

members. I will also focus on outreach efforts to encourage members who have not yet participated in committees or held Council positions to step out of their “comfort zone” and take on these important duties. Those who get involved will undoubtedly gain a new appreciation of the critical work SCPS does. They will be more likely to remain members and to encourage their colleagues to join. SCPS will benefit in turn from their new ideas and perspectives.

To cite one example, most of us are aware that there has been a dramatic increase in the incarceration of people with mental illness. I believe that organized psychiatry can play an important role in working to alleviate this crisis. The SCPS region is home to two of California’s five state hospitals and three state prisons (including one of the two women’s prisons), as well as the second-largest jail system in the nation. Thousands of patients receive care in these facilities. The vast majority will return to the community and seek treatment from county clinics and hospitals, as well as the VA and university systems. The correctional facilities and state hospitals in southern California employ hundreds of psychiatrists. Organized psychiatry should make use of their expertise in devising solutions to what has been called the criminalization of the mentally ill, and my agenda will include outreach to these doctors for their help in addressing this most pressing problem.



Erick H. Cheung, M.D.
Treasurer-elect

Seeing patients in psychiatric crisis provides me a perspective on the function, and dysfunction, of our system of mental health care. In my experiences as the medical director for the psychiatric emergency service at UCLA, and as a psychiatrist in community mental health organizations, I clearly understand the challenges that patients face in accessing the mental health services that they need, when they need them. While major legislative milestones have been achieved in recent years (specifically the Mental Health Parity Law and the Affordable Care Act), a truly functional mental health system has yet to materialize. We still face unprecedented shortages of inpatient psychiatric beds. Our patients still languish in emergency room corridors, on the streets, and in the jails. Now more than ever, we

need SCPS and APA to advocate for better access, coverage for more comprehensive services, and decreased stigma.

As Vice Chair for the LA County Emergency Medical Services Agency, I have advocated for an in depth review of the 911 emergency response system and how it struggles to address the needs of patients suffering mental health and substance abuse emergencies. I will continue to support the efforts of APA, CPA, and SCPS to fight for enforcement and regulation of mental health parity for patients and providers. I also believe that our organization has the duty to lead by example, which is why I championed and co-authored the SCPS policy on conflicts of interest (COI) in 2010. As a member of APA since 2003, I have served in multiple capacities with SCPS, including MIT representative, ECP representative, West LA Councilor, Secretary, and Chair for the SCPS COI committee. I respect and uphold the organization’s mission and would be honored to continue my service as SCPS Treasurer-elect.

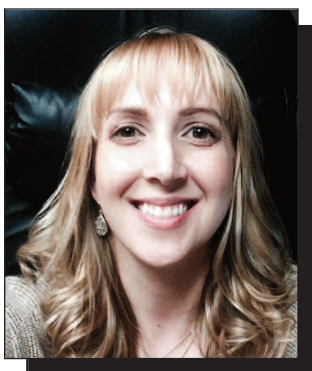


Mary Read, M.D.
Secretary

I am honored to be nominated to run for the office of Secretary of the SCPS for the coming year. As the South Bay Councilor for the last two years and as a faculty member at Harbor-UCLA, I have learned the importance of clinical care, teaching, research, and advocacy as components of effectively changing mental health care and stigma for our patients and our profession. If elected Secretary, I will continue the advocacy and public policy work I currently do as SCPS's delegate to the California Psychiatric Association's Government Affairs Committee and as a member of the Public Psychiatry Committee. Thank you for your consideration.

Los Angeles South Councillor - no candidates. Members in the Los Angeles South Region may run by petition. If no member runs by petition a Councillor will be appointed.

San Fernando Valley Councillor - no candidates. Members in the San Fernando Valley Region may run by petition. If no member runs by petition a Councillor will be appointed.



Anita Red, M.D.
Councillor San Gabriel Valley

Thank you for the nomination of SCPS Councillor of the San Gabriel Valley. Serving on the SCPS for the last 7 years, has been a pleasure. Currently, I am the treasurer and am proud to say that the budget is planned and expected to be balanced this year. Other positions I've held include: secretary, early career psychiatrist, resident/ fellow representative, and participation in several committees. Being involved in the SCPS is a privilege as an important part of organized medicine and the need to support progress in psychiatry on a larger scale. The Council members are respected, trusted psychiatrists, and it is an honor to sit among them and be nominated for a Councillor.



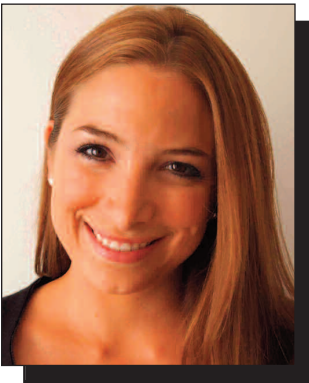
Anish Dube, M.D.
Councillor Santa Barbara

I am excited to be a candidate for the Santa Barbara Councillor position to the Southern California Psychiatric Society and to continue to advocate on behalf of our patients and professional colleagues. I have enjoyed my time engaging at the national level of the APA through the Assembly and Components, but am looking forward even more to a return to local and grassroots activism and addressing the issues we face 'on the ground.'



Michelle Furuta, M.D.
Councillor South Bay

It is an honor to be nominated for South Bay Councillor. If given the opportunity to serve, I hope to advocate for issues of greatest concern to our membership and be an accessible link between the two. I will also continue to be active in enhancing the quality of community among psychiatrists and deepening connections between the psychiatric community, the broader mental health community, and the general public. I currently serve on the Council as ECP Representative, am chair of the Art of Psychiatric Medicine and Volunteerism Committees, and serve on the Program Committee.



Julia Krankl, M.D.
Councillor Ventura

It is an honor and privilege to be nominated for the position of **Ventura Region Councillor**. Since the completion of my residency training, I have been working in Santa Barbara, Ventura and Los Angeles counties. I have been struck by the lack of access to mental health services, including inpatient treatment, outpatient treatment, substance abuse treatment and psychotherapy outside of Los Angeles County. Also, I am struck by the lack of legal authority psychiatrists have to place patients on holds to ensure they are safely sent for inpatient treatment when necessary. As the Ventura Region councillor, I would strive to increase access to mental health services for our patients in need. In addition, I would work toward more networking amongst mental health providers in our region.



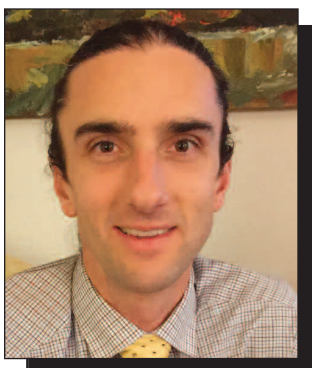
Zoe Aron, M.D.
Councillor West Los Angeles

It is an honor to be nominated for the position of West LA Councilor. I have served as the appointed councilor for the last several months and have been impressed with the mission, energy and effectiveness of the SCPS. After working in Los Angeles County psychiatric emergency rooms for most of my career, and now working at UCLA in the embedded psychiatry program, I have gained a keen awareness of the socioeconomic discrepancies in mental health care and I am committed to promoting equal access to psychiatric services. I appreciate the role of the SCPS in developing the sense of community among local psychiatrists and welcome the opportunity to get my colleagues involved.



Ariel Serrousi, M.D.
Councillor West Los Angeles

I am honored to be nominated for the position of SCPS Councilor for West Los Angeles. I believe that my early career experiences, interests, and personal qualities make me well-suited for this position. As full-time faculty at UCLA, I have the privilege of working alongside leaders in our field, while training clinicians and leaders of the future. As an inpatient psychiatrist, I have a window onto the mental health system in our region, through interactions with patients and providers in the community. During my training I worked as an outpatient psychiatrist in community clinics, with a specific interest in Latino mental health as my family is from Uruguay. As a Physician Informaticist at UCLA, I strive to improve patient care and provider experience through clinical informatics. In SCPS, I could contribute expertise in the application of technology to mental healthcare, to address the implementation challenges and ethical dilemmas that come with exciting change. Lastly, I believe that some of my personal qualities would be valuable to SCPS as I am dedicated, dependable, collegial, curious, and passionate about our field. Thank you for this opportunity to be a leader for psychiatry in Southern California.



Daniel Bonnici, M.D.
Early Career Psychiatrist Representative

Thank you for the opportunity to run for ECP representative of the SCPS. With a background in the law, as a new attending psychiatrist at the West LA VA, and with a small private practice I look at the practice of psychiatry through multiple lenses that will allow me to represent our interests in a changing landscape of psychiatric practice.

I currently supervise UCLA Semel and UCLA San Fernando Valley residents clinically at the West LA VA and regularly offer myself as a resource for career guidance. I picture a greater role locally and nationally for early career psychiatrists. I hope to have the opportunity to represent our interests on a broader scale while continuing to individually supervise and mentor residents and fellows.

Early career psychiatrists have been instrumental in my training and career thus far. Thank you for this opportunity to “pay it forward” as the ECP representative.



Matthew Goldenberg, D.O.
Early Career Psychiatrist Representative

I am honored to be nominated to serve and represent my colleagues as an Early Career Psychiatrist Deputy Representative. I have had the privilege and gained valuable experience serving as the Resident-Fellow representative to the Arizona Psychiatric Society during my psychiatry residency training. This past summer I moved back to my hometown of Los Angeles to continue my training as an Addiction Psychiatry Fellow at UCLA San Fernando Valley/Cedars Sinai Medical Center. I am eager to be an active member of SCPS and do all that I can to advance our field. I feel strongly that we have a duty to advocate for our colleagues and our patients. Through our efforts I know we can continue to decrease the stigma and barriers to treatment that our patients continue to face. By doing so we can bring

hope to those who are suffering and need it the most.



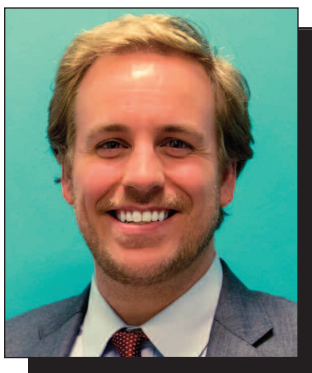
Darcy Trenkle, M.D.
Early Career Psychiatrist Representative

Psychiatry has made such an immense change in my life. Coming into medicine I had no idea I would end up here, in fact I was fairly certain I was going to end up a forensic pathologist like my father, however it seems I took the opposite path. I have loved this field from the day I started training at Loma Linda University and that passion only grew through my chief year and now into my first year as a Medical Director of Electroconvulsive Therapy. The challenges of being a new attending have only further fueled my love and passion for this field and I hope to be a liaison for other early career psychiatrist to the SCPS. I have a deep desire to understand systems and how they influence our practice. I hope this position will teach, inspire and invigorate my enthusiasm as well as encourage those whom I have the blessing of working with in the future. It is truly and honor to be nominated for this position.



Zaheib Idress, M.D.
Resident - Fellow Member Representative

It is a privilege and honor to be nominated for the position of Resident Fellow member representative for SCPS. Being a resident in psychiatry has been exciting but challenging as well, especially when faced with systems issues, ethics and cultural differences, legal and funding changes, and society's shifting view of mental health. After becoming a member of SCPS at the start of intern year, to attending the California Psychiatric Association annual conference in Dana Point and soon the APA annual conference in Atlanta now as a third year resident, I hope to take this opportunity to take another step forward. As a MIT SCPS representative, I hope to increase involvement by others in SCPS, especially those in training, through membership and activities. I also look forward to meeting and working with a wonderful team of people as we discuss issues that surround our field today. I know this experience of representing and advocating will be invaluable. Thank you for your time and consideration.



Patrick Wiita, M.D.
Resident - Fellow Member Representative

It is an honor to be nominated for the position of Resident-Fellow Member Representative by current SCPS Treasurer, Dr. Anita Red. I am completing my second year of Child and Adolescent training at the LAC+USC Medical Center and this July I will begin fellowship training in Forensics at the USC Institute of Psychiatry and Law.

I have experience with the collaborative nature of administering an academic program—I have served as representative to our Graduate Education Committees throughout my training and I am currently Chief Fellow in my division. I have a particular interest in interdisciplinary collaboration—I am privileged to be a scholarship member of the Saks Institute for Mental Health Law, Policy, and Ethics, examining interactions between psychiatrists and journalists.

As RFM representative I would prioritize augmenting the membership experience for trainees. I would rely on my experience in post-graduate training to focus on benefits that SCPS is better positioned to provide, such as access to mentorship and outside supervision from a diverse array of practitioners in varied practice settings.

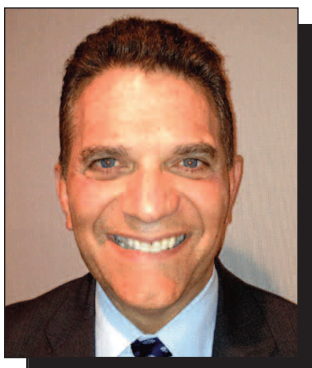
Whether you are in intern or in fellowship forever, I have the experience and energy to represent you, and I thank you for your consideration.



Amy Woods, M.D.
Resident - Fellow Member Representative

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Resident-Fellow Member Representative. I am currently a second year resident at UCLA/San Fernando program. As I progress through residency, it has become clear to me how important having a strong professional network can be. SCPS does an excellent job at creating programs that not only provide an opportunity to meet fellow psychiatrists, but, also, to also learn about current topics within the field. As physicians, we are committed to lifelong learning. Having a strong professional network helps to ensure that we are continuing to learn and challenge ourselves throughout our careers.

I think the position of Resident-Fellow Member Representative ensures that residents will maintain a voice within the organization. I would be honored to be that voice.



David Fogelson, M.D.
APA Assembly Representative

I am honored to have been nominated for the position of Assembly rep from SCPS to the APA. Your Assembly rep is your voice in the APA. The 35 years of my professional career have been spent at the nexus of clinical practice and research as a clinical professor at UCLA. I combine this with 3 decades dedicated to volunteer work in the APA as an active member of SCPS: first as a member of the program committee, then as Westside councilor, and then as President. My expertise and experience will allow me to effectively represent SCPS' members' interests. I am well positioned to represent your interests in CME and the evolution of practice

tools.

I will advocate for wider and less expensive access to CME tools. Why should members of the AMA have free access to CME on the JAMA network while members of the APA must pay hundreds of dollars per year for access to CME sponsored by the APA? As an associate editor of eFocus, the electronic companion to Focus, the APA's continuing education journal, I am in a unique position to advocate for our members in this area.

Critical issues will be facing our members over the next several years, including the research agenda for NIMH. The research given priority will determine whether new clinical tools are developed to help our patients. To quote Stefan Heckers in JAMA Psychiatry, "Whether we define an abnormal mental state categorically as brain disease or dimensionally as neurodiversity is a matter of personal preference." I agree and believe it is critical that the APA advocate for an all-inclusive research strategy. The Research Domain Criteria (RDoC) should not automatically supersede all other strategies. We must not commit all our precious research funds to one strategy that may be a dead end.



Mary Ann Schaepper, M.D.
APA Assembly Representative

For 22 years I have served our organization locally, statewide and nationally. While Resident Fellow Assembly Representative I learned the value of action papers, and policy creation. While on the APA Membership Committee, the importance of establishing a professional community during training became crystal clear. I dove into the Inland Chapter, then joined the experienced SCPS Council. My leadership skills were sharpened in the District Branch, as Secretary, President Elect and President.

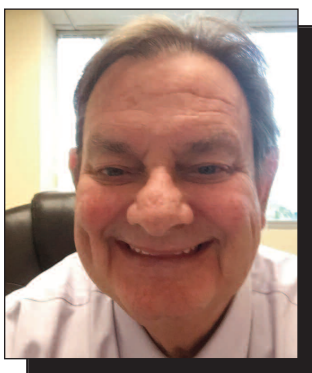
I specialize in child and adolescent psychiatry with a focus in autism and intellectual disability. Parity is a problem for my patients. Additionally, I am part of a team pursuing the implementation of Laura's Law in the Inland Empire. As your Rep, I offer insight in professional development (resident training director at Loma Linda 13 years), in research pursuits, in public and private systems and advocacy locally and nationally.

When re-elected as Assembly Representative I will focus on ensuring clinical and biological research, on student safety (gun control), mental health treatment needs (access to care), advocate for mental health treatment of vulnerable populations (parity), and be relentless in representing members in all professional settings. I will continue to communicate what the Assembly stands for and the purpose of action papers. It is through this process and the Assembly's vote that we make changes.

I will continue to expand the work of our current leadership. I will enroll new participants, with new ideas and perspectives in the organization of SCPS. Through collaborative efforts, I will pursue the emerging generation of psychiatrists as they realize the vision of an SCPS organization that fits their needs.

To continue what I have begun, I ask you for your vote this election.

Live Life Bold, Mary Ann Schaepper, MD, M. Ed, DFAPA



Steve Soldinger, M.D.
APA Assembly Representative

Hi my name is Steve Soldinger I am in private practice in Sherman Oaks. I have served as the APA Assembly Rep from Area 6 for one year. Prior to that I was Southern California Psychiatric Society President a couple of years ago. I have served on the Southern California Psychiatric Society Board for approximately eight years. I have also served on the California Psychiatric Association board for three years. It is my pleasure and my privilege to continue to offer my guidance and leadership in the role of Assembly Rep to the APA. I will return to the assembly with one year of experience into the inner workings of our Assembly. With this knowledge I hope to bring action

papers regarding term limits and oral history records of practicing psychiatrists in all district branches and to help in creating our legacy.

**Ballots will be mailed on or around March 9, 2016. Due Date will be April 6, 2016.
 Deadline to run by petition is February 24, 2016.**

Letter from the Editor

CMA Supports Marijuana Ballot Initiative

Colleen Copelan, M.D.



The California Medical Association has announced its support for the Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act, heading for the November 2016 ballot box.

The 1996 ballot measure that established “medical marijuana” has been casually exploited for casual use, increasing the credibility of the drug and decreasing the credibility of physicians.

Marijuana laws are disrespected, ineffective and largely unenforced, or applied with a bias against minority groups. Purity and potency are unassured. Criminals reap the profits.


Given these realities, CMA endorsed a White Paper in 2011 that called for regulation and taxation of marijuana which, necessarily, obliged making the drug legal.

In the years since, CMA has worked with organizations representing local government, health and policy experts, environmental leaders, small farmers and business owners, worker representatives and social justice advocates to ensure the broad-based policy solution embedded in the proposed ballot initiative.

Critics read support for regulation as endorsement for use. Maybe the optics are not so great but it seems to me that good regulation--and a billion dollars in tax revenue—beats the current reality. cocopelan@aol.com


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Sarjack Mehta, MD
General Psychiatrist



“DMH provides support for children and families who are often marginalized and underserved. Everyone deserves access to high quality mental health services, & I’m proud to be part of a system that is making that possible for families in Southern California.”

Kira Williams, MD
Child Psychiatrist



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Art of Storytelling: The Human Experience of Being a Psychiatrist

An SCPS-Produced Documentary will premiere at the American Psychiatric Association's Annual Meeting May 18th in Atlanta

By Michelle Furuta, MD

The story of who psychiatrists are today, what they do, and what they value has been told by almost everyone but them. Psychiatrists are notoriously private; cautious about revealing personal information, and noticeably absent in the media.

What has been the consequence of this? If you don't tell your story, someone else will tell it for you. A simple Google search of "Psychiatry Documentary" produces a horrific display of anti-psychiatry propaganda and ignorant distortions of the field intended to elicit fear - "Psychiatry: An Industry of Death", and "The Age of Fear: Psychiatry's Reign of Terror" are a few examples. We all know where these productions have come from, but what has the response been, and has it been enough? How did this happen to a well-educated group that is not socioeconomically disenfranchised and is certainly not going around terrorizing or killing people? The repercussions have been serious. Mental illness is the number one cause of disability worldwide, however many patients still fear coming to see a psychiatrist – that they will be overmedicated, not listened to, not understood, not cared for, or worse - maybe the psychiatrist will see how "crazy" they are and lock them up. The stereotype of being "crazy" is equated with being dangerous, weird, scary, and ostracized - and in some ways - so is being a psychiatrist.

While media distortions of psychiatrists are not the only source of stigma, the inattention to creating an authentic professional narrative has contributed to gross stereotypes of both psychiatrists and patients that continue to reinforce stigma in mental health. But it isn't just what other people think of psychiatrists and patients that has been impacted. Through the making and watching of this film I had a startling realization - something I had never even considered prior. The stereotypes of Psychiatrists created by others was having a massive impact on the way I saw *myself*, my profession, and the ways in which I continued to unintentionally *reinforce* these stereotypes, all the while thinking – yeah, maybe some of that really is true, but *I am the exception*.

Psychiatrists are private people. The guardians of people's truths, they work alone in private rooms, quietly attending to places in the human psyche that very few have the skill, ability, or willingness to go. Not only do psychiatrists hold the truths of our patients, but that of our profession. We are the receivers and tellers of stories, and the *only* accurate source of our own story.

Art of Storytelling: The Human Experience of Being a Psychiatrist is a documentary that follows six psychiatrists as they take an oral history from twelve other psychiatrists. Interviews were built around the same 12 questions with one simple focus - what is the human experience of being a Psychiatrist? A concept conceived by the Art of Psychiatric Medicine Committee, we set out to find a better understanding of our profession through the lens of the individual – where have we come from? Where are we going? How are we perceived?

How do we perceive ourselves? The interviewees encompass a group spanning 60 years in age and are diverse in gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, and type of practice. The individual interviews illustrate inter-generational differences and similarities within our field - but ultimately coalesces to create a cohesive narrative of who Psychiatrists are in Southern California right now.

What is felt through these stories is deeply touching and authentic. Some of the themes we see emerge are: a strong value of connection, incredible personal resilience, a commitment to service, radical compassion for others, an openness and embrace of differences, and a deep love for people and the work they do. It changes the old narratives and debunks the stereotypes. It challenges non-psychiatrists to rethink their views of Psychiatrists and Psychiatry, but it also challenges Psychiatrists to consider their own authentic narratives - to update and courageously tell their own stories. I believe it will change the way other people see Psychiatrists, but even if it doesn't, it has changed the way I see myself. Doing the work of a Psychiatrist is something I have always loved, but it is now a professional identity that I hold in tremendously high regard, and am honored to share. This is a group of people I am proud to be a part of, and have found, to my surprise, that I am far more similar than different to them all. It has been an incredible discovery, and a wonderful relief.

Art Of Storytelling: The Human Experience of Being a Psychiatrist will premiere at the American Psychiatric Association's Annual Meeting this May in Atlanta, GA. (**Event 3909, Media Workshop, Wednesday, 5/18 9a.m.-noon, Georgia World Congress Center - Building B - Level 4, Room B402**) The film was a group project of the Art of Psychiatric Medicine Committee – Michelle Furuta, MD (Director and Committee Chair), Linda Do, DO, Arsalan Malik, MD, Elizabeth McGuire, MD, Steve Soldingier, MD, and Devin Stroman, MD. Cast members/Interviewees: Michael Gales, MD, Jaime Garcia, MD, Haig Goenjian, MD, Charles Grob, MD, Ijeoma Ijeaku, MD, Martha Kirkpatrick, MD, Maria Lymberis, MD, Joseph Natterson, MD, Kristen Ochoa, MD, Robert Ross, MD, Mary Ann Schaepper, MD, and Kimberly Shapiro, MD. It was produced by Mindi Thelen for the Southern California Psychiatric Society and edited by Tim Thelen.

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WHO WILL CARE WHEN WE'RE NOT THERE ?...

Introducing the Proxy Parent Foundation.

By Elizabeth Galton, MD

The Proxy Parent Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit California corporation, is a spin-off of NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness) that is dedicated to helping parents of mentally ill offspring plan for the future, in cases where their child is unlikely ever to be able to manage their lives and finances themselves. Proxy Parent Foundation is a dba of PLAN of California.

It does this in two ways: 1. It establishes a Special Needs Trust which is held and disbursed to benefit the person with mental illness and 2. Assigns a paid Personal Support Specialist devoted to that person's needs, as established by the Trust.

The Special Needs Trust is set up in such a way that the Beneficiary is able to access government benefits (e.g. MediCal, SSI). The assets within the trust are considered property of the trust and not of the beneficiary.

There are three types: Third Party — part of family estate planning, such as a living trust or will where assets come from another party. First Party (Stand Alone — Individual), funded by the disabled person's own assets, such as savings, awards, settlements or inheritances — requires court petition by a parent, grandparent or legal guardian. Then there is the Pooled Trust (PLAN of California Master Pooled Trust). Such a trust can be created by the disabled person without parent or legal guardian, must be managed by a non-profit corporation; funds are pooled for investment purposes and lower management fees.

Proxy Parent Foundation can act as trustee, because it acquires, through work with the parents and their (adult) child, the detailed knowledge required to understand their particular needs. The disbursements are adjusted periodically, as developments occur in the life span of the disabled person. There is day-to-day accounting administration of the Master Pooled Trust, and an investment firm provides investment management under the oversight of the Proxy Parent Foundation Trust Oversight Committee.

A Personal Support Specialist is assigned to each beneficiary (state wide). That person provides customized help with living and treatment needs. (Although this is not a clinical relationship). The Specialist will help find housing, accessing psychiatric appointments and medication, will intervene in medical or personal crises, be an ombudsman in community or judicial issues and generally help maintain a smooth and positive quality of life. All Specialists are carefully vetted and all report to the director of Social Services, with whom I work very actively.

The Board of Directors meets four times a year. I have had the pleasure of serving on this Board, which has attorneys, mental health directors, a County Supervisor. We are very active and engaged in finding the best solutions for sometimes very difficult lives. We do accept donations.

For more information, contact us at: www.proxyparentfoundation.org, email at info@proxyparentfoundation.org, or call toll free: 888-574-1258.

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Council Highlights

January 14, 2016

Erick Cheung, M.D., *Secretary*



The meeting called to order with quorum by Dr. Curly Bonds at: 7:02pm

CPA Election candidates: Drs. Robert McCarron and Cathy Moore presented their platform and goals for CPA's president-elect.

Disaster Committee: Dr. Bonds discussed that Disaster Committee chair Dr. Bill Arroyo will hold a committee meeting at 7:30 pm on Monday 2/1/16, a 90 minute conference call. Participants in the committee will include: Drs. Cheung, Lawrence, Schaepper, Rees, Ijeaku.

Newsletter Update: Dr. Bonds indicated that the newsletter would benefit from more robust content. The Council discussed areas that would generate increased content including reports or updates from committees, articulating hot topics from Council discussion in the newsletter, and identification/links for relevant articles/stories.

Documentary Update: Dr. Furuta reported that the documentary was accepted as a symposium at the APA. The rough cut has been completed for "The Art of Storytelling: the human experience of being a psychiatrist", currently at 70minutes of length. Council discussed opportunities for distribution including AMA, APA, AADPRT.

Installation Date: The installation will be held on April 30, 2016 at Le Merigot in Santa Monica.

Polycom Issue: Mindi Thelen discussed the need for technological updates necessary to teleconference with Council members.

Membership Report: Mindi Thelen reported that the current membership is 951.
New RFM members: David Bressler, Brigitta Myamoto, Katherine Unverferth

A motion was made to accept a new reinstatement as Permanent Inactive Member.
(1 abstention and 1 nay vote).

Treasurer's Report: Dr. Red provided a review of current financial status of the organization.
A motion was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote.

Legislative Report: Dr. Solderger reported that there have been changes in Medicare that now requires any provider who treats a Medicare patient to sign up in a new system (an 8550 form) in order for the patient to be able to receive reimbursement / coverage for the medication.

Links: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/downloads/cms855o.pdf>

Updates to LPS include that collateral source information may taken into consideration when applying 5150.

Dr. Schaepper updated that Laura's law is in the process of being implemented in the Inland Empire.

Dr. Thurston reported that it is the state's jurisdiction to regulate/enforce parity. Enforcement is challenging, given that it is complaint driven.

Program Committee Report: Mindi reports that there has been an increase in industry support for the Psychopharmacology meeting.

Assembly Report: No report

New Business: Maria Lymberis announced that the next PER Foundation meeting will occur on Saturday March 12 2016, honoring Commissioner Laura Hymowitz. The program will feature Richard Kogan MD lecturing and playing piano on "Tchaikovsky and his Psychiatrist."

The event will occur at the first Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica, 1220 2nd Street, Santa Monica, 90401. Requests were made for increased distribution of the flyer.

A motion was made to approve distribution of information about the PER event to the SCPS membership. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Dr. Lawrence issued a reminder for physicians to sign up for CURES/PDMP drug monitoring program.

Link: <https://pmp.doj.ca.gov/pmpreg/Login.action>

Old Business: Mindi Thelen reported that SCPS reached out to the professional community as well as the Muslim community to offer support / assistance to the inland regional community. Dr. Lawrence provided an update about the programs that were implemented including crisis and walk-in clinics. There was an interfaith meeting set up for the community. The police and sheriff's departments appear to be making referrals appropriately.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Dates to Remember:

March 31, 2016 - last day to make
APA/CPA/SCPS Dues Payment

April 16, 2016 - CME Meeting on
Substance Abuse Issues - details to
be announced

April 30, 2016 - Installation and
Awards Ceremony - Le Merigot
Santa Monica

PSYCHIATRIC EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOUNDATION
Supporting Research for Children's Mental Health

INVITATION

The Psychiatric Education and Research Foundation invites you, your family
& friends to its Annual Educational Event

SATURDAY MARCH 12th 2016

**Presenting the 2016 PER ADVOCATE Award to
Commissioner Laura Hymowitz**

&

**Featuring Richard Kogan, MD's lecture & piano presentation on
Tchaikovsky: Music & Melancholia**

At the First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica

1220 2nd St, Santa Monica, 90401

Registration: 6:30-7:30PM

Program starts: 7:30PM-10:00PM

Light refreshments before & after program

Your 2016 PER membership is your ticket for the event

You MUST pre-register to attend thru the PER website:

<www.perfoundation.org>.

For questions email Ms Glazer <MGlazerPERCoord@aol.com>.

Maria T. Lymberis, MD
PER Founding President

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 Oscar Pakier, M.D., M.D. (2017)
 San Gabriel Valley/Los Angeles-East Steven Horwitz, M.D. (2016)
 Roderick Shaner, M.D. (2018)
 Santa Barbara vacant
 South Bay Mary Read, M.D. (2016)
 South L.A. County Dharmesh Sheth, M.D. (2016)
 Ventura Ronald Thurston (2016)
 West Los Angeles Marcy Borlick, M.D. (2016)
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 Michael Gales, M.D. (2016)
 Zeb Little, M.D. (2018)
 ECP Representative Michelle Furuta, M.D. (2016)
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 MIT Representative Amandeep Jutla, M.D. (2016)
 Galya Rees, M.D. (2016)

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 Larry Lawrence, M.D. (2018) Steve Soldinger, M.D. (2016)

Executive Director Mindi Thelen

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