



AMERICAN  
**PSYCHIATRIC**  
ASSOCIATION

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## **2021 Election**

President-Elect

Secretary

Early Career Psychiatrist

(ECP) Trustee

Minority/Underrepresented

Representative

(MUR) Trustee

Area 1 Trustee

Area 4 Trustee

Area 7 Trustee

Resident-Fellow Member

Trustee-Elect (RFMTE)

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# 2021 APA ELECTION

## President-Elect

### Candidate for President-Elect

**Rebecca W. Brendel, MD, JD, DFAPA**

[www.rebeccabrendelforapa.com](http://www.rebeccabrendelforapa.com)

- Director, Master of Bioethics Program, Harvard Medical School (2014-present)
- Chair, APA Committee on Ethics (2019-2021)
- Chair, APA Committee on Bylaws (2013-2016)
- American Medical Association Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs (2019-2026)
- President, Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry (2018-2019)



Amidst the global pandemic, psychiatry faces immeasurable challenges yet also has unprecedented opportunities to improve the lives of persons with mental illness. As a practicing psychiatrist and proud member of our APA for nearly two decades, I am honored by this nomination to serve as your President-Elect at this critical time. I am a clinician, educator, and advocate for our profession. My legal training, ethics experience, and established record of collaborative leadership in organized psychiatry and medicine have prepared me to lead our APA to ensure:

- **Parity and Practice**: I will advocate tirelessly for psychiatric care and reimbursement on par with other medical care and without undue administrative burden. I will champion the role of psychiatrists as essential to patient safety and wellbeing.
- **Member Engagement**: Together, we will foster a diverse APA that provides resources tailored to members' needs at every stage of the professional lifespan, from trainees and ECPs to mid-career and senior colleagues.
- **Accountability**: I pledge to strengthen our APA through inclusive, transparent, and trustworthy governance responsive to the concerns and interests of all members, with particular attention to underrepresented voices.
- **Professionalism and Self-Regulation**: We can and we will prepare psychiatry for the future by advancing research, promoting diversity, developing a robust and sustainable workforce ready for both

today's and tomorrow's needs, supporting meaningful certification tailored to competent practice, and seeking innovative approaches to financing medical education.

I hope to guide our APA and our profession towards a bright future through experienced, effective, and ethical leadership. Together, we will tackle today's challenges as opportunities to advance our membership, our profession, and public mental health. I pledge to devote my energies to our APA and the persons we serve, and humbly ask for your vote.

### **Professional Activities**

80% Teaching/ Education/ Administration: Director, Master of Bioethics Program, Associate Director, Center for Bioethics, Harvard Medical School

20% Clinical/ Consultation, Massachusetts General Hospital

### **Professional Income**

80% Harvard Medical School

20% Massachusetts General Hospital

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## **Candidate for President-Elect**

### **Jacqueline Maus Feldman, MD, DLFAPA**

[www.DrJackieForAPA.com](http://www.DrJackieForAPA.com)

- Professor Emerita, Department of Psychiatry, University of Alabama Birmingham, 1990-present
- Associate Medical Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness, 2014-present
- APA Service: APAF Board (2002-2007), Chair, Scientific Program Committees (2007-2008; 2018-2019; 2020-2021), Chair, Presidential IPS Work Group Chair, 2019-2020
- President (2000-2004), Member of Board (1996-present), American Association for Community Psychiatry
- Editor-in-Chief, *Community Mental Health Journal*, 2008-2019



Facing historic mental health inequities, social injustice, climate change, COVID, and limited workforce development, psychiatric patients, providers, and systems of care are overwhelmed. The APA must respond, providing leadership committed to practical solutions. I have had decades-long experience in multiple positions where problem-solving, engagement, partnership and advocacy have led to the creation of innovative systems of care. I have served in multiple leadership roles translating *vision* and *intent* into *action*.

I am committed to a change in process and products; the APA must address the following issues:

- *Racism/social injustice*: Embrace self-assessment, courses of study, action plans, and objective metrics to hold ourselves and our leaders accountable; Transparently recruit, support, and appoint U/RM members to APA components; Prepare our workforce to treat those who are victims of the trauma of racism, social injustice, climate change, and the ravages of COVID
- *Stigma and parity for patients and providers*: Advocate and educate decision-makers and the community; Support legislation, insurance, and judicial reform to improve parity and maximize

reimbursement

- *Limited workforce*: Develop concrete, practical strategies to increase the numbers of providers to meet the needs of every person living with mental illness
- *Unengaged psychiatrists in the APA*: Maximize intergenerational strengths and engage and utilize our innovative, energetic trainees and Early Career Psychiatrists; Recruit Life Fellows/Members as mentors; Provide value to members by offering timely development and distribution of products that are meaningful. Fix the flawed MOC process to minimize expense and maximize life-long learning; Listen to the members. Listen to the members. Listen to the members.
- *Continue the Fall meeting of the APA*, which offers a safe space for passionate dialogue, mentoring, networking, and development of evidence-based action plans for community change

Please contact me with questions or suggestions. I would treasure your input, your vote, and your support!

### **Professional Activities**

Professor Emerita, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Department of Psychiatry: 75%

Associate Medical Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness: 5%

Writing and editing projects: 20%

### **Professional Income**

100% - Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurobiology, University of Alabama at Birmingham



# 2021 APA ELECTION

## Secretary

### Candidate for Secretary

**Rahn Kennedy Bailey, M.D. DFAPA, ACP**

[www.vote4rahn.com](http://www.vote4rahn.com)

- Minority/Underrepresented Representative (MUR) Trustee, APA, 2019-21
- Member, American College of Psychiatry, 2015
- Chairman of Membership, APA, 2014-18
- President, National Medical Association, 2012-13
- Member, Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, 2012



I do not believe the field of psychiatry can move forward without a progressive and galvanized APA.

Through my extensive work in the APA, most recently as the Minority Under Representative Trustee to the APA Board, I witnessed firsthand how our organization works in representative leadership. Unfortunately, I began to notice that frequently the direction of the leadership and the will of the constituency have not aligned. Although the current leadership have tried to perform at their collective best, it has become clear, **“we need more!”**. **We need more** new ideas from new perspectives which can promote a more inclusive and transparent organization. **We need more** accountability from our elected representatives when decisions made are not what were promised. **We need more** diversity with someone who has lived experience who can add insight and perspective to many of the current issues, advocacy, implicit bias, etc...**we need more!**

Our attempt to change the culture from within have been unsuccessful. Our organization seems more fragmented/disconnected now than ever. I see your letters of discontent written to the upper levels of the organization. I hear the dialogue of the concerns you have voiced in various caucuses and listserv. But most importantly, I *feel* your pain...

My friends, we are at an inflection point. It is time to seize the moment and embrace the change moving towards a better APA for all – the APA you envision.

I am your candidate for *change*, and if elected, I will not rest until the vision is actualized! Because

frankly..."we need more!"

### **Professional Activities**

45% - Assistant Dean of Clinical Education, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

45% - CMO, Kedren Community Health Center Inc

10% Forensic Consulting

### **Professional Income**

45% - Assistant Dean of Clinical Education, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

45% - CMO, Kedren Community Health Center Inc

10% - Forensic Consulting

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## **Candidate for Secretary**

### **Sandra M. DeJong, MD, MSc, DFAPA**

<https://www.dejongforapasecretary.org/>

- Secretary, APA Board of Trustees, 2019-21
- Chair, APA Presidential Taskforce on Interprofessional Collaboration, 2019-20
- Chair, Sub-group, Child Psychiatry Beds; APA Presidential Taskforce on Psychiatric Beds, 2020-21
- President, American Association of Directors of Psychiatry Residency Training (AADPRT), 2017-18
- Training Director/Assoc. Training Director, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Cambridge Health Alliance/Harvard Medical School, 2004-18



APA is a large and diverse organization. Our members speak with a range of voices that vary by geography, type of practice, age and training, and differences in race/ethnicity, culture and gender among other factors. To move forward effectively, all these voices must be heard; our organizational processes must be transparent, clearly communicated, and held accountable; and we must work and take action together.

I am a **practicing general and child/adolescent psychiatrist**, an **APA leader experienced in governance**, a nationally recognized **educator**, and an **administrator with 20 years of experience** across APA, my DB, allied organizations, and healthcare institutions.

If re-elected as APA Secretary, I pledge to continue to:

### **Fight for APA and workforce diversity, equity, and inclusion:**

- include the M/UR Trustee on the Board Executive Committee
- continue our organizational inventory and make changes at all levels to address structural racism
- use proven strategies to improve our organizational culture
- include "promoting diversity" as an accountability metric for all leadership

## **Intensify lobbying and advocacy to reduce practice burdens while meeting post-COVID mental health demands:**

- fight for better access, parity, safety, services, fair reimbursement--including for telehealth, interprofessional care, collateral work
- support population-based approaches

## **Champion training and recruitment in areas of clinical need (child, geriatrics, addictions, integrated care, telehealth, etc.):**

- innovate in CME
- collaborate with subspecialty organizations to reverse critical shortages and protect scope of practice

## **Enhance wellbeing by taking care of the caretakers:**

- ensure stigma-free access to mental health care for psychiatrists
- reduce burdens (coding, MOC) and improve systems to restore professional identity
- recognize and address the unique stressors of COVID-19 on psychiatrists

## **Mobilize education and research:**

- reduce stigma and demonstrate our unique value as biopsychosocial psychiatric physicians
- protect GME from bureaucratic time sinks and prevent educator burnout
- identify best clinical practices and service delivery models to promote health equity

## **Professional Activities**

60% Private practice, general and child/adolescent psychiatry

20% Senior Consultant, Child/Adolescent Psychiatry Training, Cambridge Health Alliance/Harvard Medical School

20% Academic/organizational activities

## **Professional Income**

91% Private practice

8% Senior Consultant, Cambridge Health Alliance

1% Royalties, fees for academic speaking engagements



# 2021 APA ELECTION

## Early Career Psychiatrist (ECP) Trustee

### Candidate for Early Career Psychiatrist (ECP) Trustee

**Elie G. Aoun, MD, MRO**

[ElieForAPA.com](http://ElieForAPA.com)

- Columbia University: Assistant Professor
- Quadruple board certified general, addiction and forensic psychiatrist: private practice (New York and California) and NYS Office of Mental Health
- ACGME: Psychiatry Residency Milestone Workgroup
- APA: Scientific Program Committee (subcommittee vice-chair), Council on Addiction Psychiatry (past vice-chair)
- Training: General psychiatry (Brown), Addiction Psychiatry (UCSF), Forensic Psychiatry (Columbia and Cornell), Research fellowship (Columbia)



I am honored to be nominated for the APA ECP trustee-at-large position. I am a clinician, a researcher, a teacher and a proud dog dad. My dedication to our field and to disenfranchised and disadvantaged populations makes me an ideal candidate. My firsthand experience as an ECP, a man of color, a gay man, and an IMG gives me a unique perspective on the issues faced by our colleagues and our patients.

I have been an active member of the APA for as long as I have been a physician, I served on the APA assembly as a trainee, then when my term ended, my colleagues appointed me as the mentor for incoming members. I served on the council on addiction psychiatry as a trainee, as an ECP and as vice chair of the council. I also collaborated heavily with the council on psychiatry and the law.

If you visit my website, [ElieForAPA.com](http://ElieForAPA.com), you can review the issues that have motivated my decision to run for this election, and what I will work towards if elected including:

- Scope of practice protections: psychiatry should be practiced by psychiatrists
- Diversity and inclusion: we are a diverse group, so are our patients. Systemic racism hurts our patients and limits our ability to serve our communities. The APA needs to do more to ensure equity
- Reforming the MOC program: organizations should not profit off the backs of hard-working psychiatrists
- Meaningful and concrete mentorship opportunities
- Protection of parity for mental health

Given the honor of serving, MY VOICE WILL BE LOUD ON THE BOARD. I will strive to represent us all and advocate for meaningful professional reform to protect our collective professional future. My love for the field, my value for integration and tolerance, and my tenacity and idealism make me the right choice for ECP trustee-at-large.

### **Professional Activities**

40% Liaison Psychiatrist: NYS Office of Mental Health Sex Offender  
40% Private Practice (psychotherapy, psychopharmacology, forensic evaluations)  
20% Teaching and fellow supervision: Columbia University, Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship

### **Professional Income**

60% Private practice  
40% New York State Office of Mental Health

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## **Candidate for Early Career Psychiatrist (ECP) Trustee**

### **Tanuja Gandhi, MD**

[www.mdtanujagandhi.com](http://www.mdtanujagandhi.com)

- APA Board of Trustees, Resident-Fellow Member Trustee (RFMT) (2018-19)
- Member, APA Council on Psychiatry & the Law (2019- current)
- Co-lead, Clearinghouse Workgroup of the Presidential Task Force to address Structural Racism throughout Psychiatry (current)
- Clinical Instructor, Brown University (2020-current)
- Adult, Child/Adolescent & Forensic Psychiatrist



We are physicians first and the APA is OUR organization!

I began in the APA as a resident representative of the Philadelphia Psychiatric Society, then APA fellow, Resident Fellow Member Trustee on the APA Board, participant in Presidential Workgroups on Safe Prescribing and Women's Mental Health, and now as a Member on the Council on Psychiatry & the Law. In these roles, I have witnessed the leadership and wisdom of experienced members, passionate advocacy of trainees and ECP's, and the discontent of colleagues given the challenges faced by our profession. Given my prior service on the APA Board, I understand the workings of our organization and am committed to get things done.

**If given the honor to serve as your ECP Trustee, I will be a tireless advocate for our membership.**

### **I commit to:**

- **Prioritize** addressal of **member concerns about MOC** and advocate for meaningful continuing education.
- Be a passionate advocate **against racism** & will **promote diversity, equity & inclusion** at all levels of the APA. Support creative initiatives focused on enhancing the **representation of minorities** across

our organization and profession.

- Be a strong voice on **scope of practice issues** advocating for **our ability to practice our profession**. Advocate for **parity** and support initiatives that enhance **access to care** including **Telehealth**.
- Strengthen and enhance opportunities for **engagement of trainees** and **ECP's** through **mentorship, leadership** and **collaboration** with subspecialty and allied organizations nationally & internationally.
- Advocate for sustained funding for **GME, research, community** and **rural health** programs essential to address workforce and access issues.
- Advocate for the well-being of **frontline workers** and communities impacted by **extreme climate-related disasters**.
- Be **accessible** as a Trustee for **member input, feedback** and **concerns**.

**As the ECP Trustee, I commit to be an ACCOUNTABLE and TRANSPARENT leader dedicated to representing our membership and profession.**

### **Professional Activities**

100% - Child/Adolescent & Forensic Psychiatrist, Clinical Care, Supervision and Teaching.

Other: APA Council, RI AACAP Delegate, IAPA Extended Executive Committee

### **Professional Income**

100% : Clinical Practice/ Lifespan Physicians.

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## **Candidate for Early Career Psychiatrist (ECP) Trustee**

### **Chandan Khandai, MD, MS**

[www.ckforapa.com](http://www.ckforapa.com)

- Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Consultation-Liaison Division, University of Illinois at Chicago 2019-present
- ECP Representative and ECP Committee Chair, Illinois Psychiatric Society, 2019-present
- Corresponding Member, APA Council on Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry, 2019-present
- APA/APAF Leadership Fellow 2016-2018, Leadership Fellowship President 2017-2018
- Non-voting Member of the APA Board of Trustees, 2017-2018



Early Career Psychiatrists (ECPs) represent the next generation of psychiatry, and 13% of our membership. We lead the growing tide of psychiatrists passionate about social justice and social outreach of our profession. However, ECPs are still building our community and voice within APA. I've had a lifelong involvement in organizational service, and I've learned their powerful potential in fostering social justice and inclusion, engaging in outreach, and creating identity

My experiences lead to my platform: **Social Justice, Social Outreach, and Social Identity**, to help **Build an APA for Everyone**.

**Social Justice:** I will push APA to pursue true diversity and inclusion initiatives at the highest levels, and elevate other voices with my privilege, especially women, minorities, LGBTQ, IMGs, and geographically under-represented; promote equity through legislative efforts in parity and collaborative care; and incorporate intersectionality and structural competency into our training.

**Social Outreach:** I will expand psychiatry's social impact through increasing our field's social media presence, promote psychiatrist voices in the popular press, and expand collaborations with allied organizations to amplify our message.

**Social Identity:** I will enact the first-ever national ECP survey to directly ask ECPs what we want from APA. I will streamline communication between APA and ECPs, promote ECP-focused career development and financial literacy programming, expand ECP mentorship, and create more in-person and virtual social opportunities to help us find each other and create community.

While I have many opinions and ideas on a host of APA issues- scope of practice, maintenance of certification, IMG support- my primary goal will be to represent our members' needs! With my prior state and national experience, including on the Board of Trustees, I will engage and connect our community to Build A Better APA. Find out more at [www.ckforapa.com](http://www.ckforapa.com).

### **Professional Activities**

- 75%- Consultation-liaison psychiatry and med-psych inpatient service, University of Illinois Health
- 10%- Psychiatric consultant, Mile Square Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)
- 15%- Teaching and academic research, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) College of Medicine

### **Professional Income**

- 85%- University of Illinois Health
- 15%- UIC College of Medicine

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## **Candidate for Early Career Psychiatrist (ECP) Trustee**

### **Krysti (Lan Chi) Vo, MD**

<https://vo.care>

- APA Assembly, Representative of the Asian American Caucus & Member, Access to Care Committee, 2019-2023
- APA Public Psychiatry Fellow; Member, Council on Quality Care, 2015-2017
- Designed Data Extraction for APA PsychPRO Registry, 2016-2018
- Medical Director of Telehealth, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; Assistant Professor, University of Pennsylvania (Penn), 2018
- Board Member of AACAP, 2016-2018 & Georgia Psychiatric Physician Association, 2015-2016



We are in a crucial period of societal flux which requires an innovator with the tenacity to problem-solve in

creative ways. The APA must be at the forefront of medicine. It should provide leadership to promote parity and access to quality psychiatric care. I am the person for this job.

We must integrate psychiatry into the fabric of medicine and public health. **My expertise in telepsychiatry and board governance uniquely qualifies me to identify and implement timely solutions.**

My primary goal is to **serve the diverse needs of the APA while remaining member-centric.** I will build alliances by:

1. encouraging APA to **include more voices on issues and to quickly respond to concerns** through the responsible use of technology, such as automated texting.
2. using my research on technology to **strengthen dialogue across all organizational levels to respectfully promote transparency** and engagement,
3. **addressing burnout** by creating member programs, such as virtual support groups..

The pandemic put mental health at the forefront of national conversations. **We must take advantage of this turning point to destigmatize mental health and strengthen our advocacy.** I will:

1. **partner** with organized medical associations, allied nonprofits, and families to develop shared resources and promote access to care.
2. continue to **create educational public engagement** via social media, such as Live Q&As with APA experts.

**We face the immediate need to address issues of parity affected by telehealth and changing state and national healthcare regulations.** I will:

1. stand with district branches and APA to **be proactive instead of reactive to regulatory challenges using my expertise in telepsychiatry**
2. ensure clinical practices are not jeopardized by the changing regulatory environment.
3. benefit APA with my **unique formal nonprofit board governance training from Penn** and prior board experiences.

Learn about my experiences working diligently to get things done right: <https://vo.care>

### **Professional Activities**

100% Children's Hospital of Philadelphia & University of Pennsylvania

### **Professional Income**

100% Children's Hospital of Philadelphia & University of Pennsylvania



# 2021 APA ELECTION

## Minority/Underrepresented Representative (MUR) Trustee

### Candidate for Minority/Underrepresented Representative (MUR) Trustee

#### Oscar E. Perez, MD, DLFAPA

<https://www.oscarperezmd.com/>

- Hispanic Representative to the Assembly, APA, 2018-2021
- Minorities and Underrepresented Committee Chair, APA, 1995-1996 and 2005-2006
- President of Physician Council, League of United Latin American Citizens, 2010-2013
- Clinical Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University, El Paso, TX, 2015-Present
- Medical Director, Rio Vista Behavioral Health Hospital, 2019-Present



I believe that I am fully qualified to be the M.U.R Trustee because of my broad professional training and experience spanning over 40 years. Most of my career has been in service of the immigrant community of El Paso, TX, a city bordering Mexico.

I have tirelessly advocated for the rights of minority communities through my advocacy work, described below. As an immigrant myself, I truly understand the importance of not only being represented in organizations, but also directly contributing to them and having a seat at the table.

My career, both in the inpatient and outpatient fields of psychiatry substance abuse, has led me to hold multiple leadership positions in the public and private sector. Currently, I'm the Medical Director of the newest psychiatric hospital in El Paso, Rio Vista Behavioral Health.

I have been president of Southwest Association of Hispanic American Physicians of El Paso as well as president of the National Confederation of Hispanic American Medical Association. I have also been involved with civic organizations, such as League of United Latin American Citizens, where I was part of the healthcare board, in addition to presiding over the physician chapter.

Fighting for minority rights has always been a personal quest. I have authored and presented to the assembly many action papers, which involve issues regarding: the dangers of white supremacy violence;

Google interference with professional practice; and separation of families at the border.

If elected to the board, I will contribute my broad range of skills and unique perspective to address the issues mentioned below.

- Fighting structural racism;
- MOC issues;
- Telemedicine Post-COVID;
- Healthcare disparities for minorities;
- Parity of coverage;
- Scope of practice;
- US immigration policies in regards to J'1 Visas for IMG's;
- Diversity and equity of inclusion in APA.

For more information on my platform, please visit [www.oscarperezmd.com](http://www.oscarperezmd.com).

### **Professional Activities**

20% Medical Director, Rio Vista Behavioral Health

70% Inpatient Practice

10% Outpatient Practice

### **Professional Income**

70% Inpatient Practice

20% Medical Director

10% Outpatient Practice

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## **Candidate for Minority/Underrepresented Representative (MUR) Trustee**

### **Felix Torres, MD, MBA, DFAPA**

[www.felixtorresmd.com](http://www.felixtorresmd.com)

- Special Advisor to the APA on the United Nations, 2015–current
- Board Member, APA Political Action Committee Board of Directors, 2019–current
- Speaker-Elect Candidate, Assembly of the APA, 2019
- APA Assembly Representative, New York County Psychiatric Society, 2012–2019 (Alternate, Texas Society of Psychiatric Physicians, November 2019)
- Secretary, New York State Psychiatric Association, 2018–2019



Our Nation stands at a crossroads as our Black sisters and brothers demand an end to centuries of oppression and discrimination, renewing the call for social justice. The APA is a microcosm of these United States and a similar cry is being heard from our members.

We enter this election cycle pondering about our organization's history of strong positives but also of disconcerting negatives, like the treatment of underrepresented members and staff. A glimmer of hope arose with the 2015 approval of the APA strategic plan, setting four pillars to guide future initiatives. Diversity, the

fourth pillar, calls for supporting and increasing diversity within APA and working to end mental health disparities. But a charter is only as good as its implementation; the APA has a long road ahead.

A member since medical school, I have long been an advocate for our patients and our profession. I have served in several Components, including seven years as APA Assembly Representative, and have extensive knowledge of our bylaws. I shall continue to focus on issues relating to global/cultural psychiatry, mental health disparities, the mental health impact of climate change, and the support of diversity and inclusion.

The APA is navigating through challenging times as we evaluate our issues with structural racism and financially reorganize in the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. My MBA with concentrations in Healthcare Management and Leading Organizations makes me an asset on the Board, affording me the expertise to critically assist the APA with upcoming decisions.

The next M/UR Trustee must be keenly aware of our history to serve as a catalyst for change and reconciliation. While I identify as Gay and Latino, my plight has focused on the advancement of All. Together we are stronger than fragmented. I will strive to do the same as your next M/UR Trustee.

### **Professional Activities**

80% Chief of Forensic Medicine, Texas Health & Human Services Commission

10% Forensic Psychiatry Consultant

5% Teaching

5% Advocacy and Media Consultation

### **Professional Income**

85% State of Texas

15% Forensic Psychiatry Private Practice



# 2021 APA ELECTION

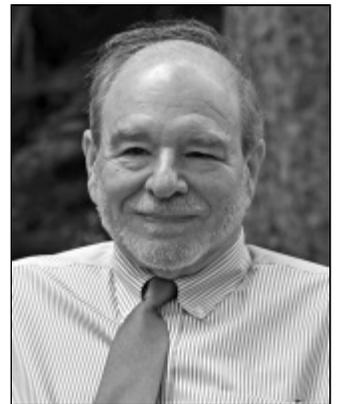
## Area 1 Trustee

### Candidate for Area 1 Trustee

**Eric M. Plakun, MD, DLFAPA**

[www.EricPlakun4Area1Trustee.org](http://www.EricPlakun4Area1Trustee.org)

- Medical Director/CEO, Austen Riggs Center
- Plaintiffs' expert, *Wit v. United Behavioral Health*
- APA: Board of Trustees 2018-2021, Finance and Budget Committee, Assembly Executive Committee, ACROSS Chair, MOC Task Force, Chair Committee on Psychotherapy by Psychiatrists, Founder of APA Psychotherapy Caucus
- Former Clinical Faculty, Harvard Medical School
- "Outstanding Psychiatrist in Clinical Psychiatry," Massachusetts Psychiatric Society



I humbly ask for your vote to serve a second term on the Board so that I can use my unique experience to help increase access to care, implement parity, and reduce shameful health disparities.

I served as plaintiffs' expert in psychiatric disorders in the landmark federal class action known as *Wit v. United Behavioral Health (UBH)*, the nation's largest behavioral health insurer. The recent final verdict was a major victory for the plaintiffs. Former Congressman Patrick Kennedy called it a "game changer" with an impact "comparable to *Brown v. Board of Education*." UBH was found to have acted unlawfully, put financial gain over patient needs, and narrowly limited treatment to crisis stabilization rather than real treatment. I was gratified that the verdict adopted my testimony, and that New York State and California reshaped insurance law based on the verdict.

No one else on the Board understands as I do that the *Wit* verdict is not just a news item, but rather a powerful tool the APA should embrace and use to better serve our patients. The verdict highlights the APA's crucial role in establishing what real treatment is about, rather than abdicating this to insurance entities. If we skillfully strike while the iron is hot, we can expand the impact of *Wit* beyond UBH to all ERISA plans, and to commercial, ACA, Medicare, and Medicaid plans. Members of Area 1 can help move the APA in this direction by sending me back to the Board with this mandate.

My approach to leadership can be summed up in 9 words: *Tell the truth; Do what matters; Get it done.* I ask for your vote so that I can continue to “*Tell the truth; do what matters; and get it done*” to improve access to care and address health disparities.

### **Professional Activities**

90% Austen Riggs Center Medical Director/CEO, including clinical, administration, teaching, writing, and work within organized psychiatry and psychoanalysis  
10% Private practice of psychiatry and psychoanalysis

### **Professional Income**

90% Austen Riggs Center  
10% Private practice of psychiatry and psychoanalysis

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## **Candidate for Area 1 Trustee**

### **Maureen Sayres Van Niel, M.D.**

[maureensayresvanniemd.com](http://maureensayresvanniemd.com)

- Member, Steering Committee, Department of Health and Human Services Women’s Preventive Services Initiative, 2016-2019
- President, APA Women’s Caucus, 2016-
- Chair, APA M/UR (Minorities) Committee 2020-21
- Clinical practice in reproductive psychiatry, long term analytic psychotherapy, psychopharmacology, community mental health, 1988-
- National spokesperson and researcher, women’s mental health, women in medicine, and mental health parity and disparities



As Area 1 Trustee on an APA Board facing a global pandemic, a reckoning with racial injustice and health disparities, threats to our practices, and unbridled climate change, I would prioritize:

-**Structural racism** against Black, Native American, and Hispanic people is the destructive foundation of the system in which we trained and live. Those of us from the racialized majority, including most APA Board members, have neither suffered under nor learned to identify racism in all its forms. I believe the APA’s comprehensive efforts to address ongoing oppression should be guided by its minority members, including residents/fellows, who have lived experience in this area.

-**Psychiatrists are physicians first.** Using our medical backgrounds to provide the best care for our patients is our highest priority despite parity, preauthorization, and legal challenges. As Trustee, I would strongly support the Board’s continuing advocacy for our profession, and also urge support for regional issues of our smaller district branches and Canadian members, who struggle to have a voice in APA decisions.

-The APA needs to use our national platform to be moral **thought leaders** unafraid to issue swift condemnation after atrocities such as the massacres at the Tree of Life synagogue and the Pulse nightclub. Slow, complicated Assembly processes may impede the effectiveness of our collective APA voice when needed to quickly denounce anti-Asian violence, climate change denial, or violence against transgender

people.

I am an experienced and accomplished clinician, administrator, researcher, and national leader with a reputation for getting difficult projects done while taking time to listen to and lift up the work of my colleagues and mentees. As a Board member, I will bring three decades of antiracism work, a decade of national leadership in mental health, and the opportunity to have witnessed the strength women physicians bring to medicine and society.

### **Professional Activities**

80% Patient Care

14% Consulting

6% Mental Health Advocacy

### **Professional Income**

86% Patient Care Payments

14% Consulting Fees



# 2021 APA ELECTION

## Area 4 Trustee

### Candidate for Area 4 Trustee

#### Theadia L. Carey, MD, MS

<https://theadialcarey.com>

- General Adult & Addiction Psychiatrist
- Community Mental Health Provider, 2012 - Present
- Psychiatry Residency Program Director, 2015 – Present
- American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology, Model Curriculum committee, 2018 – Present & CME Committee, 2019 – Present
- American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training, Addictions Taskforce 2019 – Present & Community Caucus, 2018 – Present



Over the last 8 years, my main clinical role has been providing quality care to underserved individuals receiving care in Community Mental Health settings. As a clinical leader, I supervise the care provided to over 12 thousand children, adults and families receiving care at Development Centers. This non-profit agency has five treatment locations in Detroit, Michigan. As an educator, I believe it is imperative to train the next generation of psychiatrist in community settings.

#### Key issues:

- a) Maintenance of Certification is costly and an excessive burden to practicing psychiatrist. I fully understand this challenge as I have three board certifications to maintain. I would be honored to work with APA to find alternative to ABPN MOC. APA is uniquely positioned to offer APA members alternatives to ABPN MOC.
- b) Psychiatrists shortage, in urban and rural communities. Residents tend practice in same setting as they were trained. The Health Resources and Services Administration, project a deficit of over 17 thousand Adult Psychiatrists and over 7 thousand Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists by 2030. This is why training psychiatry residents in community and rural settings are so important to filling the need in these shortage areas.
- c) Mental health and Substance Use Disorder treatment parity. Reports indicate 40% of insurance companies are not compliant with parity rules. Reimbursement is 50% higher for Primary Care than Behavioral Health services. It is of vital importance that mental health and substance use services be

appropriately reimbursed. So, that once psychiatrists are trained and recruited to undeserved areas, Community Mental Health clinics can afford to pay competitive salaries. We need oversight to enforce the federal legislation, APA as an organization is positioned to champion this effort.

I have wealth of experience to understand the issues and will work with APA members to make change happen.

### **Professional Activities**

- 60% Medical Director & psychiatrist at Development Center (Community Mental Health Center)
- 40% Psychiatry Resident Program Director for Authority Health General Medical Education

### **Professional Income**

- 60% Development Centers
  - 40% Authority Health General Medical Education (funded by Health Resources & Services Administration)
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## **Candidate for Area 4 Trustee**

### **Cheryl D. Wills, MD, DFAPA**

[www.psychlawdoc.com](http://www.psychlawdoc.com)

- Associate Professor of Psychiatry Case Western Reserve University, 2020
- APA Finance and Budget Committee, 2018-
- APA Board of Trustees, 2018-
- Chairperson, APA Presidential Task Force on Structural Racism, 2020-
- APA Assembly Rep., Deputy Rep 2009-2018



Serving on the APA Board of Trustees has offered me opportunities to expand my directorial skillset and to broaden the scope of our Association's national agenda. My reelection campaign, therefore, has two key points in its platform.

Members Matter: As a member-driven organization, the APA Board of Trustees should use members' concerns to inform most, if not all, deliberations. To that end, transparency and communication must improve to include more member engagement.

Advocacy to Improve Access to Care: Achieving health equity requires us to grow the psychiatry workforce while addressing the effects of systemic bias and climate change on mental health and healthcare outcomes. I support advocating for:

- expanding loan forgiveness opportunities for psychiatrists working in physician shortage areas; requiring medical board supervision of all prescribing mental health professionals, and a national public service campaign that describes the educational and licensing requirements of psychiatrists and other mental health professionals, so that the public will know in which direction to turn for help.
- increasing reimbursement for psychiatric services, parity for telepsychiatry services, and simplifying maintenance of certification.

- C. supporting International Medical Graduates (IMGs) who comprise 30% of practicing psychiatrists in the USA. Many IMGs contribute to health equity by practicing in the public sector. They are an important part of the psychiatry workforce and reduce the rate of professional burnout for psychiatrists.
- D. expanding the APA's Psychiatry Early Pipeline Programs for college students. This can increase diversity and inclusion in the psychiatric workforce.

My skillset as a general, child and adolescent, and forensic psychiatrist has served me well for 2.5 years on the APA Board of Trustees. Please support my endeavor to continue my work there. I welcome your feedback and appreciate your consideration.

**Professional Activities**

University Hospitals of Cleveland,

- Director of Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatric Services (administrative) 10%
- Outpatient Psychiatry– 70%
- Forensic Private Practice 20%

**Professional Income**

75% -University Hospitals of Cleveland

25% - Private Practice



# 2021 APA ELECTION

## Area 7 Trustee

### Candidate for Area 7 Trustee

#### Annette M. Matthews, MD, DFAPA

- Portland Veterans Affairs Healthcare System, Outpatient Psychiatry (2005-present); Associate Professor, Oregon Health & Science University.
- APA Board of Trustees: Area 7 Trustee (2018-present), Community Psychiatry Fellow (2005-6).
- APA Joint Reference Committee (2020-present).
- APA Assembly (2006-2018).
- Oregon Psychiatric Physicians Association: (1997-present); President (2014-15).



#### My Priorities as Area 7 Trustee Will Include:

**Uphold the Fiduciary Responsibility of the Board** – I served on the Board of Trustees from 2005-6 and 2018-present and am familiar with the fiduciary role of the Board and the Board's role in addressing problems that could jeopardize the organization. These currently include COVID-19 and scope of practice.

**Bring the Perspective of the Western United States to the Board** – As an Assembly member for 12 years, I had action papers on topics such as emerging drugs of abuse and smoke-free Veterans Affairs campuses. I am familiar with the issues that are unique to the West, including the struggles of very small District Branches, and the complexities of service delivery to rural practices. This perspective informs my participation on the Board of Trustees.

**Support Member in the Maintenance of Certification Process** – APA needs to continue to advocate for its members to reduce the burden of maintenance of certification, and prevent the process from damaging the therapeutic relationship. APA needs to prevent maintenance of licensure from adding even more cost, time, and paperwork burdens to our workforce.

**Increase APA Membership and Improve Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for all Members** – APA needs to encourage participation by groups of psychiatrists currently underrepresented in the organization – including those in their early career and employees of large healthcare systems. APA needs to continue

support the Task Force on Structural Racism in its work and explore ways to increase diversity, equity and inclusion in the APA for all members.

E-mail me with questions: [Annette.Matthews@va.gov](mailto:Annette.Matthews@va.gov)

### **Professional Activities**

90% - Clinical

5% - Teaching

5% - Administration

### **Professional Income**

100% - Portland VA Healthcare System

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## **Candidate for Area 7 Trustee**

### **Mary Hasbah Roessel, MD, DFAPA**

[www.maryhasbahroessel.com](http://www.maryhasbahroessel.com)

- Diné clinical psychiatrist, Indian Health Service, Santa Fe, NM
- Chair M/UR Groups APA Assembly, 2019-2020 (representative/ deputy representative American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian caucus 2015-2021)
- Council on Minority Mental Health/Health Disparities 2018-2020
- Councilor, Psychiatric Medical Association of New Mexico 2019-2021
- APA Assembly Award for Excellence in Service and Advocacy, 2016



Ya'ateeh! I am Diné and grew up on the Navajo nation in Arizona. My interest in psychiatry stems from listening to conversations between my grandfather, Ashihi, a Navajo medicine man and Dr. Karl Menninger who became my mentor. I have worked with Indigenous peoples from Alaska, Canada and the lower 48, within the Indian Health Service and private practice. My involvement with the APA includes providing educational materials created with the Division of Diversity and Health Equity on Indigenous perspectives of cultural diversity and formulated ways to acknowledge Indigenous lands. Area 7 is rich in diversity and land mass. I know the area well and can be an advocate for psychiatrists working in these areas because I understand the problems that exist. My vision is to represent and advocate for our Area as well as focus on building strong and inclusive relationships with APA membership focusing on equity. I will passionately advocate for diversity in APA leadership to be inclusive of M/UR representation and to elevate our diverse voices. I will be diligent in pushing for racial equality and dismantling structural racism within the APA and psychiatry. I will continue to advocate for anti-racism training for APA leadership. I will continue to be a voice to address the Climate Crisis and its impact in mental health. As Area 7 Trustee, I will elevate these diverse, under-represented issues to the importance they deserve with the urgency they demand and will always being a voice for the APA membership.

### **Professional Activities**

80% Indian Health Service

5% private practice

5% La Familia Medical Center (FQHC)

10% Administration

**Professional Income**

80% Indian Health Service

10% La Familia Medical Center (FQHC)

10% private practice



# 2021 APA ELECTION

## Resident-Fellow Member Trustee-Elect (RFMTE)

### Candidate for Resident-Fellow Member Trustee-Elect (RFMTE)

**Souparno Mitra, MD**

[www.souparnomitra.com](http://www.souparnomitra.com)

- APA Area 2 (New York state) RFM ex-Nominee and Program Representative to Bronx District Branch
- PGY-2 and Chief Co-ordinator for Research, Department of Psychiatry, Bronxcare Health Systems, NY
- CIR Representative and Resident Faculty Council Representative, Bronxcare Health Systems, NY.
- Recipient of the Early Career Research Colloquium Award APA
- Recipient of the AAAP Regional Travel Award



I am deeply privileged to have been nominated to represent YOU at the APA Board of Trustees. As RFM Trustee (Elect) I shall continue my work for advocacy for equity and resident wellness with the following goals:

- 1. To promote and advocate for policies for training and protection of trainees when hospitals face a healthcare crisis:** The COVID-19 pandemic has made apparent the kinks in the armor of our healthcare systems. From the lack of PPE to the psychological impacts of the pandemic, our resident population has faced challenging times.  
*Plan:* Work with the Board to develop action plans for institutions to institute in the face of disasters to protect the trainee and physician population.
- 2. To advocate for greater measures for trainee well-being and career development:** APA, for trainees, is an unknown realm. We are unaware of the potential of career growth and mentorship that exists.  
*Plan:* Work with the Board to increase outreach to residents via talks, social media campaigns and development of databases and mentorship programs individualized to trainee needs.
- 3. To promote and advocate for healthcare equity for our patients:** I am working in an inner-city community hospital where the majority of our patient population faces gross socio-economic disparities.

Ethnic minorities and under-served communities have inadequate access to mental health care.

*Plan:* Work with experts in the field to develop action papers and position statements to work with policy makers in Federal and State Governments for a more equitable access to mental health care.

**4. To work for a more diverse and culturally competent workforce:** With the diversification of the population, there is an increased need for a culturally competent and diverse workforce.

*Plan:* To develop Action Papers aiming to establish recruitment protocols for a diverse and culturally competent workforce.

#### **Social Media:**

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=mER56z0AAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao> Twitter: [@mitra\\_souparno](#)

Email: [SMitra@bronxcare.org](mailto:SMitra@bronxcare.org)

#### **Professional Activities**

100% - Resident, Bronxcare Health Systems

#### **Professional Income**

100% - Resident Salary, Bronxcare Health Systems

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## **Candidate for Resident-Fellow Member Trustee-Elect (RFMTE)**

### **Lindsay M. Poplinski, DO**

[www.lindsaypoplinski.com](http://www.lindsaypoplinski.com)

- Ethics Committee Resident-Fellow Representative, APA District Branch (Ohio Psychiatric Physicians Association)
- Resident-Fellow Representative, OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital Psychiatry Residency, APA District Branch
- Psychiatry Resident Representative, APA District Branch, Ohio Statehouse Advocacy Day
- Psychiatry Residency Representative, Shared Governance Committee, OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital
- Resident Wellness Representative, OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital



I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to represent resident-fellow members of the APA as an RFM Trustee Elect nominee. Above all, I want to make sure that YOUR voice is heard.

- **Engagement:** Many fellowship and leadership positions within the APA require a 2-year commitment during training. Unless residents are well versed in the organizational structure of the APA and the leadership opportunities available at each level (local, area, and nationally), they run the risk of missing out on valuable educational experiences.
  - **Action:** Work with media specialists within the APA to develop short introductory videos for 1st year residents outlining the structure of the APA, leadership opportunities, and general timelines for applying.
- **Advocacy:** With the APA headquarters back in Washington, D.C. as of 2018, there is no better time to

bolster resident excitement and appreciation for advocacy.

- **Action:** Ensure resident participation in formal advocacy events is financially supported and examine the feasibility of increased fellowship and leadership opportunities focused on advocacy and policy.
- **Wellness:** As ongoing publications continue to highlight the magnitude of resident burnout with some studies showing nearly half of all residents reporting at least one symptom of burnout, this issue necessitates continued attention.
  - **Action:** Create an evidenced-based toolkit for residencies to aid in implementation of interventions that will foster personal resilience and a culture of wellness including designated wellness representatives, biannual check-ins with employee health and wellness programs, anonymity for residents seeking counseling services through employee assistance programs, and changing the language of “sick days” to “wellness days”.

### **Professional Activities**

100% - Resident, OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital

### **Professional Income**

100% - Resident Salary, OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital

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## **Candidate for Resident-Fellow Member Trustee-Elect (RFMTE)**

### **Urooj Yazdani, MD, M.Ed.**

[www.uroojyazdaniforapa.com](http://www.uroojyazdaniforapa.com)

- PGY-3, University of Louisville Dept. of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences.
- Director/Producer - *A Destruction*: documentary on the link between generational trauma and systemic poverty in the developing world.
- Lead - Trauma & Mental Health Task Force, Office of the Mayor, Louisville Metro Govt.
- Legislation & Advocacy Committee - Greater Louisville Medical Society.



Born in Karachi, Pakistan and raised in small-town Kentucky, my life experiences have influenced me in unique ways. Like all of you, I am devoted to my patients, committed to my profession and excited to use my skill set to serve the dynamic field of psychiatry.

My four areas of focus are outlined below.

**Wellness & Protection** - COVID-19 has been a game-changer for the entire world. Since the onset of the pandemic, the burnout rate among second-year residents in psychiatry has trended above 42%. Join me in advocating for trainee protection as well as a national mindfulness policy that will broaden the vacation structure within our programs.

**Diversity & Inclusion** - Practicing psychiatry with sensitivity and compassion is an essential part of our job. Join me in finding new and innovative ways to identify unconscious biases within our training programs and build cultural competency for social justice issues at-large.

**Telepsychiatry** - Current events have transformed telepsychiatry from an option to a necessity. Join me in ensuring that programs are equipped with the funding and tools necessary to make us competent in both utilizing and staying up-to-date with advancements in telehealth.

**Education with Influence** - Our traditional methods of scholarly activity are limited in scope. We should look beyond scripted papers and poster presentations to publicize advancements in psychiatry. Join me in leveraging the power of media to place a spotlight on trainee activities and experiences. Together, we can educate our patients, the general public and each other about mental health in a powerful way.

To learn more, please visit <http://www.uroojyazdaniforapa.com>.

**Professional Activities**

100% - Resident-Physician, University of Louisville Dept. of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences

**Professional Income**

100% - Residency, University of Louisville Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences