

Early Career Psychiatrists: Report to Area 3 – 9/29/2018

Member Services/Strength of Organization:

Rahul participated in the Council on Communications components meeting on 9/14/18 in DC. This was his second components meeting and meeting at this council. We have a new chair with Carol Bernstein MD taking over for Drew Ramsey MD. We will support Dr. Stewart's initiatives (**ECP engagement**, global mental health, and diversity/equity/inclusion) and Dr. Levin's initiatives (improving communication both within the organization and between the organization and the greater community). The council voted to focus on combating stigma, helping other councils, portrayals of mental illness in popular media, and promoting social media among members.

Additionally, the APA is requesting spokespeople for radio/television in major media centers for major issues. Volunteers have to be willing to represent the APA's positions and not their own. Interested volunteers will have support of the staff in doing this. This is due to a sharp increase in the volume of requests from radio/print/television outlets for comment by the APA. Unfortunately, without available spokespeople, most outlets turn to other sources, such as the American Psychological Association.

Baiju and Rahul discussed the issue of how to engage Area 3 ECPs and ECPs in general, particularly those who are not APA members. For our part in Area 3, we have decided to start a Twitter account that relays links to relevant articles about ECP-related issues and hopefully is able to connect with other ECPs. The page is in its initial stages and we are hopeful it will be up and running by Area 3 meeting date end of September. **Given Dr. Stewart's focus on ECP engagement, we are looking to the Area council's active guidance and feedback on how we can best improve at this.**

The ECPs have a new chair: Mirabela Bodic MD. She ran two conference calls, and there is a plan for a third before the November meeting.

Advocacy:

Rahul spoke [5/22/18 at the local NAMI chapter](#) on "Why Psychiatry is a Branch of Medicine" (title lovingly borrowed from Samuel Guze MD's excellent book). He discussed scope of practice, what exactly different types of psychiatrists do, and fielded a variety of questions. He was told it went well, and he prays that the audience was honest.

Education:

Rahul presented 9/21/18 at the fortnightly department meeting at his hospital on "medical clearance" in the emergency department for psychiatric admissions. (Information lovingly borrowed from a symposium at the annual meeting.) He also continues to bore his fiancée with a variety of psychiatry-related information.

Diversity/Standards, Quality of Care, Healthcare and Health Economics:

We are in discussions about how to improve our involvement in these areas.

Respectfully submitted, with apologies for any injuries from the red font,

Rahul Malhotra MD Area 3 Early Career Psychiatrist Representative,

Baiju Gandhi MD Area 3 Early Career Psychiatrist Deputy Representative