

## PNIG Newsletter Vol. 2, Issue 1

Welcome back Fellow PNIG Members,

Here is the first edition of the PNIG Newsletter, Volume 2. As always, please feel free to send me anything you would like to be included in the next issue. Also, please let me know if you would like to be removed from this listing.

-Monica Plesa

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\*\*\*PNIG Meeting Tuesday October 3rd, 2006  
General Informational Meeting

Thanks to everyone who attended our first Psychiatry & Neurology Interest Group meeting last week! Despite the short notice, we had a great turnout; this is only the beginning of what should be quite a fulfilling year.

In case you didn't make it, here are some of the things we talked about:

- Discussed rationale behind PNIG, its short history, and its broad future aims
- General overview of our associations and opportunities with:

AMC's Neurology and Psychiatry Departments & Faculty

American Psychiatric Association's PsychSIGN

(<http://www.psychsign.org/index.html>)

American Academy of Neurology's SIGN

(<http://aan.com/students/medical/student.cfm>)

AMSA

(<http://www.amsa.org/psych/>, <http://www.amsa.org/neuro/>)

AMC Psych Action Committee

- Summer research opportunities at AMC; through the NIH; or even abroad

(e.g. <http://www.nsf.gov/od/oise/images/2007eapsi-flyer.pdf>)

- Plans to attend several regional and national conferences

- Setting up shadowing programs and opportunities for 'real-world' exposure

- Discussed ideas for future events, lectures and much more

If you have any further questions/comments/ideas for future events, please send them over anytime to PNIG@mail.amc.edu. Your input and feedback is highly appreciated.

Looking forward to getting to know you all during the course of the year\*best of luck!

Sam Saha & Misty Richards

AMC 2009

Psychiatry & Neurology Interest Group

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\*\*\*AMSA STUDENT INTEREST GROUPS IN NEUROLOGY & PSYCHIATRY

If interested, please sign up. Here are the links, respectively. <http://www.amsa.org/neuro/>  
and <http://www.amsa.org/psych/>

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\*\*\*PNIG LEADERSHIP POSITIONS AVAILABLE!! RESPOND IF INTERESTED!

We are looking for at least two students to step up for leadership positions to help make PNIG even better, primarily by helping organize a shadowing program in Neurology and Psychiatry here at AMC. If interested, please respond.

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\*\*\*APA 2007 CONFERENCE: SAN DIEGO, CA

The American Psychiatric Association is having its annual meeting May 19-24th in San Diego, CA. Heads up, if you would like to go! Scholarships may be available as the time gets closer!

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\*\*\*PSYCHSIGN

If interested in psychiatry, please check out this website: <http://www.psychsign.org/> This is the first ever student run organization of medical students interested in psychiatry! If you would like to become a regional leader or AMC representative, check it out and go to town. Now is a great time to get involved and make your mark on what is becoming known as a "major advancement" for medical students interested in psychiatry.

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\*\*\*SOCIETY FOR NEUROSCIENCE

If interested in neuroscience, please check out this link: <http://web.sfn.org/>. It is easy to sign up as a student member - you need two current members to support you by writing a brief email statement about you and that is it! This is, without a doubt, one of the most amazing and well-known conferences within the field of neuroscience. We are planning to attend as an interest group next year!

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\*\*\*REGION 2 PSYCHSIGN CONFERENCE REPORT

This weekend, Misty Richards and Sam Saha attended the Region 2 PsychSign Conference held at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in NYC. PsychSIGN stands for Student Interest Group Network in Psychiatry and is the student branch of the American Psychiatric Association.

PsychSIGN grew from the idea of Brian Palmer, the past president of AMSA, who is now a resident at Mass. General Hospital in Boston. At the time, Brian was highly interested in pursuing a career in psychiatry himself and felt an enormous disconnect between himself and other people interested in psychiatry throughout the nation. So, together with a group of dedicated medical students, Brian organized the first national PsychSIGN conference that was held in Toronto, Canada (along with the APA conference) last spring.

This weekend was the first Region 2 conference ever and was attended by such schools as: AMC, Columbia, Mt. Sinai, UCSF, Yale, NY School of Osteopathic Med., Cornell, UCLA, and Rochester. It was the first regional conference sponsored by PsychSIGN ever, and considered a huge success. Some of the topics discussed were: curriculum in psychiatry and the neurosciences, health wellness programs, different subspecialties within psychiatry, how to be a competitive applicant, the different residency programs and what they are looking for, as well as how to make a difference in community psychiatry. On top of that, we were able to meet with many talented and motivated students. It was a blast! If you have more questions, feel free to stop and talk to either Misty or Sam about it.

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\*\*\*HELPFUL LINKS FOR MED STUDENTS

MedCAREERS for Students

<http://www.aamc.org/medcareers/>

Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry

<http://www.admsep.org>

Information on Medical Student Organizations

American Medical Student Association (AMSA) Psychiatry Interest Group

<http://www.amsa.org/psych/psych.cfm>

SNMA

<http://www.snma.org>

APAMSA

<http://www.apamsa.org>

Other Related National Organizations:

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

<http://www.aacap.org/>

American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry

<http://www.aagpgpa.org/>

American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry

<http://www.aaap.org/>

Community Psychiatry

<http://www.communitypsychiatry.org>

National Institute for Mental Health

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov>

Residency Information:

National Residency Matching Program

The National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) is a private, not-for-profit corporation established in 1952 to provide a uniform date of appointment to positions in graduate medical education (GME). Each year, the NRMP conducts a match that is designed to optimize the rank ordered choices of students and program directors. The NRMP is not an application processing service; rather, it provides an impartial venue for matching applicants' and programs' preferences for each other consistently.

<http://www.aamc.org/nrmp>

Electronic Residency Application Service

ERAS is a service which transmits residency applications, and supporting credentials from

medical schools to residency program directors using the Internet.

<http://www.aamc.org/eras>

Fellowship and Residency Electronic Interactive Database

<http://www.ama-assn.org/go/freida>

Federation of State Medical Boards

<http://www.fsmb.org/>

Links to Public Mental Health Sites:

Healthy Minds. Healthy Lives

<http://www.healthyminds.org/>