



From The Director...

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"Restoring humanity to life"



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Executive Director

Donald Trump's famous use of Twitter to communicate "direct to consumer", similar to how pharmaceutical companies do to advertise their products, has given me the idea to do the same. ISEPP has maintained a Twitter account for some time but it hasn't been used consistently to get the message out. It dawned on me that it could be tweaked as my platform for directly speaking out, not just in support of the many critics of the conventional mental health system, but also to directly critique misleading and false tweets from mental health organizations and popular media outlets. So, I have been trying to keep a daily eye on

Dear ISEPP members and friends,

ISEPP's 20th Annual Conference - Mental Health: Considering Context in Human Suffering

This year's conference entitled "Mental Health: Considering Context in Human Suffering", is October 6 through 8 in Denver, Colorado. The conference call for papers, flyer, sponsorship information, venue and hotel reservation particulars, and a rough schedule are posted at our [website](#). Please start to make arrangements to attend. The specific program information, to include plenary speakers and breakout sessions, will be uploaded soon. Several of our dedicated ISEPP members have been working hard behind the scenes to make this conference a success.

ISPS Annual Conference Call for Papers

Our sister agency, the International Society for Psychological and Social Approaches to Psychosis - United States Chapter (ISPS-US) is having their annual conference this upcoming

the Twitter feeds of organizations like the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and the American Psychiatric Association (APA), and media outlets like CNN, *Psychiatric Times*, and the Dr. Phil Show. Although it is extremely hard to keep up the volume of tweets from these organizations, I've noticed already that it draws the attention and approval of people out there who have never heard of ISEPP. So check out [my tweets](#) when you can.

November in Portland, Oregon. Please consider attending. [Click here](#) to find out more about the conference and the [Call for Papers](#).

"Saving Psychiatry" - Dr. Joe's Blog

We are launching a [unique new blog](#) at our website. It will be run by Dr. Joe Tarantolo, one of ISEPP's legendary psychiatrists. Joe will be exploring the possibility of saving the field of psychiatry so that it becomes a viable and humane endeavor, instead of the authoritarian and coercive system it currently is. Some areas of focus will be: finding and drawing the line between medicine and psychology; the world of psychosomatic medicine; establishing an ethical relationship with the legal system; and grappling with the mind-body split. Please stay tuned to his posts and feel free to comment on his ideas. You can find the blog midway down the home page, just after our [In The News](#) section.

ISEPP's Listserv

We recently posted our listserv rules [under the About Us link](#) on our website, in addition to sending them out on the listserv itself. This was just to remind everyone about basic internet etiquette as well as to emphasize we are apolitical and areligious. One can easily overlook this, given our passions, especially regarding political issues in the world today, but it is nonetheless important to avoid mixing personal political or religious views with ISEPP's mission. As a reminder, the ISEPP listserv is one of the benefits of [becoming an ISEPP member](#).

Open Letter to Four National Mental Health

Organizations

I am ready to send out our [Open Letter](#) to the American Psychological Association, American Psychiatric Association, American Counseling Association, and the National Association of Social Workers. As a reminder, our letter is asking for ethical guidance in the face of an ethical double bind for practitioners to use a DSM diagnosis, knowing it is invalid and potentially harmful, while at the same time knowing that refusing to diagnose will mean many people using insurance benefits will not be able to afford help. I've waited two extra months just to make sure we allowed time for all other organizations interest in joining with us on the letter. We have eight who have joined. I'll also be sharing the letter through a press release to the media.

As always, I ask that you all share this newsletter and other ISEPP information through your social networking sites. Also, make sure to visit our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. Feel free to contact me at docruby@me.com or 301-646-6022 if you have any questions or suggestions.

Best wishes,



Chuck



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