President’s Message

John Schneider, MD, FAPA

The world it seems is in a very complex place. We’re surrounded and beset, seemingly at every turn, with crisis after crisis. Many of us are filled and overwhelmed with palpable Kierkegaard-like angst. The information overload that the current minute-by-minute news cycle and social media overload that permeates our current world crashing over us like a rising tide.

Luckily, summer is upon us and taking a quote from one of John Hughes' titular characters (a bit out of context): “How can I possibly be expected to handle [work] on a day like this?” The young Mr. Bueller, goes on to instruct us that “Life moves pretty fast. If you don’t stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it.”

I find this sage advice from the rebellious hero on our need to take a moment, step back and let ourselves have some fun. In the movie, John Hughes' titular character, Ferris and his friends, lead us on a day long romp about Chicago that Homer’s Odysseys would envy. While we don’t need to pack that much into one day, we could.

There are so many good things to see and do around us in Wisconsin; festivals galore, from Summerfest to Little Chute Cheese Days to Fondy’s Walleye Days. Many great natural wonders to see, or walk, or drive. I myself, will be heading out on a tour of waterfalls next week as I wander my way up north. I’m not sure it really matters what you pick, just get out there and see something good.

Here’s hoping you go out and have a Grand Summer!

John.

Psychiatrists Make Strong Showing at Doctor Day

Plans Underway for 2020

Doctor Day was held May 1st in Madison, and psychiatry was again among those specialties with greatest representation. Prior to meeting with legislators at the State Capitol, attendees heard from two speakers: Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers and Department of Health Services Secretary Andrea Palm. Gov. Evers, who was introduced by his daughter Erin Schoenecker, MD, praised physicians for the care they provide and asked for their help in ensuring access to care.

Doctor Day is a partnership among physician organizations in Wisconsin, including WPA. The event provides a unique opportunity for physicians from across the state to collaborate and share with policymakers facts and data on timely health care issues. Plans are already underway for Doctor Day 2020, taking place on Wednesday, January 29, 2020. Sign up today at www.WIDoctorDay.org.

WPA Welcomes New Executive Council Leadership

Congratulations and welcome to John Schneider, MD who officially takes over as president of the Wisconsin Psychiatric Association on May 19th. Doctor Schneider is Chief Medical Officer of the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division, serves as Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine at MCW, and has served in multiple leadership roles with WPA over the years.

“Over the next two years, I look forward to working with the dedicated leaders who serve selflessly alongside me on the Executive Council, not only to ensure WPA remains a viable and relevant organization, but more importantly, to advocate on behalf of psychiatry to ensure patients needing mental healthcare are well-served,” said Schneider. “I also want to take a moment to offer my sincere thanks to my predecessor, Dr. Justin Schoen, for his leadership and commitment to the organization, and in particular, his successful efforts to engage residents.”

WPA congratulates all who were recently elected or appointed to serve on the 2019-2021 WPA Executive Council:

- President-Elect: Angela Janis, MD
- Secretary: Jeff Marcus, MD
- Treasurer: Molli Rolli, MD
- Councilors at Large: Brian Berendes, MD; Gregory Burek, MD; Barbara Hales-Richlen, MD; Meredith Holbrook, MD; Annaliene Koller Schumate, DO; Anne Miller, MD
- APA Assembly Representatives: Clarence Chou, MD; Jerry Halverson, MD; Michael Peterson, MD
- Milwaukee Chapter: Tony Thrasher, DO (President); Julie Owen, MD (ECP)
- Northern Chapter: Gabriella Hangiandreou, MD (President); Dileep Borra, MD and Erica Larson, DO (ECPs)
- Southern Chapter: Cindy Stanford, MD (President); Laurel Bessey, MD and Katrina Hickie-Koclanes, MD (ECPs)
- Resident Fellow Member Reps: Erika Steinbrenner, MD (MCW); Michelle Hum, MD and Jeffrey Mahlum, MD (UW)
Wisconsin Welcomes New Psychiatry Residents

Psychiatry is a growing field! There are now nearly 300 psychiatry residencies and over 1,700 PGY1 psychiatry positions nationwide. Wisconsin’s psychiatric residency programs proudly welcome their incoming residents.

University of Wisconsin
Program Director: Art Walszak, MD, DFAPA

Beau Batty from Still College of Osteopathic Medicine. He attended UW-Madison as an undergrad where he majored in Psychology and Neuroscience, was on the varsity rowing team and volunteered on the inpatient psychiatry unit at UW Hospital.

Matt Biler, MD from UW School of Medicine and Public Health. He has had a varied career path from undergraduate studies in Chemistry to a master’s degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences, both at UW-Madison. He has worked as a certified nursing assistant to patients in memory care.

Zabrina Ebert, DO from Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. Aside compassion and access for the aforementioned groups.

Substance Abuse and Addiction Interest Group.

in Community Health (RUSCH) program. At UWSMPH, she co-led the Maggie Kaiser, MD from UW School of Medicine and Public Health. As

for people with substance use disorders.

college’s Chorale and an organizer of a community outreach program

Maggie Kaiser, MD from UW School of Medicine and Public Health. As

for underserved communities

Kamal Al-Salby, MD from Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit. Demonstrating an interest in improving healthcare equity in marginalized communities, Kamal was involved in a number of institutional projects and committees within medical school aimed at improving compassion and access for the aforementioned groups.

Zabrina Ebert, DO from Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. Aside

from her positions as student tutor and mentor during medical school, she has shown a dedication to underserved medicine through her work as a National Health Corps Scholar and volunteer work in the Norma Jean Sanders free clinic in Chicago.

Rachel Feltman-Frank, DO from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine-Bradenton. With significant pediatric volunteering and committee experience in medical school, Rachel intends to pursue a career in child psychiatry.

Samuel Hall, MD from the Medical College of Wisconsin. An NIH research fellow prior to medical school, Sam has published numerous reports and posters regarding alcohol use and alcoholism. During medical training, he served as president of the MCW Psych SIGN group and demonstrated an interest in veteran and homeless outreach.

Corey Lehnert, MD from Rosalind Franklin School of Medicine and Science. He was a teacher in a resource-poor area of Philadelphia, where he was coordinator and faculty trainer in Teach for America. His psychiatry interests lie in psychopharmacologic, biopsychosocial and psychotherapeutic aspects of care.

Zoe Moss, DO from Western University of Health Sciences/College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific. She has been deeply involved with exploring health disparities in the LGBTQ+ community, facilitating several panels and lectures on this topic while in medical school.

Sam Partington, MD from UW School of Medicine and Public Health. He has an interest in global health that has taken him to Uganda, South Africa, and Guatemala during medical school. He also served in the Peace Corps and has a clear commitment to the support of underserved communities

Maaida Tauni, MD from Aga Khan University Medical College in Karachi, Pakistan. She has organized presentations and given talks for “Taskeen,” a mental health initiative to increase awareness of and reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness. She also received APA grant funds for a depression screening study in Pakistan.

Medical College of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Campus
Program Director: Mara Pheister, MD, FAPA

Kamal Al-Salby, MD from Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit. Demonstrating an interest in improving healthcare equity in marginalized communities, Kamal was involved in a number of institutional projects and committees within medical school aimed at improving compassion and access for the aforementioned groups.

Alexander Johnson, MD from the Medical College of Wisconsin. In medical school, Alex completed both neuroscience research as well as translational psychiatry research in psycho-oncology. Outside of the college, Alex served as a Task Force member charged with developing a program for high school students and staff to identify and respond to signs of depression within the community.

Shalini Kansal, MD from University of Illinois Rockford COM. Having worked as a therapist for five years prior to entering medical school, Shalini facilitated weekly support groups for the Depression/Bipolar Support Alliance in Chicago and served as a victim advocate for Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling.

Deborah Kennedy, MD from UNIRIO School of Medicine in Rio de Janeiro. After practicing medicine in Brazil following her graduation, she has more recently become involved in neuropsychiatry and translational psychiatry, producing numerous articles and posters in the last year with the intent to practice as a clinical psychiatrist and researcher.

Bradley Zastroz, MD from Medical College of Wisconsin-Green Bay. In addition to extensive volunteer work in community outreach through MCW, he has worked in an adolescent AODA treatment center, held leadership positions in Psych SIGN, and has completed research in multiple fields both in undergraduate and medical training.
The Joint Finance Committee (JFC -- the 16-member committee made up of 8 senators and 8 representatives – currently controlled 12-4 by Republicans) began and completed its lengthy process of reviewing a State Budget proposal piece by piece. Relevant highlights of JFC's budget activity:

- Governor Evers introduced his first Biennial Budget proposal in late January for review and signature, veto or partial-veto. There remains much speculation about whether the Governor will veto the entire budget as proposed by Legislative-majority Republicans, or whether he will veto portions. Either way, budget negotiations (including Medicaid spending) may stall completely or may stall and resume later in the Fall. In addition to the State Budget, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos (R-Burlington) created the Speaker’s Task Force on Suicide Prevention made up of a bipartisan group of Assembly representatives. The Task Force has held meetings thus far featuring invited speakers and designed to identify current state suicide prevention efforts. There will be several meetings yet this summer, with a Task Force report likely coming in September. WPA will be looking for suicide prevention experts to provide testimony at future meetings.

- Finally, WPA has continued to partner with the Wisconsin Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians (WACEP) on the WPA-WACEP Emergency Detention Task Force. The Task Force was created nearly two years ago after emergency detention legislation was proposed by several law enforcement organizations. WPA and WACEP joined forces to express opposition to that legislation, which did not advance during the 2017-18 Session. The Task Force has met a number of times since, completing a white paper that has been submitted for publication, and now beginning outreach to law enforcement organizations who have shown interest in addressing issues relating to emergency detention.

Help WPA’s Advocacy Efforts!

Visit www.TheWPA.org/PAC today to donate.

Medical College of Wisconsin - Central Wisconsin Campus

Program Director: Edward Krall, MD, DLFAPA

Brittany Harding from Central Michigan University College of Medicine. She completed a sub-internship in child psychiatry and has demonstrated her commitment to community service through her work in Honduras and rural Africa. She has also worked in hospice care and with Habitat for Humanity.

Luba Kats from West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. A second-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do, Luba is driven to serve. She has worked as an autism therapist, done research with NAMI and is an advocate for women's health through Medical Students for Choice.

Medical College of Wisconsin - Northeastern Wisconsin Campus

Program Director: Robert Gouthro, MD

Anne Marie Wannamaker from the UW School of Medicine and Public Health. As a volunteer for the WPA's 2016 Annual Conference Depression: State of the Art, she helped with event setup and on-site coordination. At UW, she facilitated peer interviews of medical school applicants and provided analysis to the admissions committee.

Marley Kercher from Rush Medical College of Rush University Medical Center in Illinois. She volunteers at the Neenah Board of Health to work on issues affecting health of the community. She previously worked in an OB/GYN practice providing a full range of women's health care.

Anne Machesky from the Medical College of Wisconsin. She has designed, implemented and evaluated a monthly support group for couples trying to conceive after a previous miscarriage or infant loss. She participated in the MCW-Green Bay Community Research Poster Forum and ran a modified support group based on participant feedback.

Kirubel Woldemichael from the Medical College of Wisconsin. An immigrant from Ethiopia, he is acutely aware of the plight of immigrants. His service includes working with the Saturday Free Clinic and Warrior project in Milwaukee, for Catholic refugee resettlement, and with the Ethiopian Union.

Medical College of Wisconsin

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Medical College of Wisconsin - Northeastern Wisconsin Campus

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Register Today for the WPA 2019 Fall Conference

Suicide: A Population Approach to Prevention

Katrina Hickle-Koclanes, MD

Suicide is a significant worsening issue across the country and in Wisconsin, according to the CDC, there was a 25.8% increase in suicides in Wisconsin from 1999 to 2016. The scope of this problem requires a public health approach to make change.

Join WPA at the Fall Conference, September 12-13, 2019 at Saint Kate the Arts Hotel in Milwaukee, where we will be looking at population-based interventions that address issues like health care disparities, gun violence, suicide barriers and zero suicide initiatives and how this can apply to your practice. There will also be opportunities to engage in advocacy regarding these interventions through interactive sessions.

Visit www.TheWPA.org/event/2019fall to learn more and register.

Typical or Troubled®?

In conjunction with the Fall Conference, WPA is holding a pre-conference train-the-trainer certification workshop, Typical or Troubled® that will take place from 11 am to 4 pm on Thursday, September 12 in Milwaukee. Upon course completion, participants will be equipped to bring school-based mental health training into local community schools and train school educators and staff to understand and identify psychiatric problems in adolescent students.

For more than ten years, this program has equipped teachers, coaches and other school personnel with the knowledge needed to recognize the warning signs of mental health concerns and what course of action to take in addressing potential issues. A workshop fee of $25 covers certification and lunch. Registration is available through the WPA Fall Conference registration page at www.theWPA.org/event/2019fall. A “workshop-only” registration option is available.

Save-the-Date!

WPA 2020 Annual Conference

Autistic Spectrum Disorders Across the Lifespan

March 5-7, 2020

The Edgewater, Madison WI