



World Association of Social Psychiatry (WASP) Newsletter May 2024

Secretary General's Introduction

Welcome to the latest edition of the WASP newsletter.

We always welcome any contributions from sections of WASP and member countries about any news or developments in the world of social psychiatry to share with our friends across all five continents. It is great to see so much feedback from events across so much of the world involving members of WASP and our friends- we have never had so much enthusiasm and feedback and it is fantastic to see!!

Hearty congratulations to all, especially those taking on new roles and winning prestigious awards. It is great to read about the first WASP educational event for a little while, organized by our Early Career Psychiatrists section (ECP) in March. We were hugely grateful to Professor Dinesh Bhugra for giving his time to be at our launch. The energy in the online room was incredible! The next one is planned for the Autumn and we will circulate details in due course.

Work goes on in the background at WASP, and I know very well that the sections on family interventions and on coercion are working on projects that will help many people over time. I enjoyed and learnt a lot from a trip to North Wales to hear about 'patient friendly' mental health services and how we must all strive to work with those who use services and those who care for them to make sure we are giving them what they need and doing it in the right way. WASP has always been at the forefront of thinking in this area.

As WASP becomes more active after the pandemic, we are really keen to hear any suggestions from individuals or member countries about how we can do things better and are committed to continuously trying to improve. Please do get in touch at this email address if you have ideas/ suggestions/ questions!

Andrew

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Message from Rakesh Chadda, President Elect, WASP



The year 2024 has come with new hopes with good recovery post Covid pandemic, the flashback of which still haunt memories. But unfortunately, the world is not at peace and we hope that peace should come soon. On my personal side, I have joined as Professor and Head, Department of Psychiatry, Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, Faridabad after retiring from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, where I served for more than 18 years as Professor of Psychiatry. My new hospital is

spread over an area of more than 130 acres and is proposed to be one of the biggest hospitals of South Asia with 2600 beds.

It gives me great pride to share that the WASP is completing its 60 years of existence this year and we propose to have a memorable scientific meeting later this year. Preparations are also on for the EWASP world congress, due next year at Montreal with Professor Vincenzo Di Nicola as the Congress President. I would like to request all member societies of the WASP to participated in these two important events.

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Other news

1. Report of National Mid Term Conference of the Indian Association for Social Psychiatry, 20-21 April, 2024

National Mid-Term Conference of the Indian Association for Social Psychiatry (IASP) was held at SKIMS Medical College, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir on 20-21 April 2024. The theme of the Congress was “Changing life styles and mental health”. The conference was attended by about 200 delegates from different parts of the country. The scientific programme included theme symposium, another symposium on urbanization and mental health, panel discussion on changing life styles and women’s mental health, invited lectures, free papers, poster sessions and a quiz on mental health for the postgraduate students. There was an illuminating lecture by Professor R Srinivasa Murthy on ‘Evidence for the importance of lifestyle in mental health care’. Professor Mohan Isaac delivered a lecture on ‘Mental health consequences of rapid lifestyle change’. Professor Rakesh Chadda spoke on ‘Psychoactive substance use: An unrecognized pandemic’. Professor Roy Abraham Kallivayalil gave his views on a topic ‘Fatherhood in

India and Asia: Challenges due to changing lifestyles'. The conference was inaugurated by Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Secretary Health, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, who also delivered the inaugural address. Professor UC Garg, President, IASP, Professor Mamta Sood, Vice President, IASP, Professor Punnoose Varghese, Secretary General, IASP, Professor Pratima Murthy, Director, NIMHANS, Bengaluru and Professor Pratap Sharan, Head, Department of Psychiatry, AIIMS, New Delhi also attended the conference. Professor Abdul Majid, Head, Department of Psychiatry, SKIMS Medical College, Srinagar.



Professor Roy Abraham Kallivayalil, Past President, WASP being felicitated by Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah for his contributions to mental health



Professor Rakesh Chadda, President Elect, WASP being felicitated by Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah for his contributions to mental health

2. Dr. Charles Prudhomme Human Rights Award

Washington Psychiatric Society

The Prudhomme Human Rights Award has been conceived to honor the spirit and the legacy of Dr. Charles Prudhomme, a Washington, DC psychiatrist, psychoanalyst, and former American Psychiatric Association (APA) Vice President, who devoted his professional life to caring for his patients and tirelessly advocating for human rights in our country.

In the 1950's Dr. Prudhomme advocated that the APA join with an Amicus Brief before the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS), in the Brown v. The Board of Education.

This Washington Psychiatric Society (WPS) award, is to be presented annually to well deserving recipients, individuals or organizations, at the WPS Awards banquet. It is intended to honor individuals and/or organizations who have demonstrated through, their courageous actions, a continued and successful commitment to advocating for human rights regarding health and education affecting historically marginalized individuals, families, and organizations, in the spirit of Dr. Charles Prudhomme, and being successful in advancing those goals.

The WPS welcomes nominations of well deserving individuals and/or organizations from the public, private, the non-governmental (NGOs), and philanthropic communities to be considered for this inspiring award. The photo below shows worthy winner Dr Ruth Shim along with past WASP president professor Eliot Sorel and other esteemed colleagues.



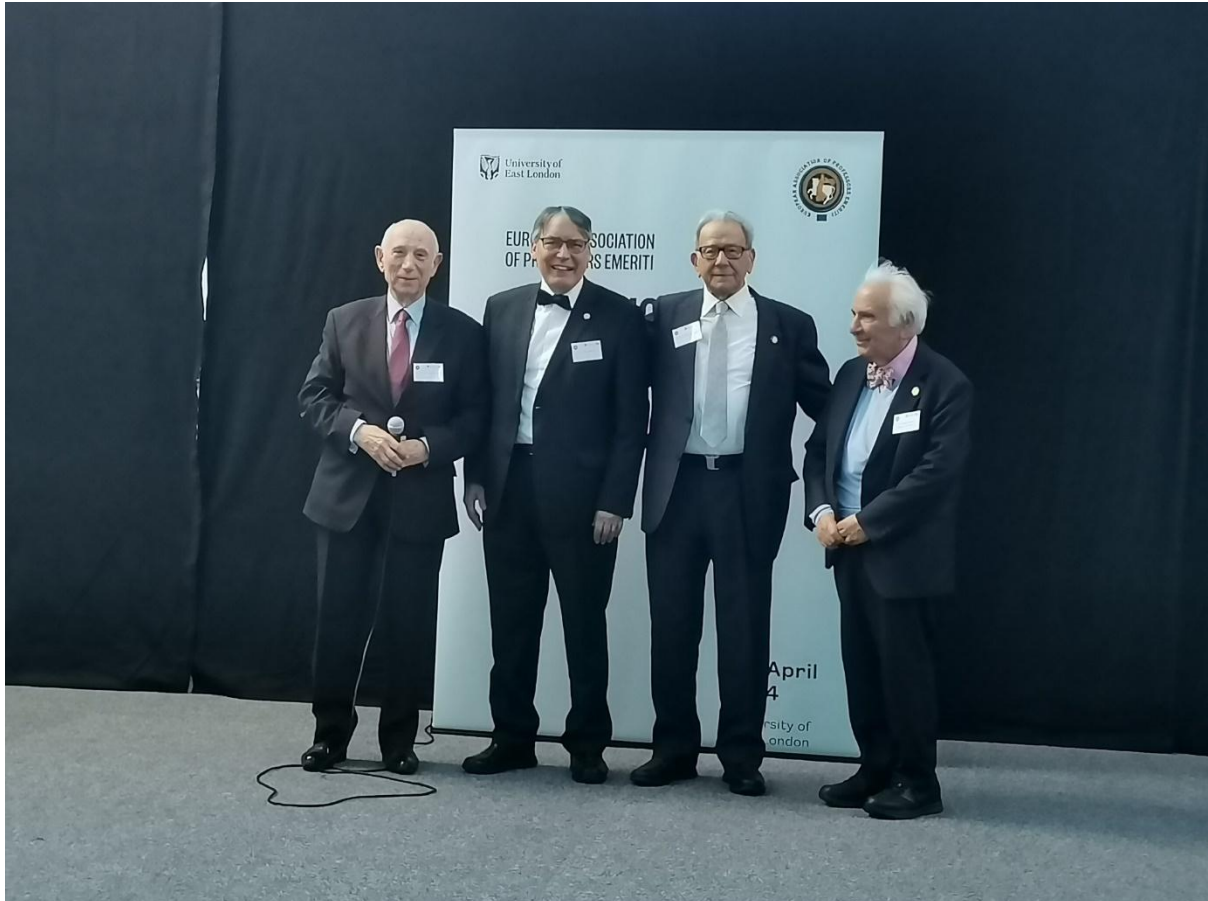
3. The ECP section is happy to report that our first Intersect: A Multigenerational Conversation was a success! Dr Dinesh Bhugra and Dr Jeel Vasa (All Indian Institute of Medical Sciences, Nagpur, India) presented wonderful perspectives on the future of psychiatry in this post-pandemic world. We thank the WASP Executive Committee for all the support we were given.

We hope that more people can join us next quarter for the second session which will be about Artificial Intelligence and Psychiatry.

We shall be announcing more details soon. Follow us on X (formerly Twitter) @WASP_ECP for updates.

We will also appreciate more members. Interested individuals may reach out to us at wasp.ecp@gmail.com

4. During the Third Congress of the European Association of Professors Emeriti (EAPE) held on 3 to 5 May 2024, at the University of East London, transition of the Presidency from Sir Leslie Ebdon to Professor George Christodoulou took place.



In the photograph Professors Leslie Ebdon and George Christodoulou, with former Presidents Dennis Cokkinos (Greece) and Natale de Santo (Italy) .

The Plenary Symposium of the Congress dealt with Social Psychiatry and was well received by the multi-discipline and multi-ethnic audience. It was organized by George Christodoulou (Greece) and George Ikkos (UK) and in addition to them, Jed Boardman (UK) and Michel Botbol (France) also participated.

5. The Nepalese Association of Social Psychiatry (NASP) actively participated in the 14th SAARC International Psychiatric Conference 2023 with a Symposium on 7th November, 2023.

Symposium Theme: Social Psychiatry: Interplay of Religion, Faith and Belief in Healing the Mental Illnesses

Presenters and topics:

- 1. Prof. Dr. Nabaraj Koirala: Traditional Healing practices in Psychiatry across different Cultures - A short glimpse
 - 2. Prof. Dr. Ajay Risal: Role of Spirituality and Yoga in the changing world
 - 3. Dr. Reet Poudel: Healing Hearts and Minds: A Social Psychiatry Perspective on Transgender Mental Health.
 - 4. Dr. Eliza Karki : Suicidality and its sociocultural aspects
 - 5. Dr. Khagendra Kafle : Cultural Influences on the Regulation of Emotion
2. Third Regional CME of the Nepalese Association of Social Psychiatry (NASP) in Association with Psychiatrists' Association of Nepal (PAN)- Western Chapter was concluded on 16th December, 2023, at Gandaki Province, Pokhara, Nepal. The Program was consisted of three Presentations:
1. Prof. Dr. Ajay Risal- Culture and Mental Health: Global and Regional Perspectives
 2. Dr Bharat Khadka- Awakening Spirituality among Psychiatrists
 3. Dr Rajendra Ghimire-Challenges and Opportunities of career in psychiatry

The 20th International World Congress of the World Association for Dynamic Psychiatry with the congress title

6. Social Challenges - Shared Responsibility in Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, Marrakech April 16 to April 20, 2024.

350 international psychiatrists and psychotherapist from 25 countries gathered at the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy to attend the congress, which was co-organized on the initiative of the MADP Moroccan Association of Dynamic Psychiatry and featured over 140 speakers at the congress program.

The motivation for this World congress co-sponsored by WPA was to find out the backgrounds of the processes of conflict arisal, conflict dynamics and their solutions as well as their overall context in which they become effective, dealing with fear of contact and interpersonal threats; the development of a capacity for peace, solidarity, identity and group cohesion.

For her part, **Professor Maria Ammon**, Secretary General of the WADP and President of the German Academy for Psychoanalysis, emphasized the

importance of understanding conflict processes and finding solutions, while pledging to avoid simplistic "scapegoat" solutions and integrate the notion of collective and shared responsibility.

Professor Nikolaj Neznanov, Honorary President of WADP, said it was important to take a holistic approach to dynamic psychiatry in order to understand mental health.

"The contributions of the human sciences are eagerly awaited to help solve social challenges for the well-being of patients", said

Dr. Hachem Tyal, President of the Moroccan Association of Dynamic Psychiatry.

The Congress generally aimed to integrate global social issues such as the climate crisis and pandemics, and to promote interdisciplinary research and scientific exchange.

Renowned scientists of the co-sponsoring associations such as World Psychiatric Association WPA, World Association for Social Psychiatry WASP, World Federation for Mental Health WFMH, World Federation for Psychotherapy WFP, International College for Person Centered Medicine ICPCM, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Gruppendynamik und Gruppenpsychotherapie DGG, International Foundation Erich Fromm IFE Fromm, ALFAPSY Alternative Fédérative des Associations de Psychiatrie, FMF Fondazione Massimo Fagioli and MADP Moroccan Association of Dynamic Psychiatry have contributed to the success of the congress with their important scientific presentations.

7. The WASP Section on Coercion in Psychiatry welcomes a new co-chair and has updated its resources page.

We are delighted to welcome Professor Domenico Giacco as co- chair of our group alongside Andrew Molodynski. Domenico is chair of psychiatry at Warwick Medical School, UK, and a leading light in British social psychiatry research. HE will no doubt bring much energy and lots of fresh ideas to our work!

Please do visit our website:

www.coercioninpsychiatry.com

Andrew Molodynski, Oxford, United Kingdom.

May 2024