

How can APA and IAPA work together to address the challenges faced by the APA?

2012 APA President-elect Candidates Speak Out

Disclaimer: The IAPA does not endorse any particular candidate or viewpoint and members are free to make their own decisions.



Dr Mary Helen Davis MD, APA President-elect Candidate 2012

Although the missions and goals of the IAPA are geared towards Asian-Indian cultural background, they serve all of our patients and profession. If elected, my APA presidency will be geared to meet the demands of healthcare in transition, including issues of population health, workforce and healthcare delivery. Indo-American psychiatrists represent a substantial part of the American Psychiatric Association and workforce, providing psychiatric care in every patient venue; academic, public, and private. The Indo-American Psychiatric Association already holds considerable leadership and a significant voice in our current President elect, Dr. Dilip Jeste. Collaboration and continuity between presidents over the years of their term is critical to sustaining the initiatives individuals bring to the office. Having had the pleasure of working with Dr. Jeste during my time on the BOT I would be committed to continuing the projects he has initiated; such as the outreach pilot project between the IPS and APA, in which leadership of the IAPA

would serve as a liaison to promote membership in both organizations. I also support our key subspecialty groups being more involved with both the BOT and Assembly, attending meetings of both governing bodies and providing updates on issues and concerns within their specialty group and developing meaningful collaboration. We can make better use of Psych News as well as our newly designed website to promote the activities, meetings and accomplishments of IAPA. The IAPA can also assist the APA in identifying talented MITs and ECPs to serve in leadership roles which will serve both organizations well. Finally, I bring an inclusive and collaborative leadership style to our professional organization and would be appreciative of your support and vote. Please feel free to email me at mhdavis610@aol.com with your concerns or to view my web site mhdavis4apa.com to learn more.

Dr Jeffery A. Lieberman MD, APA President-elect Candidate 2012



Given our common constituencies, and academic and clinical missions the relationship between the APA and IAPA must be strengthened. Many of the challenging issues on the APA agenda are identical to those facing the IAPA. Together we can work to protect the integrity and viability of psychiatric practice through aggressive health policy and legislative advocacy. The IAPA and the APA share overlapping interests in maintaining the viability of certification, in the design of new models for more flexible and adequate reimbursement systems, in assuring that foreign medical graduates receive merit based consideration, and in promoting culturally competent education to all members of the APA.

I have worked with many Indian colleagues and friends in my 32 years as a

psychiatrist. I actively campaigned for Dilip Jeste's election as APA president. Ranga Krishnan was influential in my recruitment to the University of North Carolina. Jyoti Ramesh Shah, an Area 3 representative, and I were residents together. Rohan Ganguli, Madukar Trivedi, Macheri Keshavan, and Sanjay Dube are exceptional researchers with whom I've had the pleasure of collaborating with over many years.

These relationships have made me conscious of the limits to professional opportunities for Indians in our field. Unreasonable visa quotas stifle not just FMG training but the entire scientific community's pursuit of knowledge. Merit alone should form the basis of our policies. Availing ourselves of the best physicians and scientists from everywhere in the world is both professionally and morally the best strategy for achieving our goals.

Continuing to expand international membership of the APA will be a priority for me, as I know it will under Dilip's tenure as APA president. In light of the ever-increasing globalization of science and healthcare in the 21st century, it is essential to the APA that the IAPA play an important role in the organization. It will be one of my top priorities to fully enable this relationship.



Dr Renee Binder MD, APA President-elect Candidate 2012

It is a great honor for me to be a candidate for the office of APA President-Elect. I have had extensive administrative, clinical, legislative, educational, research, ABPN, and APA leadership experiences that make me especially qualified to lead the APA at this challenging time. APA is a wonderfully diverse organization that encompasses a variety of clinical, academic and public sector communities including the world wide community represented by IAPA. We need a leader who understands the needs of all of our members.

I am committed to enhancing a mutually rewarding collaborative relationship between APA and IAPA. I strongly believe in promoting Indo-American psychiatrists to leadership positions in APA including representation on the Board of Trustees. This enriches our profession and our ability to serve our global community.

When I worked with the ABPN, I was a strong supporter of IMG concerns about unfair examination practices.

As APA President, my priorities would include: (1) Ensuring that health care reform initiatives include access and payment for psychiatric services, (2) Ensuring that there is adequate federal funding for education and research, (3) Decreasing stigma against our patients and our profession, (4) Ensuring reasonable standards of maintenance of certification, (5) Promoting diversity at all levels in the APA, and (6) Increasing our membership. My experience as a Congressional Health Policy fellow will be invaluable in leading the APA to successful advocacy.

The APA needs strong, effective, experienced and collaborative leadership at this crucial time in our profession and organization. Please see my website for more information www.ReneeBinder.com. I would like the opportunity to work for you and with you to advocate for our patients and our profession. I would appreciate your vote.