Advances in Psychiatry

Second Volume

Editor: G. N. Christodoulou
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PREFACE

The Sections of the World Psychiatric Association (currently 64) are the “scientific backbone” of our Association. That this is so is documented by the richness, quality and diversity of activities of the Sections, from research, scientific meetings and congresses to educational programs, consensus statements and publications. It is further documented by the production of this volume of state-of-the-art papers by Section Leaders which follows the first volume produced in 2002.

Each of the papers comprising this volume is an update on the progress achieved in the area covered by each participating section during the last triennium. It is difficult to find such condensed information elsewhere, especially if one considers that these articles have been prepared by worldwide authorities in their field.

It is my conviction that the volume will be invaluable as a reference book not only to the Sections and the WPA components but also to the psychiatric community at large.

I want to congratulate the Editor of this volume Professor George Christodoulou who has succeeded me in the leadership of the Sections for his initiative to create this important series of state-of-the-art volumes. As predicted by Juan Lopez-Ibor in his Introduction to the first volume, owing to Professor George Christodoulou’s drive, “Advances” have developed into a tradition in the WPA. I would also like to thank our Sections for their contributions which represent the state of the art of psychiatric development.

I am confident that the volume will contribute immensely to much needed dissemination of scientific information in our field and that it will be received enthusiastically.

Professor Ahmed Okasha
President of the World Psychiatric Association
PREFACE

In the history of the World Psychiatric Association, the development of the Scientific Sections has played a crucial role. Since 1961, they have afforded continuity and depth to the life of the Association. Over the past 6 years, under the leadership of Professor George Christodoulou, WPA Scientific Sections have remarkably leaped forward. According to the WPA General Triennial Survey, they have achieved the feat of doubling their earlier level of productivity and excellence.

We are witnessing with admiration the success of intersectional collaboration, the growing cooperation between WPA Sections and national societies’ sections, the emergence of Science and Care and the enormous number of books and journals published by WPA Sections, their productivity in consensus statements, educational programs and scientific meetings, as well as the first edition of the Sections’ Directory, a decisive development as a lifeline for the institutional strength and scientific capacity of WPA.

These impressive gains serve as backdrop for the publication of the second edition of Advances in Psychiatry. Under the skillful hand of Professor Christodoulou, 32 of our Scientific Sections are offering here a state-of-the-art presentation of their respective domains. They undoubtedly will serve as valuable reference for the improved practice of psychiatry, effective training of health professionals, and enrichment of our knowledge base.

Let’s enjoy and celebrate together this achievement.

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