

MARYLAND PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY



March 2015

Dear Colleagues:

Over the years, the Maryland Psychiatric Society (MPS) has effectively represented psychiatrists and the patients we serve throughout the state. We can be proud to be members of an organization that plays a critical role in education, advocacy and professional development. As with all organizations, the strength of the MPS is dependent on the contributions of time and talent by our members.

My initial involvement with the MPS was through our legislative committee. Given my interest in psychiatry and the law, it was a great fit. I have found my work on the committee to be quite rewarding. Additionally, participation in committees provided me with significant personal rewards – I have worked with and had the opportunity to form friendships with colleagues. Being in private practice, I have found this sense of community to be invaluable.

As psychiatrists, we are faced with multiple challenges in our work and the care for our patients. Over the past few years, the MPS has dealt with a broad range of issues including parity, access to treatment, scope of practice, firearm legislation and managed care. The active participation of members in our committees has served a critical role in our achievements.

Below is a list MPS committees. Some of these committees are more active than others, but all are important in serving the mission of our organization. Please consider joining one or more committees. I will be happy to speak with you to discuss any of the committees and answer of your questions. My email address is drz@mdpsychiatry.com.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Zimmitzky', written over a horizontal line.

Brian Zimmitzky, M.D.
President-Elect

NAME: _____
(Please print)

ACADEMIC PSYCHIATRY – works to enhance collaboration between the MPS and the academic community, and focuses on the needs and highlights the accomplishments of the academic community. *Active*

BOOK CLUB - provides an opportunity for members to meet quarterly to discuss a book, fiction or non-fiction, chosen by the group in advance. It is our hope that Book Club meetings will attract members who want to get together socially for a stimulating discussion and light refreshment, whether or not they have previously been active in MPS activities. *Very Active*

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY - represents the Society's interest and concern on issues in child and adolescent psychiatry, acts in liaison with other committees and organizations with related concerns. *Less Active*

DISASTER PSYCHIATRY – works to advocate for patients, support education and training in disaster psychiatry, enhance the scientific basis of psychiatric care for victims of disaster, and develop a disaster readiness plan. *Less Active*

DISTINGUISHED FELLOWSHIP - selects the Society's nominees for APA Distinguished Fellowship each year in accordance with APA guidelines. Its members must be Distinguished Fellows or Distinguished Life Fellows. *Meets once per year.*

DIVERSITY – advocates for integrating the elements of diversity into the MPS by acting as a liaison to other community organizations with related interests both clinically and academically. *Less Active*

EARLY CAREER PSYCHIATRISTS - This committee, made up of ECPs, has the responsibility of planning and implementing educational, career planning, and social events for ECPs to engage them in MPS activities and convey Society information to the ECPs. *Active*

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD - is responsible to the Council for supervising and advising the Editor of *The Maryland Psychiatrist* regarding policies, selections for publication, and general management of the publication. *Active*

FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY - represents those with an interest in the evaluation and treatment of the mentally ill in the criminal justice system. Members are engaged in the practice and teaching of forensic psychiatry and they are a resource for information regarding mental health law and public policy. *Active*

GERIATRIC PSYCHIATRY - represents the Society's interest and concern on issues in geriatric psychiatry and acts in liaison with other committees and organizations with related concerns. *Less Active*

LEGISLATIVE - pursues the interests of the membership in all mental health matters, initiating and responding to proposed state and federal legislation. Liaison with other MPS committees, the Suburban Maryland Psychiatric Society, our common lobbyist, MedChi, and other patient and professional advocacy groups is integral to this committee's work. This is a very active committee, particularly during the legislative session from early January to early April each year. Members will critique bills and have the opportunity to testify in Annapolis on bills the committee feels are most important. *Very Active*

MEMBERSHIP - recruits and evaluates applicants for membership in the Society, in accordance with the Society's constitution and by-laws and APA policy. It also considers special member requests and works on recruitment initiatives, including outreach to Resident training programs in the area. *Very Active*

PAYER RELATIONS - represents the Society's interest and concern on issues relating to Third Party Payers and health care management. Its activities range from gathering information on and assisting with complaints, to recommending Society positions, to legislative, regulatory and public awareness initiatives. *Active*

PROGRAM AND CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION - plans and organizes the Society's scientific programs, ensures that programs qualify for CME credit, and complies with requirements for status as an accredited organization. *Very Active*

PUBLIC PSYCHIATRY - represents the Society in all issues related to public psychiatry, including the proper use and role of psychiatrists in public settings and advocacy for quality psychiatric care for patients treated in the public sector. *Less Active*

RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS - made up of Resident and Fellow Members (RFM) from the accredited training programs in Maryland, is responsible for planning and implementing educational, career planning, and social events for RFMs. It also brings RFM issues to the attention of the Council and conveys Society information to residents and fellows. *Active*