WPC eNews

It's been a busy few months promoting the upcoming 4th World Parkinson Congress during Parkinson's Awareness Month in April. Did you see us at the American Academy of Neurology Conference in Washington, DC or did you stop by our booth at the Parkinson's Unity Walk? While we were hosting tables at those meetings, WPC 2016 Ambassadors were hosting information tables at events around the world to raise awareness about the WPC 2016. Keep a look out for the WPC table at other upcoming events and let us know if you want to promote the WPC 2016 at your own event.

WPC Leadership Honored

Professor Nancy Ip, WPC 2016 Steering Committee member was recently honored for her leadership in the scientific community by being elected as a Foreign Associate of the US National Academy of Sciences (NAS). This is one of the most prestigious honors a scientist can achieve. We are thrilled that Professor Ip has been recognized for her research in neural development and functions as well as drug discovery for neurodegenerative diseases. We are also pleased that Professor Ip is helping to steer the plans for WPC 2016. Having leadership, such as Professor Ip,
helps to ensure the WPC is presenting cutting edge science and that delegates who join us in Portland will learn about meaningful scientific advances.  Learn more about Professor Ip.

WPC Welcomes New Partners

Blogger Partners
Five new Blogger Partners signed on this month from three countries. Tim Hague (Canada), Robyn Levy (Canada), Natasha McCarthy (Canada), Marcus Cranston (US) and Timo Montonen (Finland) all signed up as WPC Blogger Partners.  Visit their their blogs.

Organizational Partner

444 Parkinson's Foundation is our newest Organizational Partner! Many of you may recognize their founder as Dr. Marcus Cranston, who is traversing the planet on foot and greeting members of the PD community along the way.  Learn more about the Run-the-World 4 Parkinson's Disease project.

WPC Spotlight On

This month's Spotlight is on Holly Chaimov, Executive Director of Parkinson's Resources of Oregon (PRO). With the WPC 2016 coming to her hometown of Portland, Holly and the PRO team is beyond excited for the Congress and they are ready to welcome the community next year.  Learn about PRO's support of the WPC and their preparations for the upcoming Congress.

Portland Countdown

The first ever WPC podcast, the Portland Countdown will launch on June 2, 2015! This interesting and unique podcast hosted by Emmy-award winning journalists Dave Iverson and Jon Palfreman will survey the landscape of Parkinson's disease research and treatment.

The first podcast show, "Parkinson's disease: the basics" will be available on Tuesday, June 2. It is an amazing conversation with Professor Andrew Lees, one of the most recognized Parkinson's clinicians globally. He's also the past co-chair of the WPC 2010 which was in Glasgow, and we happen to think he's
a pretty nice person on top of his academic accomplishments. We have heard a sneak peak of this show and believe us, you won't want to miss it!

Upcoming Events

Charity Family for Parkinson's Awareness & Fundraising Carnival*
May 17, 2015
Perak, Malaysia

Parkinson's Australia National Conference**
May 27-29, 2015
Adelaide, Australia

Partners in Parkinson's San Diego***
June 13, 2015
San Diego, CA, USA

19th International Congress of Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders***
June 14 - 18, 2015
San Diego, CA, USA

*Meet WPC 2016 Ambassador Samuel Ng
**Meet WPC 2016 Dilys Parker
***Meet WPC Executive Director Eli Pollard & Outreach Coordinator Christiana Thurton

Push-ups for Parkinson's

**Push-ups for Parkinson's** is a fun & friendly challenge to flex some muscles for Parkinson's! Cardel Homes, a leading home-builder in Calgary is partnering with Parkinson's organizations around the nation (including the WPC) in a push-up challenge to raise funds and PD awareness.

This challenge starts **Friday, May 1st** and serves as a reminder that exercise proves beneficial when living with Parkinson's.

**To take the challenge:**
1. Video yourself doing push-ups and upload it to Facebook or other social media outlets with the hashtag #pushups4parkinsons
2. Donate to the WPC Travel Grant Fund to help send people with Parkinson’s and junior researchers to the WPC 2016.
3. Nominate friends to take the Push-ups for Parkinson's Challenge.

To learn more visit [www.pushups4parkinsons.com](http://www.pushups4parkinsons.com).
WPC Online Store

Parky the Raccoon is at the WPC office and he is waiting for you to bring him home! By purchasing the limited edition Parky the Raccoon, you will support the WPC Travel Grants Program which will help a junior researcher or person living with Parkinson's to attend the WPC 2016.

There are also a few other goodies available for purchase at the WPC Store, including the official WPC 2016 hat and the WPC bag.

Cherise Bjornsgard & Brian Grant (left), Dr. Stanley Fahn (top right) & Dr. Raj Pahwa (bottom right)