



Document Title: **WPA Section on Religion, Spirituality and Psychiatry (SRSP) 2023-2026 Triennial Report**
Author: **Dr. Alan Fung**

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The 2023-2026 SRSP Executive Committee (EC) members include: Chair: Dr. Alan Fung (Canada); Co-Chair: Dr. Bruno Paz Mosqueiro (Brazil); Secretary: Dr. Rajashree Ray (India); other EC Members: Dr. Farha Abbasi (USA), Dr. Agatha Chong (Hong Kong SAR, China), Dr. Sarah Eagger (UK) and Dr. Anahy Fonseca (Brazil).

The WPA Position Statement on Spirituality, Religion and Psychiatry, 2023 Revision, was approved by the WPA Executive Committee and General Assembly in 2023 (<<https://www.wpanet.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/16.GA23.10.16-Spirituality-and-Religion-Position-Statement.-4.-7.23.pdf>>). During 2023-2026, the SRSP EC has focused on implementing recommendations in the Position Statement to enhance mental health outcomes utilizing spirituality, focusing on the following areas.

1) Educational endeavours

The SRSP has organized and/or sponsored symposia at WPA World Congresses of Psychiatry, including a State-of-the-Art Symposium on Spirituality and Psychiatry featuring Dr. Peter Verhagen (chaired by Dr. Fung and Dr. Paz Mosqueiro) and oral presentation on lifestyle psychiatry and spirituality by Dr. Fung in 2025; as well as two symposia in 2026 (“Tailoring issues of religion and spirituality in psychiatry from a multi-continental, science-based perspective”, chaired by Dr. Verhagen; “Spirituality to empower lived experience in mental health care: worldwide perspectives and advances”, chaired by Dr. Paz Mosqueiro and Dr. Fung). Moreover, the SRSP has continued its expert webinar series on spirituality & psychiatry; and co-organized a spirituality webinar series with the Indian Psychiatric Society (IPS) Spirituality and Psychiatry Section in 2025. Furthermore, it co-sponsored the 2024 International Yoga Day Conference.

2) Global summit

The SRSP organized the 6th Global Summit on Spirituality, Religion and Mental Health (May14-15, 2026, Boston, Massachusetts, USA). An official WPA co-sponsored meeting with over 360 attendees from 18 countries, it was the first time that the WPA SRSP has collaborated with the American Psychological Association Division 36, and the Harvard Initiative on Health, Spirituality, and Religion – among other sponsors – in holding this global conference. All SRSP EC members actively contributed to the Conference organization, with Dr. Fung serving as Co-Chair (Psychiatry) of the Summit and the International Organizing Committee, and Dr.

Alexander Moreira-Almeida as Co-Chair (Psychiatry) of the Scientific Committee. Dr. Thomas Schulze (WPA President-Elect) and Dr. Paul Summergrad (WPA Secretary of Finance) served as keynote speakers.

3) Collaborations with national psychiatric associations

Dr. Ray co-edited the 2025 IPS publication *Spirituality and Mental Health*, with contributions from various SRSP members. Dr. Chong co-founded the Spirituality Section at the Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists in 2024 – serving as its Founding Chair. Two SRSP Past Chairs (Dr. Verhagen and Dr. Moreira-Almeida) received the American Psychiatric Association (APA) Oskar Pfister Award for outstanding contributions in psychiatry and religion in 2024 and 2025, respectively. Dr. Fung has served as Chair of the APA Caucus on Spirituality/Religion and Psychiatry since 2025.

4) Collaborations with spiritual care professionals and faith communities

The SRSP has collaborated with the World Council of Churches and presented at their Global Ecumenical Health Meeting in Oct 2023; and, together with Dr. Schulze, has been in active discussions with the International Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers in supporting Catholic clergies worldwide in their mental health ministries.