



## WACP President's Introduction

### Celebration of the New Era of Cultural Psychiatry from a World Perspective

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Most of the cultural psychiatrists and culture-concerned behavior scientists will agree with the academic view that meaningful cultural psychiatry can be established only when we develop our professional view and theories based broadly on world-wide knowledge, information, and experiences, by including diversified ethnic and cultural groups among all human beings. Otherwise, our professional knowledge and theories will be skewed by the limited knowledge and experiences that we have with particular ethnic and cultural groups.

How to maintain ample opportunities and the means to communicate among colleagues from different geographic regions and of diverse cultural groups to reach such a goal is very crucial. In reality, due to many factors, including geographic distance, financial situation, plus the obstacles of language, it has been difficult to promote such pan-world communication and exchange of information. Most of the scientific journals are predominantly contributed by colleagues mainly from certain geographic and cultural groups, such as North American and European societies. There is an extreme shortage of reports available from other areas or cultural backgrounds for colleagues there to share their own view and their own experiences from an insiders' perspective.

In the past, *Transcultural Psychiatry Research Review*, published from the Division of Transcultural Psychiatry of McGill University for several decades, had served the function of reviewing many publications from different geographic areas, including so-called "developing societies." However, when the Review was transformed to *Transcultural Psychiatry*, the nature of the journal was converted.

In order to fill up this vacancy, the newly established *World Association of Cultural Psychiatry* (WACP) has decided to publish and circulate the *World Cultural Psychiatry Research Review* (WCPR Review). It will meet one of the Association's goal, which is to promote the knowledge and experience of cultural psychiatry world-wide, to promote meaningful cultural psychiatry to serve people around the globe. By utilizing the modern technology that is available, the WCPR Review will be circulated quarterly through the website of the Association, without cost to the colleagues who have joined the Association as members, as one of the benefits of membership. WACP memberships fees are determined by the sliding scale developed by the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) adjusted for the level of economic development of countries around the world, so that colleagues around the world could join the WACP and enjoy the WCPR Review disregard of their economical background.

We are pleased to announce that, under the leadership of the Chief-Editor, working with the whole editorial team, the WCPR *Review* will be launched as we planned. We welcome you to join the Association and enjoy the journal. In addition, we welcome you to contribute to the WCPR *Review*, to reach out to colleagues around the globe of diversified cultural backgrounds to expand our academic and clinical knowledge to promote the full development of cultural psychiatry. We greatly appreciate your full support for this project, working together in the significant mission of this journal for the whole world!

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