

Biographic Note of Prof. Juan E. Mezzich WPA Immediate Past President

Prof. Juan Mezzich was born and graduated from medical school in Lima, Peru. He then completed psychiatric residency training, a Ph.D. in mathematical & statistical psychology, and certification by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in the United States.

He served as secretary and then chair of the WPA Section on Classification and Diagnostic Assessment, member of the ICD-10 Mental Disorders Workgroup and the DSM-IV Task Force, and consultant on the Chinese, Japanese, Cuban and Latin American diagnostic systems. He has been contributing to the development of person-centered psychiatry and medicine and to the promotion of the professional development of young psychiatrists. He has authored over 200 scientific journal articles and book chapters and 20 books and monographs, primarily on psychiatric epidemiology and diagnosis, from clinical, philosophical, statistical, and cultural perspectives.

He recently served as WPA Secretary General 1996-2002, WPA President-Elect 2002-2005 and WPA President 2005-2008, and is currently Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Division of Psychiatric Epidemiology and of the International Center for Mental Health, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York University.