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# From The Director...

September 2016

"Restoring humanity to life"



It has been nearly a year since I was selected to be ISEPP's Executive Director. In that year I've tried to focus on two main areas to enhance ISEPP. Those areas are our membership numbers and our public footprint, and I think we've done very well in both areas. Not only have we significantly increased our membership numbers, we've also increased the circulation of our peer-reviewed journal, Ethical Human Psychology and Psychiatry (EHPP). We are continuing to push in this area, especially by publicizing EHPP more among academic institutions where we hope to "convert" our future mental health professionals away from the conventional and dehumanizing medical model. Our new website has also seen

## The 19th Annual ISEPP Conference is Here!

Our conference will run this weekend, Friday through Sunday. There's still time to register, reserve your hotel room, and make travel arrangements. This year's conference theme is "Individuals Matter: Building a Better Science for Psychology and Psychiatry" and speakers will discuss how the different professions within the mental health industry have taken "gold standard" science too far by treating people as research subjects instead of meaning-making human beings. You can read more about the conference by clicking on the "Conference 2016" link at the top left of <a href="https://www.psychintegrity.org">www.psychintegrity.org</a>.

### **New Membership Drive**

I want to remind everyone that from October through December we are having a membership drive. There are special benefits to becoming an ISEPP member during these months (especially if you do so before the conference starts this weekend). In addition to the benefits listed at <a href="http://psychintegrity.org/joinrenew/">http://psychintegrity.org/joinrenew/</a>, if you join us now, you will receive: 1) extended membership through the end of 2017; 2) all three issues of 2017 (Volume 19) of our peer-reviewed journal, *Ethical Human* 

success in providing us a platform from which to advertise our views to the world. Although a slow start, it has proven a great way for us to attack the daily drivel seen among media outlets that perpetuate the myth of mental illness and to advertise the work we're doing. Keep in mind we're still looking for ISEPP members who would be willing to keep a sharp eye out and write reactions to such misleading reports. We are also looking for those interested in becoming more involved in the public relations side of our mission.

Chuck Ruby, Ph.D. Executive Director

Psychology and Psychiatry (EHPP), published by Springer Publishers; and 3) immediate online access to ALL current and past issues of EHPP. Join us now by going to <a href="http://psychintegrity.org/joinrenew/">http://psychintegrity.org/joinrenew/</a>.

#### **Capitol Hill Safety Summit**

I was invited to present ISEPP's White Paper: Psychiatric Drugs and Violence, at the Washington DC Capitol Hill Safety Summit on September 21st, sponsored by the Safe America Foundation and the National Foundation for Women Legislators. Several agencies and legislators' offices were in attendance and responded very well to our concerns. During the presentation I took the opportunity to express ISEPP's support for H.R. 4640, Veteran Suicide Prevention Act, introduced by Congressman David Jolly (R-Florida) and co-sponsored by 64 other legislators. The bill calls for an investigation into all veteran suicides and especially any links between the prescription of psychiatric drugs and suicide.

### The ISEPP Inquiry

In my last newsletter I announced the kickoff of The ISEPP Inquiry. This is a video interview series conducted by ISEPP's Michele Paiva. Al Galves and I participated in the first two interviews. You can see them at <a href="Newsroom">Newsroom</a> The ISEPP Inquiry. I want to encourage everyone to sign up for an interview. You can use this opportunity to advertise special programs you run, important topics you are interested in, or any other issue that fits with ISEPP's overall mission. I know several of you would be great candidates for getting the word out through The ISEPP Inquiry.

I ask that you all share this newsletter and other ISEPP information through your social networking sites. Also, make sure to visit our <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u> pages. Feel free to contact me at <u>docruby@me.com</u> or 301-646-6022

if you have any questions or suggestions.

Best wishes.

Chuck







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