



WPS e-NEWS

January 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy New Year! I hope that you enjoyed the holidays. We are already back to work. Before we focus on 2018, I would like to take a moment to thank all those who participated and volunteered at the CLM Mind Games and attended the DC Chapter/CLM Holiday Party. The event was a great success! Photos will be posted to the website.

The next WPS Board of Directors' Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 27, 2018. At this meeting, the Board will approve the 2018 budget, review the proposed changes to the WPS Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation and elect a new President-Elect.

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new and transfer WPS members.

Faisal Akram, MD
Sumayya Ayaz, MD
Rakesh Bansil, MD
Mohamed Henson, MD
Saisha Jackson, MD
Andrea McFerren, MD
Sara Teichholtz, MD
Richard Schottenfeld, MD
Aisha Siddiqi, MD
Alexis Wesley, MD

Questions About the New Tax Laws

Are you wondering about the impact of the new tax laws on your practice? This [article from the Journal of Accountancy](#) will give you a bit information that may be helpful.

WPS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **WPS Member Survey** will remain open until **Friday, January 12th**. Please take a moment to complete it using the [WPS Member Survey](#) link.

Eliot Sorel, MD, DLFAPA will speak at the Global Mental Health Montreal event in Quebec on January 19, 2018. Please [click here](#) for more information.

Stay informed of all upcoming events through the [Calendar of Events](#) link. Note that you **MUST be logged in** as a member to see the full list.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

The Maryland Assembly and the Virginia Assembly will both begin their 2018 sessions on Wednesday, January 10, 2018. Watch for more information in the monthly newsletter about legislation affecting you.

The DC Council will hold its first Legislative Meeting of 2018 on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 10:00 am. You may want to view the meeting live [online here](#).

[Click here](#) to read a report prepared by WPS' Virginia lobbyist, James Pickral with the Commonwealth Strategy Group in Richmond, VA. Mr. Pickral presented the report to the WPS Board of Directors at their November 27, 2017 meeting.

WPS Maryland members are now represented by a new lobbying firm, Public Policy Partners in Annapolis, MD. The Suburban Maryland Psychiatric Society will be working closely with PPP during this Assembly session.

APA NEWS

- APA has completed its move into Washington, D.C.! The new address and telephone number are:
 - 800 Maine Avenue, S.W., Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20024.
Phone number: (202) 559-3900.
APA's toll-free numbers remain unchanged: (888) 35-PSYCH or (888) 357-7924.
- After Congress passed a temporary extension of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), APA urged lawmakers in Congress to reauthorize funding for an additional five years. Nearly nine million children receive health insurance through CHIP. You can read APA's statement about the temporary extension of CHIP [here](#).
- APA applauded the first-ever report from the Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee (ISMICC), led by Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use Elinore McCance-Katz, M.D., Ph.D. The committee was created as part of the 21st Century Cures Act, and is charged with enhancing coordination across federal agencies that impact the care of those with serious mental illness. You can read more about the ISMICC [here](#).
- APA members and staff raised more than \$30,000 for disaster relief efforts in the wake of hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, and wildfires in California. The APA Foundation will also donate \$3000 to CrearConSalud, a nonprofit providing mental health services in Puerto Rico. You can read more about the APA Foundation's charitable giving [here](#).

Mark Your Calendar

- National Winter Sports TBI Awareness Month (January)
- National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week (last week of January)
- Last day to vote in the 2018 APA Election (Jan. 31)

Cast Your Vote in the 2018 APA Election!

Use your member login to [cast your vote online](#) in the 2018 APA Election. The full [state of candidates is available online](#) and includes candidate websites and videos. **Voting ends on January 31, 2018.**

Renew your Commitment to APA for 2018 - Today!

Your commitment to your psychiatric community ensures that we can support each other and navigate through everyday challenges united. We appreciate all you do throughout the year! As we enter 2018, we ask that you to **renew your commitment** to your professional home for psychiatry - at the national level with APA and through your local District Branch.

You may [renew online](#) or by calling 888-357-7924 to pay by phone or to schedule an installment payment plan. If you would prefer to receive a direct payment link (no login required) via email, please send a request to membership@psych.org. **Please note, if you haven't already renewed, your membership term ended on Dec. 31.**

January Course of the Month - Ketamine for Treatment-Resistant Depression

The therapeutic potential of ketamine has stimulated considerable excitement and has led to the increasing use of ketamine as an off-label substitute for ECT and other anti-depressive treatments. This course reviews the results of randomized trials of intravenous or intranasal ketamine for treatment-resistant unipolar and bipolar major depression. Presented by Kathryn M. Schak, M.D., of the Mayo Clinic. [Click here to access the Course of the Month and sign up for updates about this free member benefit.](#)

Early Bird Registration Open for 2018 APA Annual Meeting

Registration for the [APA 2018 Annual Meeting](#) is open. Members get priority registration access plus discounted fees. You won't want to miss us in New York City, May 5-9. **The deadline for early bird registration is Tuesday, February 6, 2018.**

Congratulations to WPS member, **Robert J. Ursano, MD** on his selection as the recipient of the **2018 Bruno Lima Award in Disaster Psychiatry**. The APA Bruno Lima Award recognizes the outstanding contributions of APA members in the care and understanding of the victims of disaster.

OTHER NEWS

Patients and politics: What the AMA Code of Medical Ethics says:

Much has been written during this past year of heightened political turmoil about the Goldwater Rule and APA guidelines governing a psychiatrist's capacity to speak publicly. Many of us have noted that our patients have increasingly brought their concerns about the political climate and the issues affecting their access to care including provider panels, insurance coverage, medication coverage, etc. A recent article in the AMA Wire offers guidelines for physicians from all disciplines to deal with political and policy issues with patients during a professional encounter.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

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Calendar of Events

Member Center

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Classifieds

Community Psychiatrist

Community Connections? Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) program, is hiring progressive community psychiatrists who enjoy working with exceptionally vulnerable adults, especially Transition Aged Youth (18-30) and forensically involved adults within a program highly well-resourced in its staffing model.

Please [click here](#) to see the full ad.

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