



## From The Director...

March 2016

*"Restoring humanity to life"*



Chuck Ruby, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

---

*This is the first installment of a monthly newsletter to all ISEPP members and others who have expressed interest in our work. I've decided to use it in order to keep everyone up to date about ISEPP activities and important issues that face us in our battle against the medical model of human suffering. ISEPP's motto, "Restoring humanity to life", captures our overall mission focus of critiquing the dehumanizing, authoritarian, and harmful conventional mental health system, in favor of one that respects human dignity, individual diversity, and personal agency.*

### **19th Annual ISEPP Conference, Portland, Oregon, October 7–9, 2016**

Our [2016 conference](#) title is, "Individuals Matter: Building a Better Science for Psychology and Psychiatry". The conference will address how traditional scientific methods and so-called "empirically-supported treatments" have failed to give useful information in helping those who struggle with very difficult life challenges. Because such science relies greatly on standardization, quantification, and nomothetic statistical analyses, the research results are based on and only apply to averages. They wash away the meaning of individual lives and turn people into caricatures. We need to bring the individual back to center stage by exploring humane and personally meaningful ways of helping people. [Click here](#) to read more about the conference and to see the [Call for Papers](#). Reserve your hotel room now by clicking [here](#) or by calling 800-586-5455. Use the group code "XIS" or mention the International Society for Ethical Psychology and Psychiatry in order to qualify for the special conference room rate. A full schedule of events and registration details will be forthcoming. Remember,

ISEPP members will get a discount on conference registration fees so I highly encourage you to join us prior to registering for the conference.

### **ISEPP Website**

Throughout the past year, we have been revamping our website at [www.psychintegrity.org](http://www.psychintegrity.org) in an attempt to make it more appealing, interactive, current, and germane to our mission. It is an evolving project and I welcome comments and suggestions from everyone. We removed the need for members to login and create a profile. For those of you who had previously created a profile with username and password, you can discard those. We also made it much easier and more streamlined to join ISEPP and to renew one's membership. In addition to information about key issues and resources for people, the homepage features two main sections: "[In the News](#)" and "[ISEPP in Action](#)". The first is used to highlight current media reports having to do with mental "health", mental "illness", or other topics related to psychology, psychiatry, education, and other important social concerns. The focus is to deconstruct what typically is a popular but misleading disease-model understanding about a variety of reports including mass shootings, periodic research announcements, legislative actions, and any other area where we need to set the record straight and provide alternative, humane ways of understanding and helping people. The second feature section has to do with trumpeting our members' work across the globe. There is a lot that gets done out there by our dedicated members and we need to publicize it as much as possible. Please take the time to visit the site regularly and consider submitting an article to be posted by emailing me at [docruby@me.com](mailto:docruby@me.com).

## Membership

We recently transitioned to a calendar year membership cycle – January to December each year. This will make it much easier for the Membership Committee and individual members to keep track of member status. I would like to remind everyone of the benefits of membership. First, and probably the most significant, you will join a group of terrific people who are wholeheartedly dedicated to making real, critical change. I have personally found ISEPP to be a warm and welcoming home where I have the opportunity to speak up and feel supported in my fight against the conventional mental health system. Other benefits of membership include our peer-reviewed journal, *[Ethical Human Psychology and Psychiatry \(EHPP\)](#)*, our quarterly ISEPP Bulletin, participation on our ISEPP Listserv, and as I mentioned above, a discounted registration fee at our annual conference. I encourage those of you who are not yet ISEPP members to join. To do so, [click here](#) or contact our Membership Chair Robert Sliclen, Ph.D., at [sliclen@optonline.net](mailto:sliclen@optonline.net) or 201-664-2566.

That's it for now. I am always open to ideas and comments about ISEPP's work. Feel free to contact me at [docruby@me.com](mailto:docruby@me.com) or 301-646-6022.

Best wishes,



Chuck



---

*Copyright © 2016 - International Society for Ethical Psychology and Psychiatry, Inc., All rights reserved.*

www.psychintegrity.org

psychintegrity@gmail.com

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)