



PsychSIGN

The Psychiatry Student Interest Group Network

**CAREER
NEWSLETTER**

SPRING 2009

March 4, 2009

Dear fellow medical student,

Psychiatry is an incredibly diverse field, perhaps more so than any other medical specialty. It concerns itself with everything from the molecular and neuroanatomic underpinnings of mood and behavioral disorders to the narrative and meaning of illness to broader questions about culture, community, and the possibility of meaningful recovery for our patients. Even beyond this plethora of research subjects, psychiatry also encompasses a variety of patient populations (child/adolescent, geriatric), clinical applications (substance abuse, psychotherapy), and systems (community, forensics). While this vast range of topics may have been what drew you to psychiatry in the first place, sometimes such richness can be overwhelming to those just entering the field.

This inaugural PsychSIGN Career Newsletter was conceived and developed with the goal of helping you navigate this sea of options in mind. Many medical students are unaware that a wide range of national organizations devoted to these very topics already exist—and moreover, that leaders of these groups are very eager to collaborate with PsychSIGN members like yourself. This newsletter highlights the major organizations that currently have established ties with PsychSIGN. Basic information about each organization is provided, as well as a summary of benefits offered specifically for medical students and information about upcoming meetings. Whether you already know you are interested in a particular group or just want to find out what's out there, this newsletter should be a great place to begin your research.

Additionally, if you have not yet applied to be your med school's representative to the 4th Annual PsychSIGN National Conference on May 15-17 in San Francisco, I strongly urge you to do so. In addition to the incredible programming that we have planned, all attendees are invited to a special dinner with representatives from specialty psychiatry organizations on the evening of Saturday, May 16 at the Cathedral Hill Hotel, where you will have an opportunity to network with leaders in the field and have your questions about careers in psychiatry answered in person.

Thank you for your continued interest in PsychSIGN, and I sincerely hope that this newsletter will be useful to you!

Best regards,

Justin Chen
PsychSIGN Region 1 Chair
Career Development Chair
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Subspecialty Organizations at a Glance (also linked from our website—www.psychsign.org):

- American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry (AAAP)
 - American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP)
 - American Association of Community Psychiatrists (AAPC)
 - American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry (AAGP)
 - American Association of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL)
 - American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry (AAPDP)
 - Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine (APM)
 - Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists (AGLP)
 - American Psychoanalytic Association (APsaA)
 - American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training (AADPRT)
 - Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry (ADMSEP)
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American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry (AAAP): <http://www.aaap.org>

At a Glance: AAAP is a professional membership organization founded in 1985 with approximately 1,000 members in the United States and around the world. Membership consists of psychiatrists who work with addiction in their practices, faculty at various academic institutions, non-psychiatrist professionals who are making a contribution to the field of addiction psychiatry, residents and medical students.

AAAP's missions include: Promoting accessibility to highest quality treatment for all who need it; promoting excellence in clinical practice in addiction psychiatry; educating the public to influence public policy regarding addictive illness; providing continuing education for addiction professionals; disseminating new information in the field of addiction psychiatry; and encouraging research on the etiology, prevention, identification, and treatment of addictions.

Medical Student Benefits:

- Reduced membership fees (\$50/year as compared with \$215/year regular)
- Free subscription to the AAAP official journal, *The American Journal on Addictions*
- Unlimited access to the organization newsletter and all archival issues of any publications
- Travel Scholarships awarded each year for annual meeting (covers travel and lodging costs as well as meeting registration fee, usually \$225-\$275 for medical students)
- Free advertising and announcements to fellow members via email, newsletter and online
- Free buprenorphine training for residents and med students (online at <http://training.aaap.org>)
- Opportunity to join Education Committees and helpful resources for planning your career in addiction psychiatry
- Discounted registration rates for the Annual Meeting and Review Course

Next Meeting: 20th Annual Meeting, Dec 3-6, 2009, Hyatt Regency Century Plaza, Los Angeles, CA

Contact:

- Meredith Dunn, AAAP Outreach and Membership Coordinator (meredith@aaap.org)
 - Dr. Chris Welsh, MD, Chair of AAAP Committee on Medical Student Education (Cwelsh@psych.umaryland.edu)
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American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP): <http://www.aacap.org>

At a Glance: Between 7 and 12 Million American children and adolescents suffer from mental, behavioral, or developmental disorders at any given time. The AACAP (American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry) is the leading national professional medical association dedicated to treating and improving the quality of life for children, adolescents, and families affected by these disorders.

The AACAP, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was established in 1953. It is a membership based organization, composed of over 7,500 child and adolescent psychiatrists and other interested physicians. Its members actively research, evaluate, diagnose, and treat psychiatric disorders and pride themselves on giving direction to and responding quickly to new developments in addressing the health care needs of children and their families.

The AACAP widely distributes information here, and elsewhere, in an effort to promote an understanding of mental illnesses and remove the stigma associated with them; advance efforts in prevention of mental illnesses, and assure proper treatment and access to services for children and adolescents.

Medical Student Benefits:

- Free membership (regular \$350/year)
 - Free access to newsletters and the AACAP Journal ("Orange Journal")
 - Helpful information about choosing child/adolescent psychiatry as a career and residency options
 - A variety of fellowships, including: the CMHS Jeanne Spurlock Minority Medical Student Clinical Fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and summer medical student fellowships, sponsored by the Campaign for America's Kids (most fellowships award up to \$3,500 for work with a child and adolescent psychiatrist mentor, plus five days at the AACAP Annual Meeting).
- Full list of opportunities, including electives and summer internship programs at <http://www.aacap.org/cs/students/opportunities>

Next Meeting: 56th Annual Meeting, Oct 27 - Nov 1, 2009, Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, HI

Contact:

- Gabe Robbins, AACAP Training and Education Coordinator (grobbs@aacap.org)
- Dr. Daniel Lafleur, MD, AACAP Jerry Wiener Resident-Member to Council (daniel.lafleur@mail.mcgill.ca)

American Association of Community Psychiatrists (AAP): <http://www.comm.psych.pitt.edu>

At a Glance: The Mission of AAP is to inspire, empower, and equip Community Psychiatrists to promote and provide quality care and to integrate practice with policies that improve the well being of individuals and communities. The AAP has been working since 1984 as the only national organization that solely represents community psychiatrists. As an organization, AAP promotes community psychiatry issues to the APA, the Mental Health Task Force of JCAHO, the National Community Mental Health Care Council, and other national organizations. AAP is affiliated with the American Orthopsychiatric Association ("Ortho"), an 80-year old membership association of mental health professionals concerned with mental health and social justice (<http://www.amerortho.org/>).

Medical Student Benefits:

- Free membership (regular \$150/year)
- all members are invited to open board of directors' meetings three times per year (APA annual meeting, APA Institute for Psychiatric Services, and AAP winter meeting) : -Information on membership at <http://www.comm.psych.pitt.edu/join.html>

Next Meeting: AAP meets three times yearly; in conjunction with the APA annual meeting (May 14, 2009, San Francisco, CA), with the Institute on Psychiatric Services (IPS) annual meeting (Oct 8-11, 2009, New York, NY), and at the annual winter meeting (date/location TBA)



Contact: Dr. Hunter McQuiston, MD, AACP President (HMcquist@chpnet.org)

American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry (AAGP): <http://www.aagpga.org>

At a Glance: The American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry is a national association representing and serving its members and the field of geriatric psychiatry. It is dedicated to promoting the mental health and well being of older people and improving the care of those with late-life mental disorders. AAGP's mission is to enhance the knowledge base and standard of practice in geriatric psychiatry through education and research and to advocate for meeting the mental health needs of older Americans.

A geriatric psychiatrist is a Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathy with special training in the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders in older adults. These disorders may include, but are not limited to: dementia, depression, anxiety, late life addiction disorders, and schizophrenia. Numerous studies have repeatedly confirmed the increasing incidence of mental illness among the aging population. The proportion of the population over age 65 will increase from 12.4% of the U.S. population in 2000 to 20% by the year 2030. During the same time period, the number of older adults with mental illness is expected to double to 15 million. This demographic transition will increase the current shortfall of health care providers with geriatric expertise – and specifically health care providers with geriatric mental health expertise.

Medical Student Benefits:

- Reduced membership fees (\$10/year or \$45/year with online access to the *American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry* as compared with \$260/year regular)
- AAGP Mentoring/Training Programs
- "Open Doors" full-day program for medical students at AAGP Annual Meeting

Next Meeting: 23rd Annual Meeting, Mar 5-8, 2010, Savannah, GA

Contact:

- Carrie Stankeiwicz, AAGP Director of Governance (cstankiewicz@aagponline.org)
 - Dr. Paul Kirwin, MD, Chair, AAGP Teaching and Training Committee (paul.kirwin@yale.edu)
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American Association of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL): <http://www.aapl.org>

At a Glance: The American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL, pronounced "apple") is an organization of psychiatrists dedicated to excellence in practice, teaching, and research in forensic psychiatry. Founded in 1969, AAPL currently has more than 1,500 members in North America and around the world.

Forensic psychiatry is a medical subspecialty that includes research and clinical practice in the many areas in which psychiatry is applied to legal issues. While some forensic psychiatrists may specialize exclusively in legal issues, almost all psychiatrists may, at some point, have to work within one of the many areas in which the mental health and legal system overlap. AAPL welcomes both the forensic specialist and the general psychiatrist who seeks information and professional support in those domains in which psychiatry and the law share a common boundary. These include: violence; criminal responsibility; competence, civil and criminal; child custody and visitation; psychic injury; mental disability; malpractice; confidentiality; involuntary treatment; correctional psychiatry; juvenile justice; and ethics and human rights.

Medical Student Benefits: Information about forensic psychiatry fellowship programs in the US and Canada

Next Meeting: 40th Annual Meeting, Oct 29-Nov 1, 2009, Baltimore Marriott Waterfront, Baltimore, MD

Contact: Dr. Jacqueline Coleman, AAPL Executive Director (Info@AAPDP.org)



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American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry (AAPDP): <http://www.aapdp.org>

At a Glance: The American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry is an organization of psychiatrists interested in the application of psychodynamic psychotherapy in clinical practice and in understanding aspects of culture and art. We are an affiliate organization of the APA and welcome interested colleagues to join us at our Annual meetings and share our publications.

The aims of The American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry are: 1. To provide a forum for expression of ideas, concepts, and research in psychoanalysis and psychodynamic psychiatry; 2. To constitute a forum for expression of and inquiry into the phenomena of individual motivation and social behavior; 3. To encourage and support research in psychoanalysis and psychodynamic psychiatry; 4. To advance the development of psychoanalysts and psychodynamic psychiatry in all other respects; 5. To develop communication among psychoanalysts, psychiatrists, and their colleagues in other disciplines in science and in the humanities.

Medical Student Benefits:

Next Meeting: 53rd Annual Meeting – “Beauty and Wisdom in Psychodynamic Practice: Theory and Findings,” May 14-17, 2009, Hilton San Francisco, CA

Contact: Dr. David Mintz, MD, Director of Residency Training at the Austen Riggs Center, Stockbridge, MA (David.Mintz@austenriggs.net)

Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine (APM): <http://www.apm.org>

At a Glance: APM, the organization for Consultation and Liaison Psychiatry, represents psychiatrists dedicated to the advancement of medical science, education, and healthcare for persons with comorbid psychiatric and general medical conditions and provides national and international leadership in the furtherance of those goals.

APM vigorously promotes a global agenda of excellence in clinical care for patients with comorbid psychiatric and general medical conditions by actively influencing the direction and process of research and public policy and promoting interdisciplinary education.

Medical Student Benefits:

-Reduced membership fee (\$55/year as compared with \$225/year regular)

-Membership includes a subscription to *Psychosomatics. The Journal of Consultation and Liaison Psychiatry*, opportunities to participate in the Academy's committee structure, and access to the Academy's newsletter.

Next Meeting: Nov 11-14, 2009, Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV

Contact: Dr. Constantine G. Lyketsos, MD, APM President (kostas@jhmi.edu)



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Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists (AGLP): <http://www.aglp.org>

At a Glance: AGLP is a community of psychiatrists that educates and advocates on Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender mental health issues. AGLP Strives to be a community for the personal and professional growth of all LGBT Psychiatrists, and to be the recognized expert on LGBT mental health issues.

The specific goals of AGLP are to: foster a fuller understanding of LGBT mental health issues; research and advocate for the best mental health care for the LGBT community; develop resources to promote LGBT mental health; create a welcoming, safe, nurturing, and accepting environment for members; and provide valuable and accessible services to our members.

Medical Student Benefits:

- Reduced membership fee (\$15/per year as compared with \$225/year regular)
- Membership includes a subscription to the *Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health*, access to a mentorship network at AGLP, a listing in the AGLP Membership Directory and the AGLP Referral Directory and the ability to receive referrals through AGLP's online and phone-in referral service

Next Meeting: In conjunction with APA Annual Meeting, May 15-21, Westin Market Street, San Francisco, CA

Contact: Roy Harker, AGLP President (rharker@aglp.org)

Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry (ADMSEP): <http://www.admsep.org>

At a Glance: ADMSEP is an organization dedicated to excellence in psychiatric medical student education. It is open to all who teach behavioral science and psychiatry to medical students in the pre-clinical, clerkship, and fourth years. ADMSEP's focus is on supporting educators through career development, networking, and presentations on education-related topics at the annual meeting. ADMSEP also advocates nationally for psychiatric medical student education. ADMSEP has developed a comprehensive set of Clinical Learning Objectives for Psychiatry Education of Medical Students which should be achieved prior to completion of an undergraduate medical curriculum. The "ADMSEP Collection" on the AAMC's MedEdPortal website (www.aamc.org/mededportal) assists students and educators in the achievement of these goals. To learn more about ADMSEP, and to view and download the Learning Objectives, please visit our website.

Medical Student Benefits: ADMSEP is primarily for clerkship directors and other faculty associated with medical student education. Thus, there are no awards, funding for travel, or other official outreach programs specifically for medical students. However, individual students are welcome to present posters or workshops related to psychiatric education at the ADMSEP annual meeting, in collaboration with their mentor. In addition, ADMSEP members are available for assistance in regional and national meetings of PsychSIGN.

Next Meeting: June 18-20, 2009, Sheraton Harborside, Portsmouth, NH

Contact: Dr. Amy Brodkey, MD, ADMSEP President (BrodkeyA@verizon.net)



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American Psychoanalytic Association (APsaA): <http://www.apsa.org>

At a Glance: The American Psychoanalytic Association (APsaA), the oldest national psychoanalytic organization in the nation, was founded in 1911. APsaA, as a professional organization for psychoanalysts, focuses on education, psychodynamic treatment, research, and membership development. In addition to the national organization, APsaA's membership includes 29 accredited training institutes and 42 affiliate societies throughout the United States. Since its founding, APsaA has been a component of the International Psychoanalytical Association, the largest worldwide psychoanalytic organization.

APsaA has developed vibrant and innovative programming for the mental health profession and the general public. The Association and its more than 3,500 highly trained members gather at biannual meetings in January and June to exchange ideas, present research papers, and discuss training and membership issues. Many public activities relating to psychoanalysis are presented by the APsaA's affiliated societies and by institutes which provide what is considered to be the gold standard in training for psychoanalysts. These programs provide forums for the exchange of new ideas and highlight the contribution of psychoanalytic principles in helping to understand important social problems. To further the dissemination of psychoanalytic ideas, APsaA publishes the highly respected peer-reviewed quarterly, *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association (JAPA)*.

A major responsibility of APsaA is to establish and maintain high educational standards as well as high professional standards. APsaA works to ensure that its members meet rigorous training standards.

Medical Student Benefits:

-Access to accredited training institutes directly affiliated with medical schools, including the Columbia University Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research, Emory University Psychoanalytic Institute, NYU Psychoanalytic Institute, and the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute (affiliated with George Washington University Medical Center).

-Reduced student affiliation fee (\$25/year) includes subscription to *The American Psychoanalyst*, APsaA's quarterly magazine; access to student/resident list serve; reduced student subscription rate for the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association (JAPA)*: only \$45 (as compared with \$144); reduced registration fees to APsaA's Annual Meetings (\$25 for Student/Resident Associate enrollees or \$45 for unaffiliated medical students (as compared to \$350 non-member fee). Membership application at <http://www.apsa.org/Portals/1/docs/Associates/sa.pdf>

Next Meeting: 2010 Annual Meeting, Jan 13-17, 2010, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York, NY

Contact:

-Dr. Janis Cutler, MD, Chair, APsaA Committee on Medical Students Education (cutlerj@pi.cpmc.columbia.edu)

-Debra Steinke Wardell, APsaA's Manager, Education & Membership Services (education@apsa.org)

-Dr. David Mintz, MD (David.Mintz@austenriggs.net)