Colleagues,

As you will be aware, next year we will be hosting our 20th World Congress of Psychiatry in the bustling city of Bangkok, Thailand. Following on from the success of our Lisbon event, I’m particularly excited about this next Congress for a number of reasons; the first being that it is, of course, the 20th event of its kind! While this is a milestone worthy of celebration on its own, it is made even more exciting by the fact that it coincides with another (even greater) milestone – 70 years since the establishment of WPA. Add to this an outstanding scientific program, the addition of the General Assembly meeting where we will see the election of a new Board as well as the open EC positions, and of course the presentation of both the triennial Jean Delay Prize and the Geneva Prize for outstanding contributions to psychiatry.

It is for these reasons and more that I hope you will join me in doing all you can to promote the Congress to your members and networks in the coming months and year. To help you with this, I encourage you to visit the Congress website where you can read more about the meeting and submit your abstracts for symposia. I also encourage you to download the promotional tools we have available such as a banner to include in your emails, a PowerPoint slide advertising the Congress (which you can easily add to any presentations you may be giving between now and next October), and adverts you may like to include in your own society newsletters. Further instructions on how to use the tools are available on the website.

I also encourage you to remind your members and colleagues that nominations for the triennial Jean Delay Prize are only open for another two months. This is one of psychiatry’s most prestigious and generous prizes and I have no doubt there will be many deserving awardees within your network. You can find further information to share with your colleagues here.

Thank you for doing what you can to help make the 2020 World Congress of Psychiatry our best meeting yet!

Best wishes
Helen

Professor Helen Herrman AO
WPA President