

July, 2014

**Register now  
for the Annual  
Meeting in  
Providence, RI**

- **Omni Hotel**
- **April 23-25,  
2015**
- **Program on  
pages 6-11**

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I hope you are planning to attend our 2015 conference. The theme this year, global mental health (GMH), is on the minds of many cultural psychiatrists. Look over this year's [program](#), which can be found on pages 6 to 11 in this Newsletter, and on the SSPC website. You will see the people and issues you definitely want to hear, Right now you can get a head start on these issues by looking at the special issue of Transcultural Psychiatry (December 2014) which is largely devoted to GMH. It is available to members online at no cost. If you haven't accessed your copy of the Journal until now, here's how to get there: On the website under Membership, go to the "[For Members Only](#)" section and once on your profile scroll down to "Transcultural Psychiatry Online." Board member and TCP editor, Laurence Kirmayer, opens the issue with a very helpful framework for understanding GMH. This is followed by five articles covering important issues in the GMH discussion: why mental health matters to global health; research ethics in global mental health: creating synergy between global mental health and cultural psychiatry; ritual healing and mental health in India; and, the making of global and local scale.



In addition to our theme, there's more good news about the 2015 meeting. With our increased membership and careful budgeting we have been able, for the first time, to reduce the registration fee for trainees! We also have been able to hold our general members' registration fees at the same very reasonable rate we have had for the past three or four years. You won't find another meeting where you get more for your money than SSPC, with a three day program filled with interesting sessions; meals and receptions; and most importantly, numerous opportunities to meet your colleagues and share interests in a small, casual and friendly setting.

I want to mention two important developments that are currently in the works: the first is a major website revision which is now scheduled to "go live" in January. The second development is a unique mentorship program that will be connect senior SSPC members to younger members in their research, clinical and training careers. Watch the website for information about both of these additional benefits of SSPC membership.

2015 elections – Last year the Board completed a major revision of its Bylaws. Two major changes going forward are the size (smaller) and the introduction of term limits for all Board members. The Board will now consist of 18 individuals: 5 members of the Executive Committee (President, Vice President/ President elect, immediate Past President, Secretary, and Treasurer) plus 12 elected Board members, each serving a 3 year term with the option of election to a second term, plus the non-voting Executive Director.

In March 2015 we will elect 3 members of the Executive Committee (Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and 3 Board members, for a 3 year term beginning at the annual meeting in Providence. I hope you will consider running for one of these positions, or joining one of our Committees. Finally, please plan to attend our brief but important business meeting on Friday April 24th where we will thank the retiring officers and Board members for their excellent service, and introduce our new officers, Board members and committee chairs.

Lastly, don't forget to contribute to the President's Fund. We are presently working on a way for you to donate when you pay your dues or register for the annual meeting.

With best wishes for the holidays I look forward to seeing many of you in Providence!

**From the Desk of the Executive Director:***Liz Kramer*

Liz and post-president Jim  
Boehnlein, 2012 Annual  
Meeting in New York

Photo credit: John Onate

We're busy here, actively preparing for the 2015 annual meeting, which is less than 5 months away. Based on those all-important evaluations that we're always asked to complete, we've modified the program structure a bit. Instead of keynote speakers, and in keeping with the global theme of the meeting, this year we will have 3 plenary panels, 1 each day, on clinical and practice issues, funding issues and the role of non-government organizations (NGOs), and socio-cultural issues in global mental health.

We also will be introducing a number of interactive workshops. Some of the workshop titles include Cultural Adaptation of Psychotherapeutic Interventions, Design, Curriculum and Implementation of Training Programs in Global Mental Health, and Cross Cultural Instrument Development and Adaptation, to name just a few. And of course we will have our usual symposia. Please visit [psychiatryandculture.org](http://psychiatryandculture.org) to view the entire program, [register](#) and book your hotel room. Early bird registration is open now. We have not raised the registration fees this year and, in fact, have *reduced* them for trainees! While you're at the website, don't forget to [pay your dues](#) for 2015. They are due by the end of January, but we're happy to accept your money now if that works better for you.

The program format isn't the only thing that's changing. Administratively we're shoring up a few things, too. Sticking with the annual meeting for another line or two, the number of participants in each workshop will be limited and pre-registration will be required. Reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis, a great incentive for registering early. This is a meeting you won't want to miss. The program appears on pages 6-11.

Speaking of dues, we're actually going to be sending out invoices for the first time this year. They will go to all current members as well as those who have belonged in the preceding two years but whose memberships have lapsed. Of course new members are always welcome at any time.

Many thanks to the member volunteers who are helping to make things happen on many fronts, especially the website re-development and mentorship program. Cheers to each and every one of you.

Finally, we're planning to sell ads in our program book this year. If you would like to place one, please [contact me](#) for information on sizes and prices. And if anyone has suggestions about potential corporate sponsors, please don't keep them a secret.

The rest of this newsletter is chock-full of the many other activities that are going on within SSPC. There also is an article on Providence, a real sleeper city, for those of you who are unfamiliar with it, so I'll sign off now with best wishes to each of you for happy and safe holidays and a healthy and happy new year!

<b>SSPC Annual Membership 2015</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Physician	\$190 USD
New Career or Retired Physician	\$115 USD
Non-physician Professionals	\$90 USD
Trainees	\$55 USD

## Things to Do in Providence

Connie Cummings

It takes about 45 minutes to drive across Rhode Island, or just enough time to watch the opening scene of *Interstellar* on your laptop. Forstall, because historic Providence is worth a visit.

### East Side of Providence

**Brown University** is located on the **East Side** of Providence, a fifteen-minute walk from the **Omni**. From **Exchange Street** take a left onto **Westminster**. Cross the **Providence River** and head up **College Street** to historic, 1.2-mile long **Benefit Street**, which is definitely worth a stroll in either direction for its outstanding examples of simple colonial and ornate Georgian-style homes.

**Benefit Street** is home to the **Providence Athenaeum Library** (corner of Benefit and College; photo, right) and the **RISD Museum** (Rhode Island School of Design). Nearby historical museums include the **John Brown House Museum** and, farther afield, the **Governor Henry Lippitt House Museum**, an American National Historic Landmark, at 199 Hope Street.

You can grab one of **Geoffs'** *spectacular* sandwiches (163 Benefit), a local favorite, or continue to walk up **College Street** to **Prospect** and take a peak inside Brown's campus (corner of Prospect and Waterman), with its eclectic mix of architectural styles. Then take Waterman Street down the opposite side of the hill and turn left onto **Thayer Street** (photo, right), where you'll encounter a lively stretch of cafes, restaurants, bars, and shops, as well as the **Brown University Bookstore** and the **Avon Cinema**. Be sure to stop by **Blue State Coffee** (300 Thayer Street) before you leave.

A longer walk takes you along Thayer to **Lloyd Avenue**, which you can follow past **Moses Brown School** all the way down to **Blackstone Boulevard**. The north and southbound lanes are divided by 100-foot wide parkland. The center, 2-mile-long **footpath** (photo, right) is a favorite spot for runners and walkers.

The cultural tour of Providence ends with a visit to **Trinity Square Repertory Company**, which will be performing *A Flea in Her Ear* by French playwright Georges Feydeau (March 26 – April 26, 2015; call 401-351-4242 for tickets, or visit [www.trinityrep.com/a-flea-in-her-ear](http://www.trinityrep.com/a-flea-in-her-ear)).

If you have a full day to spare, you can travel by car to **Newport, Rhode Island**, and time-travel back to the Gilded Age ([www.newportmansions.org](http://www.newportmansions.org)). Newport was the first city in world history where all people were allowed to express themselves freely, worship without interference, and was governed by an elected, secular government. The King Charles II Charter of 1663 provided the first formal recognition of these freedoms.

## Register now for SSPC Annual Meeting 2015 April 23-25, 2015

The Annual Meeting for 2015 is being held at the Omni Hotel in Providence, Rhode Island. The hotel is connected to the Rhode Island Convention Center, Dunkin' Donuts Center, and the Providence Place Mall. A block of rooms has been reserved for SSPC attendees at the Omni Providence at the special rate of \$149.00 per night, single or double occupancy. The hotel has not yet set up a reservation link for us, but you can call them at (401) 598-8000. If you encounter difficulties please contact Liz immediately at (484) 416-3915.

*Please remember that all attendees are responsible for their own expenses.*



Providence Athenaeum Library



Omni Hotel,  
Providence, Rhode  
Island  
[Omnihotels.com](http://Omnihotels.com)



Photo credit: © American Psychiatric Association/  
Aaron Levin

“Global mental health is mental health anywhere but here.”  
—James Griffith

## Members in the News

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Aaron Levin

### Psychiatry Residency Builds Global Reach by Using Local, Overseas Settings

Mental illness knows no boundaries, a fact that some psychiatry residency programs are incorporating into their training.

“Global mental health is mental health anywhere but here,” said James Griffith, M.D., chair of psychiatry at George Washington (GW) University, with perhaps a touch of irony, given that his residents can begin their “global” clinical work in the next county.

Global mental health has its roots in three overlapping domains, said Griffith—cultural anthropology, acute disaster, and postconflict response, and a public health tradition of alleviating suffering in a world where resources can be scarce. Programs typically combine local work with immigrants with several months overseas, usually in the fourth year of residency.

Just how many residency programs include such components is unclear.

“My impression is that the majority of training programs don’t have a global mental health component, but I think there is increasing interest,” said Christopher Varley, M.D., a professor of psychiatry and behavioral health at the University of Washington and president of the American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training.

A survey of 171 residency training directors (which received just 59 responses) published in 2011 found that they “endorsed the value of international experiences during residency, but their availability and educational impact are not fully supported.”

So GW and a few other programs appear to be unusual in their embrace of global mental health. Several factors may complicate their establishment. For instance, how will programs cover the cost of an overseas placement or make up clinical coverage or research time for a resident who may be away for months at a time?

Nevertheless, there may well be increasing interest in the concept, said Giuseppe Raviola, M.D., an assistant professor of psychiatry and of global health and social medicine at Harvard Medical School and director of mental health programs for Partners in Health.

“More medical students today are interested in global health, including those going into psychiatry,” said Raviola in an interview. “So psychiatry residency programs will need to offer global mental health options to attract the best new residents.”

“I think global mental health reflects an understanding that in addition to serving communities locally, one way we can do more good is to look beyond our borders,” said PGY-4 Michael Morse, M.D., a 2014-2015 APA American Psychiatric Leadership Fellow.

“Global mental health is not something you tack onto a residency training program,” said Morse in an interview. “Rather, it’s like any other competency in residency, where you need to do it and do it a lot and have mentors and supervisors who can help you learn from their experience.”

Continued next page



## Members in the News, continued

Within the GW program, all residents take a 12-week seminar in global mental health in their second year. PGY-3s who select the global track then spend several hours a week at Northern Virginia Family Services, an independent agency across the Potomac River in Fairfax County.

“We think you don’t learn this by going to other countries,” said Griffith. “You train residents and work with immigrant and refugee populations here, develop the skill sets, and when they have them, go on to international sites.”

Anjuli Jindal, M.D., began working at the clinic as a PGY-3 in 2007 and has served as a consultant for four hours a week since 2009. She evaluates immigrants and people seeking asylum in the United States and also supervises GW residents.

“You feel the world is so much bigger than your own small community,” she said. “I continued here because I felt this was so important, so needed.”

In addition to the tales of the difficulties in adjusting to a new country or the graphic stories of trauma in their home countries experienced by refugees, Jindal has heard and is heartened by her patients’ resilience and recovery.

“It restores your faith in kindness and the human connection.”

Fourth-year residents can elect to work on a mental health program overseas or a general medical project in another country as a team psychiatrist.

In recent years, GW residents have participated in global mental health research, training, or human-rights projects in Liberia, Uganda, South Africa, Greece, the West Bank, Cambodia, Nepal, and India, said Griffith.

Brandon Kohrt, M.D., Ph.D., finished his residency in 2013 and is now an assistant professor of psychiatry at Duke University and a member of the Duke Global Health Institute in Durham, N.C. He values the time spent in the Northern Virginia clinic.

“We got daily practice with refugees and asylum seekers here as preparation for our overseas work,” Kohrt told *Psychiatric News*.

Both Morse and Kohrt developed their overseas connections before they arrived at GW.

Kohrt’s doctorate is in anthropology. Even before he came to GW, he did extensive field work in Mongolia on a culturally specific syndrome analogous to chronic fatigue syndrome and with former child soldiers in Nepal. He helped produce documentary films on those topics in each country. He also worked as a consultant to an antistigma program in Liberia.

“I had an awareness of the context and needs of low-resource settings, but GW gave me the tools,” said Kohrt.

Read the entire article on [Psych News](#).



Photo credit: © American Psychiatric Association/Aaron Levin

**SSPC Annual Meeting 2015, Providence, RI**  
**Culture and Global Mental Health Program Schedule**  
**Day 1, Thursday, April 23, 2015**

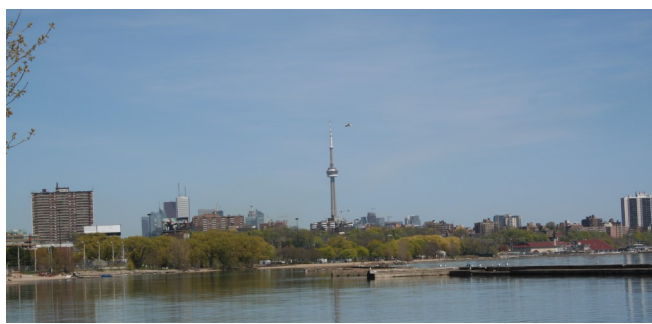
<b>Time</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Speaker/Facilitator</b>
7:30 – 8:30	Continental Breakfast and Registration	
8:30 – 8:45	SSPC Welcome	
8:45 – 9:15	NIMH Welcome	Pamela Collins
9:15 – 11:15	Plenary Panel 1 Clinicians and Practitioners	Benjamin Vicente J. Reginald Fils-Aime Kathleen Pike Oye Gureje
11:15 – 11:30	Break	
11:30 – 12:30	Charles Hughes Memorial Lecture:	Alyssa Ramirez-Stege
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch	
1:30 – 3:30	Workshop 1: Cultural Adaptation of Psychotherapeutic Interventions	Kenneth Fung Kwame McKenzie Clare Pain Muhammad Irfan Farooq Naeem Shanaya Rathod Monica Scalco Lisa Andermann
	Symposium 1: Global Mental Health and Culture	Samuel Okpaku Robert Kohn Duncan Pederson Mary K Smith
	Symposium 2: Methods in Global Mental Health	Emily Haroz Mitchell Weiss Vasuedo Parlaker
3:30 – 3:45	Break	
3:45 – 5:45	Workshop 2: Design, Curriculum & Implementation of Training Programs in Gblal Mental Health	James Griffith Craig Katz Brandon Khort Carla Marienfeld Clair Pain Alexander Tsai Milton Wainberg
	Symposium 3: Closing the Mental Health Gap in Brazil	Maria Mancebo, moderator Robert Kohn Jair Jesus Mari Euripides C Miguel
	Symposium 4: Balancing Global-Local Approaches in GMH	Sumeet Jain Shoba Raja Jordan Sloshower Shubah Ranganathan
6:00 – 8:00	Reception	

\*Speakers by session follow the schedule.

Continued next page

**SSPC Annual Meeting 2015, Providence, RI**  
**Culture and Global Mental Health Program Schedule**  
**Day 2, Friday, April 24, 2015**

Time	Title	Speaker/Facilitator
8:30 – 10:30	Plenary Panel 2	Jorge Rodriguez John Williams Guisepppe Raviola Wietse Tol
10:30 – 10:45	Break	
10:45 – 11:45	John Spiegel Memorial Lecture:	Minoo Ramanathan
11:45 – 12:30	Lunch	
12:30 – 1:00	Business Meeting	
1:00 – 3:00	Workshop 3: Ensuring Cultural Relevance & Sensitivity in Development of ICD-11	Kathleen Pike Geoffrey Reed
	Symposium 5: What Kind of Cultural Psychiatry for Africa	Ademole Adeponle Oye Gureje Laurence Kirmayer Lonzozou Kpanake Samuel Okpaku Vivian Dzokoto, Discussant
	Symposium 6: Value of Qualitative Approaches to Understanding Cultural Context	Matthew Burkey Melanie Medeiros Ingrid Waldron Joe Westermeyer
3:00 – 3:15	Break	
3:15 – 5:15	Workshop 4: Cross-Cultural Instrument Development and Adaptation	Nuwan Jayawickreme Brandon Kohrt Bonnie Kaiser Andrew Rasmussen Amber Wutich
	Symposium 7: Improving Engagement of Ethnic & Racial Minorities thru Integrated Care	Albert Yeung Justin Chen Nhi-Ha Trinh Trina Chang
	Symposium 8: Power Dynamics Affecting MH Diagnosis and Treatment	Ellen Rubinstein Yi-Cheng Wu Zhiying Ma



Left, Orensanz Center, 2012 Annual Meeting, New York. Photo credit: John Onate  
Center, Toronto Skyline, 2013 Annual Meeting, Toronto. Photo credit: Shannon Suo  
Right, Kroc Center, 2014 Annual Meeting, San Diego. Photo credit: John Onate

**SSPC Annual Meeting 2015, Providence, RI  
Culture and Global Mental Health Program  
Day 3, Saturday, April 25, 2015**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Speaker/Facilitator</b>
8:30 – 10:30	Plenary Panel 3 Social Scientists	Byron Good Mary Jo Delvecchio-Good Bernice Pescosolido Grace Akello
10:30 – 10:45	Break	
10:45 – 12:15	Workshop 5: Ikebana and Wellbeing	Annie Lau
	Symposium 9: The EXPONATE Project: Engaging Culture in Collaborative Global Mental Health Research	Laurence Kirmayer Oye Gureje Danielle Groleau Phyllis Zelkowitz
	Symposium 10: Incorporating Local Understandings of Illness and Wellness in Mental Health Treatment	Khameer Kidia Albert Yeung Ross White Murphy Halliburton
12:15 – 1:15	<b>Lunch</b>	
1:15 – 3:15	Symposium 11: Impact of Context on Mental Illness	Justin LaCasse Jessica Spagnolo Matityah Angel
	Symposium 12: Treatment of Asylum Seekers and Refugees	Liana Chase James Boehnlein J. David Kinzie Madhuri Shors
	Symposium 13: Training Approaches in Global Mental Health	Ajeng Puspitasari Martha J. Bojoko Auralyd Padilla

### **Accreditation Statement**

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture. The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

### **Credit Designation**

Physicians: The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University designates this live activity for a maximum of 19.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits TM*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Psychologists** The Alpert Medical School of Brown University has been approved by the Rhode Island Psychological Association to offer continuing education credits for Psychologists. The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University maintains responsibility for the program. The program is approved for 1.5 Category 1 CE Credits. (Credits available to RI licensed psychologists only.)

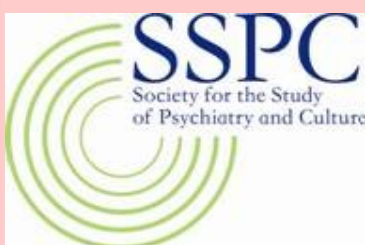


## Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture

For dues and meeting  
registration:

[psychcult2015@gmail.com](mailto:psychcult2015@gmail.com)

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Time to renew for 2015! Click [here](#) to pay your dues online. You do not need a PayPal account to use PayPal—just a credit/debit card! Please complete the demographics form in its entirety and it will lead you to PayPal.

*Leave a legacy—consider donating to SSPC or recognizing SSPC in your will. While dues are not tax-deductible as charitable, donations are!*

Contact [Dan Savin](#) for questions about paying by credit card.

**[psychiatryandculture.org](http://psychiatryandculture.org)**

## Corporate Sponsor

**Call me for a quote.**

Medical professional liability policies can vary widely from one company to the next. It is important for psychiatrists to know the full – and accurate – story on a policy. Whether it is reviewing the difference between occurrence and claims-made policies or explaining how another policy might leave the doctor with an uninsured risk, I have done my job when I help psychiatrists evaluate their options to make the right choice.

**Richard Stagnato**  
Account Manager

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## Help Us Stay Organized!

*Elizabeth Kramer*

As the organization grows in size and complexity it becomes increasingly more important for us to stay organized, especially since we are such a geographically diverse group. For that reason we are asking you to please use the [psychcult2015@gmail.com](mailto:psychcult2015@gmail.com) box only for dues and meeting submissions. All other communications should be addressed to the individuals for whom they are intended at their individual email addresses. names and email addresses are listed below. If you want someone else's address, please contact me.

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