reminded to submit nominations of promising young psychiatrists for the financially supported Fellowship. Submissions can be made through the Congress Website (www.wpa2002yokohama.org), e-mail or fax 81-3-5770-5532. Please note that planning assiduously ahead of time can lead to unexpectedly low airfares, and that the stratified registration fees by country income shall facilitate the attendance of many more colleagues than in the past.

European Congress in Madrid

On September 30-October 4, 2001, WPA will celebrate an European Congress in cosmopolitan Madrid that is expected to be extremely well attended. Focusing on New Commitments for Psychiatrists, it will start with a forum on the dignity of mental patients and proceed with a plentiful scientific and cultural program. Information and registrations can be obtained at www.wpamadrid2001.com.



WPA European Congress, Madrid, September 30 - October 4, 2001.

Regional Meeting in Cancun

On November 16-20, 2001 a WPA Regional Meeting will take place in Cancun, Mexico, under the theme Psychiatry, Consciousness and Evolution of Mankind. A bountiful scientific, social and institutional program can be well complemented with visits to magnificent Maya monuments. Information can be obtained by fax (52-5-652-5516), e-mail: aspiqm@prodigy.net.mx, apm@psiquiatras.com and Website www.psiquiatras.org.mx



WPA Regional Meeting,
Cancun, Mexico,
November 16-20,
2001.

FROM PROF. FELICE LIEH-MAK, PAST-PRESIDENT 1993-96 *Continuation of a series on the roots of WPA*

The years 1991-93 were a watershed for WPA. They were also halcyon days. Changes in the global political and economic landscape coupled with developments in neuroscience provided the Association with new opportunities and generated a great deal of optimism.

The demise of communism laid to rest the polarizing conflicts related to the abuse of psychiatry for political purposes. The healing process that followed enabled the association to be more unified. WPA efforts which led to the preservation of the Division of Mental Health in WHO and to China's decision to amend a proposed birth legislation in accordance with current scientific evidence on the genetics of mental illness were major



Prof. Felice Lieh-Mak

Strategies were formulated in partnership with member societies and the WPA's wide network of experts. Alliances were formed with other organizations and the commercial sector.

With its main focus on education and training, the WPA expanded its publications, and significantly increased the number of workshops and conferences. It also completed its work on a core curriculum for medical students. This served as an important document on which medical schools can base its teaching of psychiatry.

The X World Congress held in Madrid captured the essence of what the WPA had achieved in the short span of three years in the area of education and the promotion of ethical

testimonies to how much can be achieved through unity of purpose.

To cope with the responsibilities of a truly international organization WPA changed its system of governance. It became strategically orientated, externally focused and open.

practice as embodied in the Declaration of Madrid. Enthusiastic participation and unstinting support rendered the Congress the most well attended and successful meeting in the history of the Association.

With vision, unity, integrity and trust the WPA can effectively meet any future challenges and maintain its leadership position in international psychiatry.

THE JEAN DELAY PRIZE TO BE AWARDED AGAIN IN 2002

The Jean Delay Prize, named in honor of the first president of the World Psychiatric Association, is the highest prize awarded by WPA. This prize recognizes the work of a person or team whose research has bridged across biological, psychological and social aspects of psychiatry and mental health. The prize, US\$ 40,000 plus a diploma and a medal, is presented during the opening ceremony of the World Congress of Psychiatry. It is supported by an unrestricted grant from Servier International. Professor David Goldberg was the first recipient in 1999.

A jury chaired by the president of WPA chooses the recipient of this prize. They may consider a specific study or the entire work of a nominee and take into account the advances made as a result of the work or research of the nominee in diagnosis, prevention and treatment of mental disorders, giving priority to the added value of the work as a teaching model for a comprehensive approach to psychiatry and mental health.

The recipient of this prize will present a lecture during the World Congress of Psychiatry. A brochure providing a brief description of the prize and the recipient will be printed and distributed, and the WPA will publish the lecture given by the recipient.

The deadline for submission of nominations is March 31st, 2002. The jury will meet on June 1st, 2002 to choose a recipient, and the prize will be presented at the opening ceremony of the XII WCP in Yokohama, Japan on August 24th, 2002.

Application forms can be found on WPA Online [more...](#) and should be sent to the WPA Secretariat (International Center for Mental Health, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, New York University, Fifth Avenue & 100th Street, Box 1093, New York, NY 10029-6574, USA)



Prof. Jean Delay,
first WPA President,
at the First World
Congress of Psychiatry.

A PIONEERING MENTAL HEALTH REPORT FROM THE US SURGEON GENERAL



Dr. David
Satcher, Current U.S.
Surgeon General.

On August 26, 2001 the 200-page report "Mental Health: Culture, Race and Ethnicity" was presented by the US Surgeon General, Dr. David Satcher in San Francisco. This report is a supplement to the also path-breaking "Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health" released in 1999. The new report is based on peer-reviewed research from disciplines as varied as psychiatry, general medicine, history, sociology and anthropology. It examines virtually every aspect of mental health, including the prevalence and diagnosis of disorders, the services that are available, insurance issues, and the cultures of practitioners and patients. Individual chapters are devoted to the mental health concerns of African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, Asian-Americans, Pacific-Islanders, American Indians and Alaska Natives.

The report emphasizes that ethnic minorities in the United States suffer a disproportionate burden of mental illness because they often have less access to services than other Americans, receive lower quality care and are less likely to seek help when they are in distress. While serious mental disorders like depression, schizophrenia, panic disorder, manic-depression and substance abuse occur in all ethnicities and socioeconomic classes, minorities tend to be over represented among those most vulnerable and in need of mental health treatment, including the poor, the homeless, the institutionalized, the incarcerated and the survivors of traumatic experiences. And due to stigma attached to mental illness in some minority cultures, there is often a reluctance to use services even when they are available.

The report found that disparities in care were, in part, a result of fragmented, costly and inadequate mental health services and a lack of insurance coverage in minorities. "Simply put, the nation's health systems must work to bring mental health services to where the people are", the report summarized. The problems for minorities were also closely tied to cultural and language differences that created barriers to treatment. Providers of mental health services often know little about the cultural values and backgrounds of the patients they are treating, or about the traditions of healing and meaning of illness within their cultures, the report said. It also commented on a dearth of research on the prevalence of mental disorders and on the effectiveness of different treatments among ethnic minority groups.

PROGRESS ON WPA INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS

Program on Sub-Saharan Africa and Central Asia

This Institutional Program intends to address the psychiatric and mental health needs of the poorest areas of the world. It is co-chaired by Profs. Ahmed Okasha and Driss Moussaoui.

In an important Program meeting in Cairo in January 2001, African leaders presented informative reports on their critical issues and agreed to establish an informational network and to start the formation of an African Association of Psychiatry and Allied Professions. More recently, the Program held a meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia focused on the needs of Central Asia.

For the XII WCP in Yokohama the Program plans to affirm the initiatives listed above as well as to further the participation of African and Central Asian Member Societies, world's awareness on the region, educational, research, policy and legislation activities, and partnerships with international organizations and with colleagues of African ancestry residing in developed countries.

Program for Young Psychiatrists

This Institutional Program reflects WPA's commitment to the future of our field, and is co-chaired by Profs. Juan E. Mezzich and Mario Maj. Among its main activities we can list the following:

Building on the successful Fellowship Program at the XI WCP in Hamburg, where 121 promising psychiatrists from 73 different countries were invited and offered a set of special activities, a larger program for over 200 Fellows is being prepared for the XII WCP in Yokohama (for nominations see p. 3 and www.wpa2002yokohama.org).

A Fellowship Program has been organized for the upcoming WPA European Congress in Madrid, September 30-October 4, 2001.

Young Psychiatrists Scientific Poster Awards have been organized for the WPA Regional Meetings in Antalya, Turkey, April 2001, in London, July 2001 and in Madrid, October 2001.

The WPA Educational Network for Young Psychiatrists has been enriched with the Fellows of our latest World Congress.

Leaders of emerging international organizations of psychiatric trainees are being incorporated into this Institutional Program.



Participants in the meeting of the Program for Sub-Saharan Africa and Central Asia, Cairo, January 2001.



Presentation of the WPA Young Psychiatrists Scientific Poster Awards, Antalya, Turkey, April 2001.

WHO MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLES ON MENTAL HEALTH

Four ministerial roundtable discussions on mental health took place during the Fifty-fourth World Health Assembly in May 2001 in Geneva. It was attended by WPA President Prof. J. J. Lopez-Ibor and by WHO Mental Health Department Director Dr. B. Saraceno. The main issues it raised are summarized below:

World health leaders call for action: It was noted that mental health problems are significant contributors to the global disease burden with huge economic costs and human suffering, and that at the same time effective solutions are possible in most health contexts.

The current social context of mental health: It is important to set mental health in its relevant social context (e.g. social change, unemployment, family breakdown, personal insecurity, poverty, political and economic instability, war).

Overcoming stigma and human rights violations: The general public and the media should be sensitized about mental health issues; stigmatization must be overcome everywhere, even among mental health professionals.

Improving mental health policies and services: Efforts should be focused on community-based care and integration of mental health within national primary health care systems. Traditional healers as well as consumers and families should be recognized as valuable contributors to health care.

Meeting the needs of special groups: Adequate health services are needed for rural and dispersed populations, women and children, refugees and displaced indigenous and disaster stricken populations.



Prof. J.J. Lopez-Ibor,
WPA President.



Dr. Benedetto Saraceno,
Director WHO Dept. of Mental Health.

UPCOMING WPA CONGRESSES AND MEETINGS

Secretary for Meetings, Professor Driss Moussaoui,
coordinates these events and welcomes initiatives for new ones.
Fax: (212-2) 965-125, E-mail: psych@casanet.net.ma

September 30-October 4, 2001, WPA European Congress, Madrid, Spain, New Commitments for Psychiatrists.

Contact: Pr. J.J. Lopez-Ibor, c/o Tilesa Fax: (34-91) 3559-208. E-mail: wpa2001@tilesa.es, Carolina.g.sicilia@tilesa.es, Website: www.wpamadrid2001.com
October 24-25, 2001, WPA Co-Sponsored International Symposium, Dusseldorf, Germany, Future Perspectives in Psychiatry and Psychotherapy.

Contact: Prof. Wolfgang Gaebel, Fax (49-21) 1922-2022. E-mail: wolfgang.gaebel@uni-duesseldorf.de
October 27-31, 2001, WPA Co-Sponsored 17th World Congress of Social Psychiatry, Agra, India, Science, Psychiatry and Society: Search for Synergy,

Contact: Prof. S. Sharma, Fax: (91-11) 229-9227, E-mail: wasp_congress@vsnl.com Website: www.17thwaspcongress.com
November 16-20, 2001, WPA Regional Meeting, Cancun, Mexico, Psychiatry, Consciousness and Evolution of Mankind.

Contact: Prof. Enrique Camarena, Fax: (52-5) 652-5516. E-mail: apm@psiquiatras.com, aspiqm@prodigy.net.mx,
Website: www.psiquiatras.org.mx
November 19-23, 2001, Meeting of the WPA Section on Transcultural Psychiatry and Nigerian Association of Psychiatry, Abeokuta, Nigeria.

Contact: Prof. Goffredo Bartocci, e-mail: tpsection@quipo.it
November 23-25, 2001, Meeting of the WPA Section on Mental Health Economics and Romanian Psychiatric Association, Bucharest, Romania, Financing Mental and Addictive Disorders in Central and Eastern Europe.

Contact: Dr. Massimo Moscarelli, Fax: (39-2) 581-06901, E-mail: moscarelli@comm2000.it, Website: www.icmpe.org
January 17-19, 2002, WPA Regional Meeting, Sharm el Sheik, Cairo, Egypt, Future Challenges for Psychiatry in the New Millennium.

Contact : Prof. S. Abdel Azim, Fax : (20-2) 796-2140, E-mail : saidazim@yahoo.com, servo@servoegypt.com,
Website: www.imhotep.net/sharmepa.html
March 21-23, 2002, WPA Thematic Conference, Budapest, Hungary, Psychological and Psychiatric Consequences of Violence.

Contact: Dr. P. Gaszner, Fax: (36-1) 391-5336, E-mail: h12890gas@ella.hu
April 19-22, 2002, WPA Co-sponsored Bi-annual Panhellenic Congress of Psychiatry, Athens, Greece.

Contact: Prof. George Christodoulou, Fax: (30-1) 724-2032, E-mail: gnchrist@compulink.gr
August 24-29, 2002, XII World Congress of Psychiatry, Yokohama, Japan, Partnership for Mental Health.

Contact: Pr. J. Suzuki c/o Convention Linkage, Fax: (81-3) 545-640-77, E-mail: info@wpa2002yokohama.org , wpa_sec@linkage.co.jp Website: www.wpa2002yokohama.org
October 2-4, 2003, WPA Regional Congress, Caracas, Venezuela.

Contact: Prof. Edgar Belfort, Fax: (58-212) 763-1184, E-mail: secretariaapal@cantv.net, Belfort.ed@excite.com
September 10-15, 2005, XIII World Congress of Psychiatry, Cairo, Egypt.

Contact: Prof. A. Okasha, Fax: (20-2) 748-1786, E-mail: aokasha@internetegypt.com