President’s Message

Justin Schoen, MD

As we are all trying to dig out from the snow and ice that just descended upon Wisconsin, I have to remind myself that it is also the time of year when spring is trying to knock the door down. Easier said than done given the current weather! Anyway, the Wisconsin Medical Society just completed their Annual Meeting, and as the Psychiatry Section Delegate, I was fortunate to attend. Many of you may not realize just how many psychiatrists are involved in WMS as delegates and leaders: Dr. Michael Miller is currently the speaker of the House of Delegates; Dr. Jerry Halverson is the WMS Chair of the Board, and as of this past weekend, Dr. Molli Rolli is the new WMS President. Congratulations to Dr. Rolli and to all psychiatrists who are involved!

In addition to the work we do at the state level, WPA has also worked closely with APA on many fronts. We were able to obtain grant funding to cover the expense of our jointly developed Amicus Brief in the medical malpractice liability case that I’ve mentioned in previous updates. The Supreme Court of Wisconsin continues to work through that case and more updates will be shared as they become known.

APA is also ramping up for another annual Meeting. Many of us from WPA will be in New York City in early May, and there are multiple events directly and indirectly involving members of the WPA. If anyone is interested in getting together while there, please feel free to contact me or the WPA office and we can try to help facilitate.

Best wishes and have a wonderful spring!

Justin

Doctor Rolli Inducted as WMS President

Jerry Halverson, MD, DFAPA, WPA Past President and WMS Past President

Friday the 13th of April 2018 was a lucky day for the physicians and patients of Wisconsin as Past WPA President and current member of the WPA Executive Council, Martha “Molli” Rolli, MD was inaugurated as the 167th President of the Wisconsin Medical Society at the Monona Terrace in Madison.

Dr. Rolli is an outlier as President. She is amongst a handful of psychiatrists to hold the position and the eighth female President in the history of the Society.

Dr. Rolli is currently medical director at Mendota Mental Health Institute. She has been in our leadership at WPA for many years since her presidency from 2003-2005. She has helped to chart the path of the organization and playing a large role in many of our successes for the promotion of mental health care in Wisconsin.

Dr. Rolli brings a wealth of experience in the Medical Society having recently completed a term as the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Medical Society. Her inaugural address made clear her presidential theme was to increase access to high quality psychiatric care in Wisconsin. To this end, the Wisconsin Medical Society (WMS) has convened a “Mental and Behavioral Health Task Force” that Dr. Rolli will continue to Chair as President. This Task Force was convened to help WMS marshal its considerable clout and resources to improve access to quality psychiatric care in Wisconsin.

Task Force convenes multiple stakeholders form the physician community, including the WPA. As you know, nearly 1.5 million of our fellow Wisconsinites are dealing with illness and our State has the 4th highest prevalence of mental illness in the nation, yet we rank only 34th in terms of mental health work force availability. Through this Task Force and through her Presidency, Dr. Rolli hopes to address this crisis in Wisconsin by reducing stigma, increasing access to care and building the workforce.

We applaud Dr Rolli for this honor and for giving psychiatric issues such visibility. We wish Dr. Rolli the best in her Presidency and feel confident that she knows that the WPA is strongly supporting her and will be at the table helping to push her agenda.
New Emergency Detention Task Force

The WPA and the Wisconsin Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (WACEP) recently convened a joint work group to share skill sets, benchmark on issues, and develop a working partnership for the future. A longitudinal goal of this WPA/WACEP group would be to establish themselves as subject matter experts on items pertaining to the care of patients with mental illness in the emergency setting. As such, they could be a primary point of contact for any policy makers or elected officials looking for informed expert guidance.

This group was initially convened to identify shared interests and priorities for Emergency Detention legislation but is poised to address other issues related to emergency psychiatry including, but not limited to, medical clearance, transport, scope of practice, and standardizing care for those with mental illness in Emergency Departments.

Editor’s Note: The Emergency Detention Task Force is being co-chaired by Tony Thrasher, DO and Michael Peterson, MD. WPA members with questions may contact either of them through the WPA office at WPA@badgerbay.co.

Siggy Returns to UW after 2018 Resident Case Competition

The 2018 WPA Resident Vignette Competition took place during the Annual Conference earlier this month at The Edgewater in Madison. Now in its 6th year, the competition continues to offer outstanding presentations from Wisconsin residents, as well as thought-provoking questions and interaction among conference attendees.

This year’s presenters included Drs. Michelle Hume and Yelena Mironova-Chin from UW, and Drs. Amanda Liewen and Satish Shashidhara from MCW. Judging the 2018 competition were Drs. Meredith Holbrook, MJ Kramer, Jeff Marcus, and James Rutherford. The winning clinical vignette was presented by Michelle Hume, MD, who brought the “Siggy” back to the University of Wisconsin.

Next year’s competition which will take place on March 15, 2019 during the 2019 Annual Conference at The Osthoff in Elkhart Lake, WI.

WPA 2018 Fall Conference, Sept. 27-28, Wisconsin Dells

Tony Thrasher, DO, DFAPA, Conference Co-Chair

Please join us for our fall WPA Conference on Alcohol: Advocating for Change, Addressing Culture, and Advancing Public Health.

We are very excited to be offering a phenomenally talented group of presenters who will be discussing many different aspects of alcohol use, including an examination of its public health ramifications and its historical place in Wisconsin society.

Our keynotes will focus on medication assisted treatment, genetic advances, and how alcohol plays a prominent role in burnout of both trainees and established medical professionals. We will also have presentations from physicians within the private sector, the VA, the Medical Examining Board, and the Wisconsin Alcohol Policy Project. Lastly, we will also have several physicians with lived experience who will be offering their thoughts and wisdom from a panel perspective.

The conference will be held at the Glacier Canyon Lodge at Wilderness Resort in Wisconsin Dells, September 27-28. The format, as with recent fall conferences, will include a Thursday night dinner keynote, followed by all day Friday sessions—leaving you the weekend for personal time!

Additionally, we are including a complementary Integrated Care course being presented by the American Psychiatric Association that will be offered as a pre-conference session from 12:00-4:00 pm on Thursday afternoon.

We hope to see you in the Dells!

September 27: Complimentary Integrated Care Training

Join WPA in Wisconsin Dells from 12:00-4:00 pm on Thursday, September 27th for a free integrated care training workshop. APA will present its Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (TCPI), and the session is open to all psychiatrists and primary care physicians. CME will be provided, and registration is required. A nominal fee will cover lunch for all attendees. Visit www.TheWPA.org for details.

“I highly recommend this course. It goes beyond simply describing the basic definition of integrated care and delves into practical information about how to actually implement it. It also opened the door to a network of resources and providers who are doing this work. The course was also well organized and interesting.” —Katrina Hickle-Koclanes, MD, WPA Member
Legislative Update

*Eric Jensen, WPA Lobbyist*

**Doctor Day 2018 and 2019**

On January 30th nearly 500 physicians and medical students came to Madison for the 5th annual Doctor Day advocacy event—our biggest turnout yet! While in Madison, attendees heard from Governor Walker, received a legal update on the Mayo case in which a state appeals court invalidated Wisconsin’s non-economic damages cap for medical liability cases, appeal of which is now pending before the Wisconsin Supreme Court, listened to a legal discussion relating to network adequacy and surprise billing. The morning session wrapped with briefings on issues including worker’s compensation, advanced practice nurse collaboration and chiropractors conducting youth sports physicals. Once again, following an afternoon of legislative visits attendees retired to a nearby restaurant for debriefing and camaraderie.

Looking ahead, next year’s event will be scheduled later in the year to better coincide with the Legislature’s primary activity for the year—the State Budget. Doctor Day 2019 is tentatively scheduled for May 1, 2019—mark your calendars now!

**Chiropractor Sports Physicals**

One of the items discussed at Doctor Day, Assembly Bill 260, in its original form would have authorized chiropractors to conduct youth pre-participation athletic physical exams and require the WIAA to accept those exams for athletic participation. WPA joined a large number of health care organizations opposing AB 260, but last June the bill passed the State Assembly. In the wake of Doctor Day, however, AB 260 was amended by the Senate Health Committee to remove the sports physical authority, passed by the Senate, concurred in by the Assembly and ultimately signed by Governor Walker in an amended form to which physician organizations did not object. This is a testament to the impact of physicians can have lobbying their lawmakers at Doctor Day!

**Assembly Bill 848**

Earlier this year, WPA testified in support of this legislation, authored by Representative Amy Laudenbeck (R-Clinton), to provide up to 30 days of emergency mental health treatment without parental/guardian consent for minors while a Mental Health Review Officer process is underway. AB 848 did pass both the Assembly and Senate, and was recently signed by Governor Walker. An excerpt from testimony by Justin Schoen, MD and John Schneider, MD:

As with most physical illnesses, the key to swift and successful outcomes is early detection, diagnosis and treatment. In many cases, for example those where a child’s parents or guardians are themselves struggling with mental illness, or are drug abusers, or who are largely absent, it is others in a child’s life (like teachers, or counselors) who see the first signs of mental health issues. Appropriately, written consent of a child’s parents or guardians is required before children receive mental health treatment, but in some instances parents or guardians are unavailable to provide that consent. In those cases, Wisconsin law provides a mental health review officer (MHRO) process by which children can receive mental health treatment without a parent or guardian’s consent. Unfortunately, that MHRO process can be difficult and time consuming to navigate, and can result in a delay in finding mental health care for a child, perhaps resulting in no care at all.

SB 737 would allow children to receive up to 30 days of emergency mental health treatment without parental/guardian consent if circumstances make gaining that consent difficult or impossible. Under appropriate circumstances, this allows a child to get necessary mental health care while the MHRO process plays out, rather than delaying care and increasing the child’s chances for a negative outcome. Our children are among our most vulnerable, and while requiring the involvement of their parents/guardians in their healthcare is a good public policy, it is important that we do all we reasonably can to get children necessary mental health care as quickly as possible. SB 737 represents a balanced approach to this dilemma. Please support SB 737.

**Campaign Season is Upon Us**

Finally, with an odd-year spring finally upon us, the Legislature has formally adjourned the 2917-18 Session and heads off to campaign for November. Republicans presently dominate Wisconsin politics holding the Governor’s office, the Attorney General’s office, a 63-35 majority in the Assembly and a 18-15 majority in the Senate. November will see races for Governor, Attorney General, all 99 Assembly seats and 17 of the 33 Senate seats. (As well as all 8 of Wisconsin’s Congressional seats and one U.S. Senate seat.)

Recent special elections and Supreme Court elections in Wisconsin, as well as other states, suggest a typical anti-President’s party mid-term election coming. Republicans downplay prospects of a “blue wave” election favoring Democrats, touting Wisconsin’s economic status and low unemployment among their achievements. Democrats, meanwhile, believe the electorate is ready for change and are working hard to recruit candidates and raise money in as many Wisconsin districts as possible. There is much time between now and November, and elections tend to tighten up as voting day approaches regardless of who appears to be leading early on, but without a doubt 2018 is shaping up to be another in a series of very interesting recent Election Days.

Dinner and Discussion with WPA’s Milwaukee Chapter, May 21

Join the WPA Milwaukee Chapter for a complimentary Dinner & Discussion on Technology in Everyday Clinical Psychiatric Practice. Jacob Behrens, MD will lead an evening discussion of potential technology and workflow changes that may ease the burden of the modern psychiatric practice.

Doctor Behrens is the CEO and Medical Director at Envision ADHD in Milwaukee. He is also a psychiatrist at Whole Health Clinic, a Community Support Program working to develop and deploy an integrated system allowing clinic visits from the field by utilizing telehealth to better address client needs and medical management. Doctor Behrens serves as the Innovation Committee Chair for the AMA Young Physician Section.

The event will be held from 6:00 to 8:30 pm on Monday, May 21, 2018 in the 5th Floor Conference Center at Wheaton Franciscan Wauwatosa Campus. Learn more and register at www.TheWPA.org.

This program is sponsored in part by Professional Risk Management Services, Inc. (PRMS), and is open and complimentary to all WPA members.
Kalin Named Editor of American Journal of Psychiatry

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) announced today that Ned H. Kalin, M.D., will assume the role of Editor in Chief of the American Journal of Psychiatry (AJP) beginning Jan. 1, 2019. The American Journal of Psychiatry is the premier journal of the APA and is the most widely read psychiatric journal in the world.

Kalin, who is Hedberg Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, is among the most accomplished biological psychiatrists, working to understand the brain mechanisms underlying mental disorders.

Kalin also serves as the Director of the HealthEmotions Research Institute and Director of the Lane Neuroimaging Laboratory, both at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. He is a member of the National Academy of Medicine (2015) and a member of the Editorial Board of Personalized Medicine in Psychiatry (2016). Kalin is principal investigator on several ongoing research projects funded by the National Institute of Mental Health. He is a Distinguished Fellow of the APA and has served on the APA Council on Research (2015-2018).

“We anticipate the journal, under Dr. Kalin’s leadership, to lead the field of psychiatry and reflect where the field is headed in research and treatment,” said APA CEO and Medical Director Saul Levin, M.D., M.P.A. “We are very excited about Dr. Kalin’s appointment to head the AJP.”

“While I emphasize the importance of integrating a translational behavioral and neuroscience aspect to AJP, I am highly invested in the clinical components of our field and the Journal,” Kalin said. “I believe that the strength of AJP lies in combining its clinical focus, which includes case reports, clinical research and reviews, with clinical commentary. Adding translational neuroscience to the clinical strengths of the journal is an exciting opportunity to blend scientific advances with clinical applications.”

Kalin will replace current editor Robert Freedman, M.D., when his third and final term ends on Dec. 31, 2018.

Heading to New York? Stop by the Rogers Reception

Heading to APA in New York in May? Rogers Behavioral Health is extending an invitation to WPA members to join their reception, hosted by Jerry L. Halverson, MD, DFAPA Chief Medical Officer, Rogers Behavioral Health. RSVPs are requested.

The reception will take place on Sunday, May 6, 2018, 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the New York Marriott Marquis - Gilbert Room, 4th floor, 1535 Broadway New York, NY 10036. Please RSVP by 4/30/2018 by contacting Rick Ramsay at rramsay@rogersbh.org or 413-822-8013. Please provide your name, email address and cell phone number.