



Message from the President



July 2019

Colleagues,

Two months on from launching our [new website](#), I am buoyed by the positive feedback we have received from so many of you. Even more encouraging has been the influx of ideas on how we can build on its simplicity to add elements you will find useful to your every day. We're carrying on our work to add information and functionality, so please continue to visit it regularly to see what's new.

We are now less than a month away from the next [World Congress of Psychiatry](#) in Lisbon. From 21-24 August, we will welcome leaders from the around world to consider how we might take inspiration from the global experience of psychiatry and mental health to inform local programs and learnings – and vice versa. With twelve different types of sessions exploring a range of topics across psychiatry, neuroscience, psychological and social sciences, and more than 120 scientific symposia, it is shaping up to be an exceptional four days of learning, discussions and networking. Online registration for the Congress is only open for a few more days, so I encourage you to visit the [Congress website](#) to register as soon as you can. Of course, if you miss the online deadline, you can always register onsite instead. Registration desk opening hours are online.

This month, I am pleased to report good progress with work on *The Lancet*-WPA Commission on Depression, including a meeting of commissioners in July at the Wellcome Trust in London. The meeting was generously hosted by Dr Miranda Wolpert and colleagues, and joined by *The Lancet* Editor-in-Chief Richard Horton.



Commissioners for *The Lancet*-WPA Commission on Depression meet in London

Later in July, several colleagues from WPA met in Nairobi with the Centre for Public Health and Development, our innovative member society the Kenyan Psychiatric Association, and citiesRISE. We were able to advance plans to work with these organisations – along with partners in other cities – to support the community orientated practice of psychiatry.

Finally, we're also excited to announce the opening of nominations for the 2020 Jean Delay Prize (to be awarded at the 20th WPA World Congress of Psychiatry in Bangkok); news of our next Regional Congress in St Petersburg, Russia; and WPA's endorsement of the Interaction Council's "Manifesto to Secure a Healthy Planet for All" which aligns with our own [position statement on Environmental Sustainability](#).

WPA Regional Congress 2020

WPA, in partnership with our valued member society, the Russian Psychiatric Association invites you to save-the-date for WPA's Regional Congress *Interdisciplinary Understanding of Co-Morbidity in Psychiatry: From Science to Integrated Care* in Saint Petersburg, Russia 4-7 May 2020. To be held during one of the most inspiring times of the year – on the eve of the white nights – this is an event you won't want to miss! [Read more](#)

Nominations Now Open for the 2020 Jean Delay Prize

The WPA Jean Delay Prize is awarded triennially to an individual recognized as having "made a noteworthy contribution to the biological, psychological or social aspects of psychiatry or built useful bridges between them." The Prize includes a certificate of commendation, medal of recognition and a cheque in the amount of 40,000 euros. Nominations are now open for this prestigious award to be conferred at the 20th WPA World Congress of Psychiatry in Bangkok. [Read more](#)

WPA Endorses Manifesto to Secure a Healthy Planet for All

WPA has joined with other global public and environmental health organisations in backing the Interaction Council's *Manifesto to Secure a Healthy Planet for All*. The Council (a group of former heads of government and world leaders) and its endorsing partners – including the WPA – is now working to identify next steps in delivering on the ambitions outlined in the Manifesto. [Read more](#)

Call for Sections Updates

A key area of the new WPA website – and, of course, WPA's work – is that of our scientific sections. Our Secretary of scientific sections, Professor Schulze sent out a call in May, asking sections for updated information to include on the site. This included up-to-date pictures and details of section chairs, secretaries and other key personnel, as well as latest member lists. Unfortunately, we've only had replies from about 15% of the sections thus far, which means that one of the most vital parts of our website also remains one of the most incomplete. We urge section members to review their web pages and to advise either [Prof. Schulze](#) or WPA Communications Consultant, [Andrea Pound](#) of any updates as soon as possible.

Best wishes

Helen

Prof Helen Herrman AO
WPA President