Dear friends,

While the WPC is known these days for its dynamic and inspiring World Parkinson Congresses, not everyone was on board with the concept of bringing the community together after the first WPC in 2006.

After the first World Parkinson Congress in 2006 in Washington, DC, I remember hearing some questions about why we would hold a second WPC, “Wasn’t the one in DC enough?”, “Do you really think people will go to Glasgow for the WPC 2010?” Fortunately, our leadership believed in the mission of the WPC and found value in bringing the full community together so we forged ahead with our plans to host triennial, totally inclusive Congresses, and the impact has been impressive.

The recent blog by Alison Williams in Scotland tells us why it WAS a good idea to hold the WPC 2010 and that the impact of the WPC in Glasgow reached throughout Edinburgh and Scotland by connecting the scientific and patient communities with resounding results.

Launched in 2011, in direct response to the WPC 2010, the Edinburgh Research Interest Group (ERIG) was created and this
group, which is still going strong, will be hosting their 10th Edinburgh Parkinson’s Lecture on Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 7PM GMT/ 2PM ET. Registration is free and Professor Roger Barker who gave the first lecture in 2011, will be back for the 10th anniversary as the special guest lecturer. Register HERE.

The WPC impacts the community at all levels. While our impact is not always a straight line and sometimes we don't even know how we've impacted communities because we have not heard the stories, we know the WPC matters.

If you are reading this email, you’ve most likely been impacted by the WPC. Success is sometimes a slow walk, not a sprint, and it may feel at times like people are pulling you back by the hem of your shirt as you try to move forward to reach your goal. As long as you keep moving forward, you can achieve something meaningful – never doubt your vision. We support you and would love to hear your stories about how the WPC impacted you and your research or your community.

Stay the course, keep moving and thank you from the WPC for your ongoing support and belief in the work we do.

Elizabeth “Eli” Pollard
Executive Director

P.S. Congratulations to our two winners of the The Tulip Project raffle! Paqui Ruiz from Spain and Luis Juacamayta from Peru won free registration to attend the WPC 2023!

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**WPC activities to watch for this fall:**

**WPC Research Spotlight**
Monday, November 15, 2021
11 – 12PM ET/ 4 – 5PM GMT

Professor Heidi McBride will discuss her personal Parkinson’s journey and how her scientific collaborations are making a difference in the Parkinson’s world. Read her blog HERE.

**REGISTER** today for her talk

**Webinar Series / Serie de Seminarios Web**
Wednesday, November 17, 2021
*The emotional and social impacts of motor complications in PD*
1 – 2 PM ET/ 6 – 7 PM GMT (English webinar)
Los impactos emocionales y sociales de las complicaciones motoras en la EP
2:30 – 3:30 PM ET/ 7:30 PM GMT/ 8:30PM Spain (Escuchar en español)

This set of webinar talks made possible with support from Adamas Pharmaceuticals

**LEARN MORE** today

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**WPC Care Partner Talk Series**
Wednesday, Dec 8, 2021
3 - 4 PM ET/ 8 – 9 PM BST

Panel topic: Maintaining closeness: Sexuality, intimacy and the ever-changing relationship

**REGISTER** today

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**The Parkinson Tulip Project**

**SING-A-LONG**
9 AM PST / 12 PM EST/ 5 PM BST
Weds, Oct 13
Join us for an hour of singing and fun

**RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT**
11AM - 12PM ET
Weds, Nov 15
Discussion with Prof. Heidi M. McBride, McGill University

**CARE PARTNER VIRTUAL PANEL**
3PM - 4PM ET
Tues, Dec 8
Maintaining Closeness: Sexuality, intimacy and the ever-changing relationship

**JOIN US!**

**REGISTER**
TWITTER TAKEOVER
Mon, Oct 11
Alberto J. Espay, MD &
Benjamin Stecher
The authors of Brain Fables
are taking over our twitter account!

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

DUAL LANGUAGE WEBINAR
Weds, Nov 17
The emotional and social impacts of motor complications in PD
1 – 2 PM ET/ 6 – 7 PM GMT
Los impactos emocionales y sociales de las complicaciones motoras en la EP
2:30 – 3:30 PM ET/ 7:30 PM GMT/ 8:30PM
Spain
LEARN MORE

SAVE THE DATE: GIVING TUESDAY
Tues, Nov 30
Help support our digital and in person programs!
DONATE

WPC BLOG HIGHLIGHT
FIRST CATCH YOUR RESEARCHER AND MIX WITH ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT: WPC 2010 CONTINUES TO INSPIRE SCIENCE AND COLLABORATION IN EDINBURGH
Dr. Alison Williams

I never get tired of hearing people talk about being at the WPC 2010 in Glasgow. They call it a life-changing experience. They realised that WPC’s unique mix of researchers, healthcare professionals and PwP and carers gave – and continues to give – huge scope to our local PwP to contribute significantly, and on our own terms, to PD research. I can hear the passion in their voices when they talk about having been there.

Folks left the conference with two big questions: How do we share what we’ve learned with the rest of the local PD community? And: How do we keep the enthusiasm, passion and impetus going? In answer to the first question, the Edinburgh Branch of Parkinson’s UK ran a symposium three months later, and the enthusiasm was such that, in answer to the second question, the Branch decided to form an Edinburgh Research Interest Group.
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