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Social Justice for People with Mental Illness

10 July 2017

Dear Colleagues, dear Friends,

As my term draws to a close, this is my penultimate message to you and your members. The preparations for the **World Congress in Berlin** in October (8-12) are progressing well in close partnership with DGPPN. The programme is nearly finalised. I would like to apologise to those whose submissions were not accepted. We had over three times submissions in comparison with the slots we have.

I would strongly encourage your association to support **medical students** and early career psychiatrists from your country. Please support them and bring them with you. There will be special academic tracks for them to enjoy along with meeting senior leaders. They are the future of psychiatry.

1. Please find attached herewith **three** recent WPA **Position Statements** on Homelessness and Mental Health, Mental Health in the Work Place, and e-Mental Health for your information and wider dissemination within your organisation.
2. I am delighted to announce that the **Jean Delay Prize** has been awarded to Professor Jules Angst from Switzerland. His work on common mental disorders – anxiety and depression, classification and management is of importance in modern clinical practice. He will receive the Award at the opening ceremony of the World Congress.
3. **Geneva Prize for Human Rights in Psychiatry** has been awarded to a non-governmental organization fighting for the rights of the mentally ill in Guatemala, ALAS PRO SALUD MENTAL. Founded in 2013, this organization is at present the only NGO in Guatemala working to assist the access of the indigenous rural population to psychiatric care. The Award will be presented at the closing ceremony of the World Congress. Both awards are richly deserved. Please join me in congratulating them both.

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4. We had very successful **round table meeting in Oslo on Refugee and Migrant Mental Health in March 2017**. The discussion and contributions are being collated in a book. My thanks to the Norwegian Psychiatric Society for their initiative and support.
5. As agreed in the WPA Action Plan I am delighted to let you know that a Special issue of International Review of Psychiatry presenting key papers translated from Portuguese into English has been published. Another issue presenting translations from Italian is under preparation. A special issue of International Journal of Culture and mental Health will publish translations from Russian into English later this year.
6. In the World Congress, you will have the opportunity of asking questions from all the candidates who are standing for Executive Committee posts. The session will be held on Monday 9th October. Please look out for the room on the Congress site.
7. Please keep sending examples **of good clinical practice** so that we can learn from each other.
8. I would like to draw your attention once again to the **Bill of Rights** attached herewith again. In addition, please look at the findings of the Discrimination Survey.

Full details of the discrimination survey were published in a special issue of International Review of Psychiatry volume 28(4). The contents are available online.

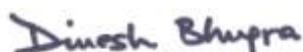
<http://tandfonline.com/toc/iirp20/28/4?nav=toCList>

On the International Children's Day on 20th November, WPA launched a Bill of Rights for children and young people. Developed by Dr Gordana Milavic and Professor Bennet Leventhal and colleagues, I am attaching this for your reference. Please sign up to it as well.

The logo above is the symbol of the social justice campaign lasting all of next year. Please use it wherever you can.

Please check the WPA web site regularly and get involved.

Best wishes,



Dinesh Bhugra, CBE
President, World Psychiatric Association