



Brief Note

This Special Issue Vittorio De Luca

WCPRR June 2012: i. © 2012 WACP
ISSN: 1932-6270

IN OCTOBER 2010 Wen Shing Tseng, my dear mentor, the backbone of our Journal and our Association, and longtime friend of the then Editor-in-Chief Goffredo Bartocci, proposed the draft for a Special Issue focusing on Korea as a means of facilitating reflection on the themes of cultural psychiatry.

He had recently attended an inspiring conference in Seoul entitled “Multi-Cultural Society and Mental Health”, which was successfully chaired by his friend Professor Sung Kil Min. His proposal was welcomed enthusiastically by the editorial staff and Goffredo and I were particularly excited. A Special Issue on Korea, with its unique political, cultural and historical features, its divisions, its central role in the Asian scenario, seemed an inspired proposal. As always Wen Shing delivered a farsighted and creative suggestion which gave a strong and meaningful impulse consistent with the commitment and the vision of our Association.

Yet Wen Shing’s contribution did not end with his initial suggestion. He undertook communication with Prof Min in the coordination of the authors and also worked hard to provide the Guest Editor all the required support in order to publish this Issue. In this, I can say that I shared with Wen Shing more than a mere vision. In the last editorial meeting we had in London, we both agreed that the mission of our Review is to give a voice to people who are excluded from our sector. The most fair and consistent way of achieving this is to reduce exclusion and to improve the capacity of potential authors. Working alongside the authors during the often difficult phase of reviewing and editing appeared to us the best way to accomplish both the desire to make our Review a “Journal of the Authors” and to maintain the appropriate role of guidance.

Wen Shing Tseng passed away as this issue was nearing publication. He was a beacon (a ‘giant gentleman’ according to Kam Bhui) for cultural psychiatry, and his light will not expire with this Issue, which he so desired. Of this we are absolutely certain.

Vittorio De Luca, MD

World Cultural Psychiatry Research Review

Editor-in-Chief