A Message From the President

By Jeffrey Marcus, MD

Summer greetings!

I hope this message find all of you well and enjoying the nice weather. I realize that balancing career obligations with our personal time will forever be a challenge, but I sure hope that you can find some time to get away from the daily grind. Physician burnout (for both residents and practicing docs) has been the focus of several articles of late, and the statistics surrounding physician burnout, especially when compared to other professions, are truly staggering. We need to find ways to take care of ourselves first.

Thanks to those who filled out the recent online WPA membership survey. The information you provided will help guide our organizational efforts so that we can better serve the professional needs of the membership.

For those of you involved in the medical student mentorship program, this would be a particularly good time to reach out to your students. Many are on summer break and might have availability for clinical shadowing. We’re gearing up for an exciting Fall Conference: Violence: Clinical Management, Policy and Public Concerns. Online registration is available now, or you can keep an eye out for the conference brochure via mail. The conference will be held September 30th – October 1st at the InterContinental Hotel in Milwaukee. This promises to be an excellent program on a very important topic. Hope to see you all there!

The WPA always welcomes member input on how we can best serve the Wisconsin psychiatric community. Please feel free to contact our office with your thoughts.

All the best,

Jeff

Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Becomes First APA/WPA Group Member

Last year, APA introduced a Group Membership discount program as a way to develop stronger partnerships and offer extended member value opportunities to all participating groups. The Wisconsin Psychiatric Association is pleased to announce that Milwaukee County Behavioral Health has become the first entity to take advantage of the program in Wisconsin.

The program is available to any health system, government entity, group practice, or other group to engage more psychiatrists in the organization. Participation in the program involves coordinating a singular membership dues payment for the employed psychiatrists within a group, which reflects a dues discount for all new members.

Engaging groups adds credibility to the collective voice of physicians, psychiatrists in particular, on Capitol Hill, and provides additional value and access to APA expertise and leadership. The program offers flexibility to shape the group membership in a way that meets the needs of the health system, which may include a custom on-site educational training as one example.

If your health system or group might consider a group membership with APA/WPA, please contact the WPA office for details and to request a quote.
The Wisconsin Psychiatrist

Reflections on My Year as the 164th President of the Wisconsin Medical Society

Jerry L. Halverson, MD (jhalversonmdWPA@gmail.com)
Immediate Past President, Wisconsin Medical Society
Immediate Past President, Wisconsin Psychiatric Association

I was asked by Dr. Marcus to write down a few reflections upon finishing my term as Wisconsin Medical Society (WMS) President in April and it is my pleasure to do so. It was a busy year—one that I am still recovering from (and mourning the loss of). I was not your average WMS president. I was inaugurated at the age of 42, which is certainly on the younger side for a WMS president. It was an honor to be one of a handful of psychiatrists to lead the state medical society, especially in its 175th anniversary year. It was interesting to learn that one of those psychiatrists is the namesake of Rogers Memorial Hospital, the hospital where I work. Arthur W. Rogers, from Oconomowoc, was WMS president in 1926-27.

The timing of my presidency was of particular benefit coming at the heels of my Wisconsin Psychiatric Association Presidency as it really did allow me to extend some of what we were working on into the Presidency at WMS and gave WPA a larger stage. The President of WMS has an opportunity to have a “theme” which is an opportunity for you to take a personal professional interest and use the machinery and relationships at WMS to make a bigger footprint and difference in this issue. My first thought was something to do with using data to improve patient care but my ultimate choice of “Managing the Public Health Crisis of Opiate Dependence” was clearly well timed. In my daily practice at Rogers, as well as with my work with the WPA and WMS, I have seen the utter devastation that opiates have been causing in our state and communities (like every other state and community in our nation). I have seen the challenge that patients and family can have accessing the care that they need. This was clearly an issue from my practice that WMS was able to make a difference with this year. Working with the staff at WMS and several key legislators, I was able to help Wisconsin physicians be in the forefront of this epidemic. I was able to convene an Opioid Task Force at WMS that worked on several key issues of the epidemic including physician and public education, as well as needed legislation. Through this, we were able to assist and guide legislation to get more opioids off the street (and out of medicine cabinets) and enhance access to treatment that has already saved lives and will save more.

Of course, as all legislation is a compromise and give-and-take, we did end up with some mandates that some of our members will not be that excited about, such as the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) mandate and likely mandated prescriber education for opiates. It is a fact that opioids wouldn’t be on the streets if we did not prescribe them and the PDMP is a tool that can help us prescribe smarter. Being at the table as we were we were able to get important concessions such as minimum number of pills needed to trigger PDMP mandate (i.e. not EVERY script), a sunset provision (mandate will end after a couple of years), having the pharmacist get the script in the PDMP within 24 hours vs a week (assisting with timeliness and utility of the info), as well as pushing a complete re-do of the PDMP user interface due to complaints of how many clicks were needed and how difficult it was to use in the past. It was exciting to be able to work closely with the legislators and enact useful laws that will help us be better prescribers and save lives. The opiates were a win-win for physicians and the public health that I was proud to be engaged in.

The legislative arena was not always fun, though. I remember representing WMS policy (not enough data to mandate that our docs prescribe this) on CBD oil at a hearing where I was the only person that testified CON and had to follow effective and emotional testimony from mothers who lost their children from complications related to seizure disorders that they feel CBD would have cured or treated. Needless to say I was not the most popular person in the room, or for several days after, with the pro-marijuana lobby leaving harassing phone calls on my work voicemail. That being said, the legislative piece was one of the really fulfilling parts of the job. Being on the WPA Executive Council concurrently allowed for seamless communication on legislative priorities and allowed me to use my bully pulpit on WPA priorities as well as WMS priorities. This is generally easy to do anyway with the strong psychiatry representation within the WMS leadership.

Being able to represent WMS was always interesting. Whether it was in press releases (I remember writing a response to King vs. Burwell while at a conference in Romania), on the radio (doing an early morning interview with WPR on the floor in the bathroom of a hotel in New York City while my family sleeps) or in person at various bill signings, legislative events, other states events or most memorably speaking at the white coat ceremonies for both medical schools on behalf of the Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation.

I will also remember visiting county medical society meetings throughout the state. It was a pleasure to meet our colleagues and hear a lot about the need for psychiatry all over the state and to be able to engage in constructive conversations on this topic. It is important for psychiatry to be out in front of this topic too. I also had the opportunity to represent WMS in Washington DC (where we talked about many things including opioids) as well as state medical society meetings throughout the country. Learning about the challenges of practices across the country (including Texas, Florida, Pennsylvania as well as the states in the Midwest) helps us to come up with ideas to address what we are seeing in our state and we can share our many successes with other states. Doctors across the country are struggling with the same issues with payers, government intrusion and burnout. This is also true at the state level. I was also able to have interesting conversations about the political and membership topics of the day which oftentimes included opioids.

As WMS President, I was able to facilitate the sharing of ideas across the various regions of the state. We were able to come up legislative fixes to improve physicians’ abilities to practice high quality care in an ever-changing environment. I was happy to play my part and found the whole process personally and professionally very satisfying.

Handing over the medallion happened in early April. I was proud of what we accomplished but ready to step aside for the 165th President of WMS, a family physician from West Allis. Since April, there has been a lot of catch up at home and at work, as you can imagine. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as WMS president.

WCCAP is now WISCCAP

The Wisconsin Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists has launched a new website at www.WISCCAP.org. With this launch, the organization will now utilize the acronym WISCCAP to coincide with the website domain.

WISCCAP represents over 130 practicing child and adolescent psychiatrist throughout the state of Wisconsin. It is a state affiliate of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP). The organization is committed to fostering partnerships within the state of Wisconsin as a means for enhancing member engagement and participation. The next WISCCAP Executive Committee meeting will occur on October 1st at the conclusion of the 2016 Wisconsin Psychiatric Association Fall Conference. All WISCCAP members are welcome to participate.
### UW-Madison Incoming Residents

**Art Walaszek, MD, Program Director**

The University of Wisconsin Psychiatric Residency is pleased to welcome the following new residents:

- **Jennifer Cromwell** attended the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth. In addition to her involvement in research, she has volunteered at a suicide prevention hotline in New Hampshire.

- **Amanda Delaney** graduated from UW School of Medicine and Public Health where she was in the Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine program. She has served as a home health aide and helped educate Somali youth about nutrition.

- **Michelle Hume** received her MD and PhD from UWSMPH and served on the UW's Institutional Review Board. She utilizes her strong interest in ethics in her role as a pediatric ethicist at the Food and Drug Administration.

- **James Lehman** earned his MD and MPH at UW. He has a passion for organized medicine and is involved with the Wisconsin Medical Society, American Psychiatric Association, American Public Health Association and as a Board member of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association.

- **Zachary “Zak” Miles** attended medical school at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine. As an avid athlete and personal trainer, and draws a strong connection between physical fitness and psychiatry. He has coached basketball and track & field for the Special Olympics.

- **Yelena Mironova-Chin** attended medical school at UWSMPH and received her undergrad degree from Harvard. She has studied human neural stem cell differentiation at the Institute of Reconstructive Neurobiology at the University of Bonn, Germany.

- **Donald Skenandore** is a graduate of the Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science. He was recognized with a Gold Humanism Award for his work mentoring youth in the Oneida Tribe of Indians.

- **Quan “Coki” Ta** went to medical school at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University. He has volunteered in a buddy program that pairs students with patients with Alzheimer’s disease.

- **Vuong Vu** attended medical school at UWSMPH. He has done work with Medical Students for Minority Concerns, the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association, and the Vietnam Health Project.

- **Donald Skenandore** is a graduate of the Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science. He was recognized with a Gold Humanism Award for his work mentoring youth in the Oneida Tribe of Indians.

- **Anna Hackenmiller** attended University of Washington School of Medicine and served as patient referral coordinator and clinic manager for a free medical clinic and transitional housing site for the homeless.

- **Jeremy Chapman** from Rush Medical College, is a member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society and founder and director of videoPEACH.

- **Claire Drom** is a graduate of University of Texas at Galveston where she was student editor of In-Training Online Magazine.

- **Devin Dunatov** went to Creighton University School of Medicine Phoenix Regional Campus. Last year, he presented three posters at the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine conference in New Orleans, LA.

- **Anna Hackenmiller** attended University of Washington School of Medicine and served as patient referral coordinator and clinic manager for a free medical clinic and transitional housing site for the homeless.

- **Imran Iqbal** graduated from Saba University School of Medicine and then completed OB-Gyn residency at the University of Missouri Kansas City. He is a recipient of the James A Thorp, MD, Excellence in Research Award.

- **Amanda Liewen** graduated from University of Louisville School of Medicine in 2015. She spent the year prior to residency in Guatemala, providing mental health care in an underserved clinic.

- **Erika Steinbrenner** went to State University of New York (SUNY) Upstate Medical University and has a special interest in the psychological comorbidity of pain management.

- **Tareq Yaqub** is a graduate of Michigan State University College of Human Medicine in Flint, where he developed an elective in refugee mental health.

- **James (Alex) Ruvalcaba** will join MCW as a PGY2. He is a Wisconsin native who graduated from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and has volunteered at the AODA clinic at Centro de la Comunidad Unida in Milwaukee.

- **Sarah Slocum** will join MCW as a PGY2. She finished medical school at Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and is a member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

### APA 2016 Assembly Summary

**Michael Peterson, MD, PhD**

This was my first meeting attending as an Assembly Representative, and there was a steep learning curve. I was fortunately helped in this by both Clarence Chou, MD and Jake Behrens, MD, whose prior experience was invaluable in orienting me. The Assembly proceedings provided opportunities to meet and talk with APA leadership, and to hear how people are viewing priorities for the APA, and important trends. Lastly, I had to learn a bit about assembly procedure and parliamentary rules – coming from Wisconsin, my first reaction to the mention of “Sturgis” was the motorcycle rally – not Parliamentary Rules!

During the Area 4 Meeting, Assembly bills were reviewed and Area 4 elected its new officers:

- **Resident Fellow Member**: The current RFM representatives recommended the new RFM dep rep for next year. The WPA will continue to encourage our RFMs to get more directly involved.

- **Area 4 Representative**: Bob Batterson stepped down from this role after his election as the Assembly Recorder. Bhaskar Dave was elected representative and Kenneth Busch as Dep Rep. Clarence Chou was elected Treasurer.

Numerous APA Action Papers were voted on by the Assembly. Many passed without challenge, but some prompted vigorous discussion. Highlights included:

- **Support for developing a Practice Guideline for Inpatient Psychiatric Treatment**
- **Recommendation for APA to develop position statements on: mental health hotlines; global migrant and refugee crisis; psychiatrists not prescribing in ‘physician assisted suicide’ cases; a psychiatric response to human trafficking.**

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APA 2016 Assembly Summary continued....

- With significant debate, an Action Paper opposing 'Direct to Consumer Advertising' was reintroduced and referred directly to the APA Board of Trustees.
- Oppose laws that would allow pharmacists to substitute prescriptions with another medication within class without physician input (motivated by an Arkansas law).
- Support the improvement of PDMPs.
- Discussion and support for action to “Protect Senior Psychiatrists from mandatory competency testing”, based solely on age.
- Ethics Education: there was not support for adding an education requirement, but did support acknowledging the importance of ethics education.
- Support for developing a resource document providing ethical guidance on internet/social media searches on patients.
- Due to many recent state bills on “Religious Freedom” laws felt to be discriminatory and to threaten the mental health and well-being of the LGBT community, the Assembly voted to have the APA reaffirm prior Position Statements in opposition to discrimination and bias.

APA Assembly guest speakers included: Dr. Renee Binder, outgoing APA President, who highlighted issue of criminalization of mental illness and changes in MOC requirements; Dr. Maria Oquendo, incoming APA President, who spoke briefly about her upcoming term; Dr. Saul Levin, APA CEO and Medical Director, who reviewed several issues including MACRA legislation and the move toward performance based payment; and Dr. Stephen Permut, Chair of the AMA Board of Trustees, who called for collaboration on Health Care Reform and also highlighted AMA's role in repealing SGR and supporting MACRA, as well as an APA focus on professional satisfaction/physician burnout.

APA Assembly Elections: Dr. Theresa Miskimen was elected Speaker-Elect of the Assembly, and Dr. Bob Batterson was elected Recorder.

At the close of the session, there was a farewell to the outgoing speaker, Glenn Martin, a welcome to the incoming Speaker, Dan Anzia. The assembly adjourned, with the next schedule meeting in November.

Have ideas, concerns or issues you’d like brought to APA? Please contact your Assembly Reps via the WPA office (WPA@badgerbay.co).