
4th Quarter 2001

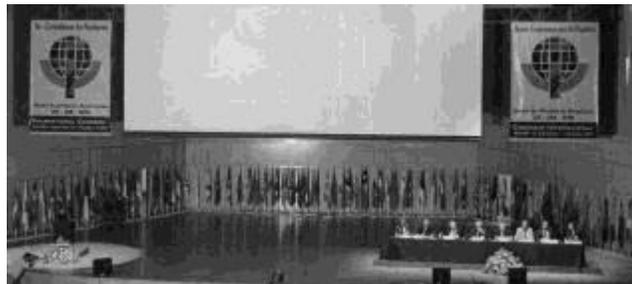
Greetings

This October, the much awaited World Health Report 2001, focused for the first time on mental health, was released by the World Health Organization. It provides a new understanding of mental disorders that offers new hope to the mentally ill and their families in all countries and all societies. It is a comprehensive review of what is known about the current and future burden of disorders and the principal contributing factors. It examines the scope of prevention and the availability of, and obstacles to, treatment. It deals in detail with service provision and planning and concludes with a set of far-reaching recommendations to be adapted by every country according to its needs and resources. In line with this, WPA has been called to partner with WHO in the development and implementation of its emerging Mental Health Policy and Service Guidance Project.

In response to the events of September 11, WPA has expanded its activities and programs on disasters and mental health. These programs intend to facilitate understanding of disasters and their consequences as well as to promote restoration of mental health and the prevention and treatment of related mental disorders. As part of this effort, a successful satellite-mediated teleconference linking New York, Washington and Madrid (see photo below) took place within the framework of the WPA European Congress on September 30-October 3, which was focused on New Commitments for Psychiatrists.

Later, on November 16-19, a WPA Regional Meeting in Cancun, Mexico offered an extensive scientific and cultural program, in the vicinity of outstanding Mayan monuments. Attended by most psychiatric societies in Latin America, it show-cased the impressive development of psychiatry in the area, within the umbrellas of WPA and the Latin American Psychiatric Association.

Now, as we end an active year of WPA life and enter a new one, during which the current triennium will find completion at the XII World Congress of Psychiatry and the WPA General Assembly in Yokohama, we are pleased to extend to the entire WPA family our collegial wishes for a healthy and fulfilling New Year 2002!



Expert panel in Madrid and screen for colleagues in New York and Washington participating in the Satellite Video-Conference on Disasters and

RECENT WPA EVENTS AND INSTITUTIONAL MEETINGS

The WPA European Congress in Madrid, Spain, on Sept. 30-Oct. 3, was co-organized by Profs. J.J. López-Ibor, C. Leal, M. Hernández, and J. Vallejo, presidents, respectively, of WPA and the Spanish societies involved. It was the setting for several major WPA institutional meetings. One of them was a full meeting of the Executive Committee which, among other topics, reviewed and approved the WPA-WHO Collaboration Report for 1999-2001 and the Plan for 2002-2004, the Plan for a Report to the 2002 General Assembly on the Development of a Permanent Secretariat, and the Analytic Review of Zonal Representatives' 2001 Annual Reports.



(L to R) Profs. G. Christodoulou, A. Okasha, J.J. López-Ibor, and J.E. Mezzich and Dr. E. Sukhanova, and then Zonal Representatives Profs. A. Pacheco, B. Martindale, K. Pylkkänen and P. Smolik, at the WPA Board Meeting, Madrid, October 3, 2001

Another important meeting was that of the Board (EC and Zonal Representatives) on October 3, which reviewed and approved the WPA Action Plan in Response to the 2001 General Survey, a proposal on steps and timetable for the evaluation of the WPA Strategic and Financial Triennial Plans 1999-2002 and for the preparation of the new Plans for 2002-2005, the Developmental Plan for a Permanent Secretariat, and the WPA Core Budget for 2002. The Board also took note of the Analytic Review of the Zonal Representatives' 2001 Annual Reports. The next Board Meeting will be held in Yokohama, Japan, before the 2002 General Assembly.

Also worth noting is the workshop held in October 4 and 5 to prepare the WPA Core Curriculum on Post-Graduate Training in Psychiatry. Used as starting point was the International Survey on Post-Graduate Training just completed in collaboration with the Secretariat and the Education Coordination Center.



(L to R) Profs. M. López-Burga, J.E. Mezzich, R. Navarro, J.J. López-Ibor, E. Camarena, A. Okasha and I. Salazar at the opening ceremony of the WPA Regional Meeting in Cancun, México, November 16, 2001

After a successful meeting in Guadalajara in November 1998, WPA once again returned to Mexico this year with its Regional Meeting in Cancun on Nov. 16-20. It brought together about 2300 colleagues from 35 different countries, including almost all of those from Latin America, having as main theme Psychiatry, Consciousness and Evolution of Mankind. A full meeting of the Executive Committee took place, during which a complementary set of specific ethical guidelines were reviewed, a report and plan concerning the case of Falun Gong practitioners in China were discussed, preparations were made concerning the WPA Strategic and Financial Triennial Plans, and a report from the Nomination Committee was heard. Also held were a WPA open forum, a meeting of the Standing Committee on Planning, an encounter of Zone 3 member society presidents, and an assembly of the Latin American Psychiatric Association.

A CME CREDITS: A GROWING INITIATIVE

WPA now grants Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits at many of its meetings and at a number of educational activities organized by WPA member societies. The XI World Congress of Psychiatry in Hamburg and the recent European Congress in Madrid were important milestones in the development of WPA CME credits.

The next major event for WPA CME Credits will be the World Congress of Psychiatry in Yokohama. The Sub-Committee on the Recognition of CME Credits will design quality assurance requirements, evaluate the proposals presented, monitor and systematically evaluate the educational activities offered, and prepare a report after the Congress.

WPA member societies have been surveyed and many have indicated that WPA CME credits will be valid within their own CME systems. By acknowledging WPA credits, member societies may make attendance at WPA meetings and conferences even more valuable and useful for

their own members.

For more information about WPA CME credits, please visit **WPA ONLINE** at www.wpanet.org or contact the Secretary for Education at rogermontenegro@wpanet.org

NEW LAUREA FOR CAZZULLO



*Professor Carlo Lorenzo
Cazzullo*

The University of Cagliari, Italy has bestowed upon Prof. Carlo Lorenzo Cazzullo the title of Laurea Honoris Causa in psychology.

Prof. Cazzullo has served with distinction in major WPA Committees since 1966, including a tour of duty in the Executive Committee. He continues active as president of a WPA member society and chair of the Section on Immunology and Psychiatry.

RESPONDING TO RECENT DISASTER CHALLENGES

The shocking events of September 11 have prompted mental health organizations in the US and around the world to respond urgently to the disasters and their aftermath, and WPA has not been absent from these efforts. The WPA Program on Disasters and Mental Health chaired by Prof. George Christodoulou (WPA Secretary for Sections) and Prof. Juan J. López-Ibor (WPA President) has moved into high gear. The same can be said of the work of the WPA Section on Military and Disaster Psychiatry chaired by Prof. Francois Lebigot.

Highly visible in this regard has been the video-conference on October 2 linking psychiatrists sitting in the US and Spain during the recent WPA European Congress in Madrid (see photo on p.1). It was quite effective in presenting the helpful work of mental health professionals in New York

and Washington with disaster survivors and their families and with special groups such as firefighters and in discussing promising health restoration and promotion approaches for stress-inducing events. Examples were presented on what appeared to work during the first stage after September 11, on the value of social organization preparedness, and on the importance of non-traditional approaches to mental health services. It was noted that restoration of a sense of safety in the population is crucial and that mental health efforts must be seen as an integral part to any public health response. Participants included WPA representatives Profs. J.J. López-Ibor, G. Christodoulou, H. Eist and F. Lebigot, APA representatives Drs. D. Regier and S. Mirin, and a number of distinguished public psychiatrists from New York and Washington.

Also noteworthy was the Special Forum on Disaster Relief organized on October 11 in New York by the United Nations NGO Committee on Mental Health moderated by WPA UN Representative, Dr. Giovanni Caracci (see adjacent photo). The topics included coping with the impact of trauma and PTSD; addressing the special needs of children, the elderly, and the mentally ill; the caregivers need for self-care; media coverage and its contribution to suffering; and developing a planned response to mental health needs following a disaster.



Dr. G. Caracci (chair) and other participants at a UN NGO Committee on Mental Health Meeting on Disaster Relief, New York, October 11, 2001

UPCOMING WPA EVENTS IN SHARM EL-SHEIKH AND YOKOHAMA

Year 2002 will open for WPA with a Regional Meeting in Northern Africa, scheduled to take place in Sharm-El-Sheikh, Egypt, January 17-19, 2002. This will cap an institutional year enriched with the admission of three Member Societies from Africa, i.e., from Uganda, Sudan, and Kenya. The scientific program will address important topics including future roles for psychiatrists, globalization in the practice of mental health care, and challenges in psychosocial psychiatry. The impressive location on the Red Sea chosen as the congress site and many historical monuments from Egypt's 7000-year history are sure to contribute to the making of a memorable event. For additional information, you are invited to visit the website of the Regional Meeting at www.imhotep.net/sharmepa.html.



WPA Regional Meeting, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, January 17-19, 2002

Preparations for the XII World Congress of Psychiatry in Yokohama, Japan (August 24-29, 2002) continue advancing. A valuable preparatory meeting with Asian member societies took place in Kyoto on October 20, 2001 (see adjacent photo). Some 250 symposia have already been accepted for this Congress, whose major theme is "Partnership for Mental Health". As we expect colleagues from over 100 different countries, presentations will have interpretations into English and Japanese and also, selectively, into Chinese, French, German, Russian and Spanish. Discounted travel packages are being prepared in collaboration with member societies. For detailed program and registration information, please visit the website of the Congress www.wpa2002yokohama.org.

Participants in the October 20, 2001 organizational meeting in Kyoto for the 2002 XII WCP in Yokohama



Kindly note that the deadline for submission of papers and posters is January 31 and for early registration (at a discounted price) is March 1, 2002.

One of the highlights of the XII WCP will be its fully funded Fellowship Program, being built on the successful experience obtained at the XI WCP. Many of our past Fellows have achieved leadership positions in their national psychiatric societies and health ministries. Member Societies and Zonal Representatives have, thus, an outstanding opportunity to promote the future of our field by nominating several promising young colleagues for the Yokohama Fellowship using the form appearing in the WPA and XII WCP websites, noting that the deadline is February 1, 2002.

THE WPA ELECTORAL PROCESS HAS STARTED

This October 1 in Madrid the WPA Nomination Committee composed of Profs. J.J. López-Ibor (Chair), A.Carmi, M.R. Jorge, A. Okasha and C. Soldatos, held its first meeting. They prepared an Elections 2002 booklet including relevant articles from the Statutes, By-Laws and Manual of Procedures, a clustering of Member Societies into WPA Regions and Zones, a listing of the 1999 elections results, Committee agreements on the procedures for the elections 2002, positions open for elections in 2002 (see adjacent chart), eligibility criteria for the open posts, and the official nomination form.

On November 8, in advance of the statutory deadline of nine months before the General Assembly, the WPA Secretariat transmitted by e-mail to all member society presidents and secretaries the Election 2002 booklet along with a cover letter from the Nomination Committee chair. For societies without e-mail addresses or for which e-mails bounced, the booklet was sent by either express or regular air mail. Through a copy of the official form, a member society can nominate a candidate for a given position and certify this with the signatures of its president and secretary. A candidate can be nominated for only one position. Completed nomination forms must be sent to the WPA Secretariat through fax or air mail by the statutory deadline of February 26, 2002.

Positions Open for Election in 2002

WPA Executive Committee:
President-Elect
Secretary General
Secretary for Finances
Secretary for Meetings

Zonal Representatives:

Zone 2: United States
Zone 3: Mexico, Central America and Caribbean
Zone 4: Northern South America
Zone 7: Northern Europe
Zone 8: Southern Europe
Zone 9: Central Europe
Zone 10: Eastern Europe
Zone 11: Northern Africa
Zone 12: Middle East
Zone 13: Western and Central Africa
Zone 14: Eastern and Southern Africa
Zone 15: Central and Western Asia
Zone 18: Australasia and the South Pacific

WHO RELEASES WORLD HEALTH REPORT 2001 FOCUSED ON MENTAL HEALTH

On October 4 in Geneva and during ensuing weeks in other world cities, WHO presented its World Health Report 2001. For the first time, this influential annual report was centered on mental health, consistent with the focus of another landmark event, the World Health Day 2001. As part of its general collaboration with WHO, WPA intends to participate in the discussion of the Report's implications and its implementation.

In her presentation message, Dr. Gro Brundtland, WHO Director-General remarked that "there is no justification for excluding people with a mental illness or brain disorder from our communities – there is room for everyone". The theme of the report is "New understanding, new hope". It shows how science and sensibility are combining to break down real and perceived barriers to care and cure in mental health and how mental health is crucial to the overall well-being of individuals, societies and countries.

The Report indicates that today we know that most illnesses, mental and physical, are influenced by a combination of biological, psychological and social factors. Our understanding of the relationship between mental and physical health is rapidly increasing. We know they can affect everyone, everywhere and that more often than not, they can be treated effectively.

The Report is a comprehensive review of what we know about the current and future burden of all these disorders and their principal contributing factors. It discusses service provision and service planning and outlines policies needed to ensure that stigma and discrimination are broken down, and that effective prevention and treatment are put in place and adequately funded.

It concludes with a set of far-reaching recommendations (see adjacent chart) and proposes that countries adapt them according to their needs and resources. For further information on the World Health Report 2001, please visit www.who.int/whr/2001/main/en/index.htm



REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Provide treatment in primary care
- Make psychotropic drugs available
- Give care in the community
- Educate the public
- Involve communities, families and consumers
- Establish national policies, programs and legislation
- Develop human resources
- Link with other social sectors
- Monitor community mental health
- Support more research

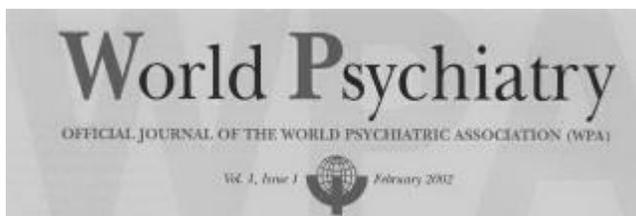
WPA LAUNCHES ITS NEW JOURNAL, WORLD PSYCHIATRY

The launching this February of the new official journal of WPA is cause for celebration and reflects the level of organizational maturity and capacity laboriously attained by WPA in recent years. In the first editorial, Prof. J.J. López-Ibor traces back the desire for a fully owned journal to the beginnings of the Association, which had to wait until the right combination of managerial factors and institutional

commitment could be obtained.

World Psychiatry will be produced initially in three issues per year, and will include state-of-the-art papers and research reports by renowned experts, as well as information about what is new in psychiatry around the world and on the activities of all the components of the Association. It will be sent free of charge to 20,000 psychiatrists whose names and addresses have been provided by WPA member societies and sections. It will be published in English, but negotiations are ongoing for a Spanish language edition, and all member societies are encouraged to produce editions in their own local language, either in paper or in electronic form.

The journal will not contain any advertisement. Each issue will be funded by a donor or group of donors, who will not have any input in the choice of contributors or topics. For further information, including proposed contributions, please write to the Secretary for Publications at majmario@tin.it



From the cover of the upcoming first issue of World Psychiatry

WPA NORTHERN AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST ZONES REPORT SUSTAINED ACTIVITIES

Psychiatry in this part of the world has a long and rich tradition, as illustrated in the recently published WPA volume on Images of Psychiatry in Arab Countries, edited by Prof. A. Okasha, WPA President-Elect. These roots offer depth and inspiration to a group of increasingly active WPA member societies.

The Northern Africa Zone, including societies from Egypt, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia, has Prof. Said Abdel Azim as Zonal Representative and energetic promoter of communication among these societies and among those emerging in Algeria, Libya, and Mauritania. Helpful in this regard are the biennial Pan Arab Psychiatric Meetings, the most recent of which was hosted by Prof. Saida Douki this past June in Tunisia, focused on women's mental health. Zone leaders have extended their collaboration to Sub-Saharan Africa, as reflected in Pan-African conferences held in South Africa and Egypt. Now, the Zone and the whole WPA are looking forward to the WPA Regional Meeting organized in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt by Prof. Azim.

The Middle East Zone, which includes member societies in the Arab Gulf, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen, is dynamically coordinated by Zonal Representative Prof. Fuad Antun. Zone's societies had a massive participation in a Geriatric Psychiatric Conference held in Lebanon. Particularly noteworthy has been the World Health Day celebration this April co-organized by the Egyptian and Lebanese societies, which encompassed televised programs and other popular events involving NGO's, the media and the general public. As part of a series of seminars for primary care physicians, a workshop on depression was jointly organized in Damascus by the Syrian and Lebanese societies. Over the past year, an Eastern Mediterranean research network has emerged with the participation of all Middle East Zone

societies, which will have its next meeting this January in Sharm El-Sheikh.



(L to R) Profs. T. Okasha, F. Antun, J.E. Mezzich, A. Mohit, P. Ruiz, Loza, and T. Baasher at the latest WPA Thematic Conference in the area in November 2000



Prof. S.A. Azim,
Northern Africa Zone
Representative

UPCOMING WPA CONGRESSES AND MEETINGS

Secretary for Meetings, Professor Driss Moussaoui,
coordinates these events and welcomes initiatives for new ones.
Fax: (212-22) 965-125, E-mail: psych@casanet.net.ma

January 17-19, 2002, WPA Regional Meeting, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, Future Challenges for Psychiatry in the New Millennium.
Contact: Prof. S. Abdel Azim, Fax: (20-2) 796-2140, E-mail: servo@servoegypt.com, saidazim@yahoo.com Website: www.imhotep.net/sharmepa.html

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

June 9-12, 2002, WPA Co-sponsored 6th World Congress of the International Association for Emergency Psychiatry, Barcelona, Spain.

Contact: Prof. Antonio Andreoli, Fax: (41-22) 3728-599, E-mail: christa.terpelle@hcuge.ch

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: wpa_sec@c-linkage.co.jp,
info@wpa2002yokohama.org Website: www.wpa2002yokohama.org

October 4-6, 2002, WPA Regional Meeting, Lima, Peru.

Contact: Dr. Dante Warthon, Peruvian Psychiatric Association, E-mail: warthon@amauta.rcp.net.pe, raquel_kahn@latinmail.com

October 29-November 2, 2002, WPA Co-sponsored 15th International Congress of International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions, New Delhi, India.

Contact: Prof. Savita Malhotra, Fax: (91-172) 744401, 745078, 714455, E-mail: savitam@sancharnet.in, Website: www.childindia.org

October 2-4, 2003, WPA Regional Meeting, Caracas, Venezuela, Interdependence in Psychiatry and Mental Health.

Contact: Prof. Edgard Belfort, Fax: (58-212) 232-1104, 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: (202) 748-1786, E-mail: aokasha@internetegypt.com

