

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR IN CHIEF

Concluding My Service as Editor in Chief

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Editor in Chief, 2002–2018

After serving as Editor in Chief of the *Harvard Review of Psychiatry* for 16 years, on 1 October 2018 I will be concluding my service to the journal in that role. It has been a great privilege to serve as Editor in Chief. The journal has been an important part of my professional life and development since 1994. It is fair to say that as I developed professionally as a psychiatrist, I grew in tandem in my editorial roles with HRP. In 1994, shortly after completing my training in psychiatry and public health, I assumed the role of Deputy Editor. In 2001, I became Co-Editor in Chief, and in 2002 assumed the position of Editor in Chief. I am proud of everything that the journal has achieved in its 26 years. Founded in May 1993, the journal enters its 27th year of publication this January, with an impact factor of 3.264 and a ranking in the top third of 140 psychiatry journals.

In my introduction to the journal's 25th anniversary issue in January 2016, I reflected on the last quarter century of psychiatry's progress in understanding the changes in the epidemiology, etiology, and treatment of psychiatric disorders, the advances in our understanding of the complex neurobiology and contributions of genetics and epigenetics to the onset these disorders, and our progress in developing, testing, and disseminating evidence-based treatments for psychiatric disorders that affect so many individuals through the lifespan. We have learned so much, and yet there is so much more we need to learn and understand about psychiatric disorders and their risks, as well as about the promotion of mental health at each stage of human development. Our field promises to advance our understanding of neurobiology at the level of molecules, cells, and circuits so that we may be able to develop new and better treatments. Simultaneously, we must also persist in our efforts, in the face of great sociopolitical challenges, to provide knowledge about effective treatments and the critical need to provide these often lifesaving treatments to the vast proportion of our population who need them but unfortunately never receive them. Data in the United States indicate that only 10 percent of individuals with psychiatric disorders receive treatment and that these numbers are even lower in the global setting.

With these imperatives in disseminating and implementing psychiatric research and treatment, peer-reviewed journals serve a critical role. It is through the publication of peer-reviewed scholarship that we can disseminate new knowledge about cutting-edge neuroscience and effective treatments, about implementation science and public health in relationship to psychiatric disorders, and about the sociocultural contexts and social determinants of mental health and mental illness. In peer-reviewed journals, we can also identify gaps in our knowledge, explore clinical challenges, and gain perspectives from leading psychiatrists, neuroscientists, and other professionals in our field. The *Harvard Review of Psychiatry* has advanced the transmission of important new knowledge in these critical areas of psychiatry, providing essential information in various learning formats such as Reviews, Perspectives, and Clinical Challenges. HRP fills a crucial role in psychiatry by publishing synthetic reviews across the entire field of psychiatry. At various times the journal has been translated into Greek, Turkish, and Spanish, and its global, online platform is accessible worldwide. Currently, the journal has an active website where readers can view video abstracts of published articles (www.harvardreviewofpsychiatry.org), keep up with

new content on the journal's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/HarvardReviewOfPsychiatry), and follow late-breaking journal news on Twitter (@HarvardRevPsych). The journal encourages readers to take advantage of earning continuing education credits in each issue. I anticipate that the journal's social media presence and digital platforms will continue to grow in the coming years and that the journal will find new and exciting ways to educate our readers and transmit cutting-edge and relevant information.

While the journal's central goal is to disseminate new knowledge in psychiatry, it has been a leader in training the next generation of psychiatrists in the process of peer review, journal editing, and publishing ethics. One innovative aspect of the *Harvard Review of Psychiatry* is that since its inception, the journal has benefited from the dedication and hard work of Assistant Editors who are drawn from the Harvard Medical School (HMS) Department of Psychiatry's many psychiatry residency training programs. Over the past 24 years, I have been fortunate to work with nearly 100 talented residents and fellows who have contributed, alongside senior editors, editorial staff, and members of the Editorial Board, to the journal's success. I am not aware of another peer-reviewed, ISI-ranked journal that utilizes HRP's model of providing to graduate medical education trainees an experience in which they join the editorial staff, participate in weekly staff meetings, and assist with peer review, production, and editorial decision making. Our Assistant Editors are an integral part of the journal's editorial operation, and the journal provides an immersive experience in the academic peer-review process. In this way HRP contributes to the education of the next generation of psychiatric researchers, clinicians, and educators. I want to thank these Assistant Editors for their dedication and hard work in support of the journal. They have played a vital part in ensuring the excellence of the manuscripts published in each issue. One of the great privileges and pleasures of my tenure as Editor in Chief has been getting to know and work with these talented residents and fellows in psychiatry, who have subsequently advanced to play essential roles in our field as leaders in clinical care, training, and research. I am fortunate to count many as my colleagues in the years since they served as Assistant Editors.

I am proud of many aspects of the journal's growth, none of which would have been possible without our superb editorial staff and Editorial Board, who support the journal as editors, reviewers, authors, and content experts. I want to thank Stephen Scher, PhD, JD, the journal's Senior Editor, with whom I have worked over the past 16 years in my role as Editor in Chief. Well known to our authors, editorial staff, and Editorial Board, Steve is unparalleled in his attention to detail, knowledge of the field, and dedication to ensuring that the highest quality manuscripts are published in HRP. His editing work is impeccable, and I am grateful to him for his dedication, collegiality, and enthusiasm for the journal and the community it serves. I am also indebted to Dawn Sugarman, PhD, the journal's Communications Editor, who manages our editorial processes as well as our external communications with authors and reviewers and our internal communications with our Assistant Editors and Editorial Board. Dawn has overseen the growth and transitions of our online editorial and review-management systems and processes. Her judgment, dedication, steady hand, and good humor have benefited authors, editors, peer reviewers, and editorial staff.

I am extremely grateful to have been able to work with Joshua Roffman, MD, MMSc, who will take the helm as the journal's fourth Editor in Chief on 1 October 2018. Dr. Roffman is Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and serves as Director of the Brain Genomics Laboratory at Massachusetts General Hospital, where he also co-directs the Division of Psychiatric Neuroimaging. He has provided exceptional service to the journal for 15 years, serving as an Assistant Editor (2003–05), Psychopharmacology Column Editor (2005–11), Deputy Editor

(2011–18), and Co-Editor in Chief (2018). In his seven years as Deputy Editor, Dr. Roffman oversaw the expansion of our Clinical Challenges, the recruitment of our Assistant Editors, the launch of our new Web and social-media presence, among other achievements. I am confident that under his leadership, the journal will advance in new and exciting ways and will continue to increase its global visibility and impact.

In the past, I have been assisted by several able Communications Editors, who strengthened the journal's operations and editorial processes. Monika Kolodziej, PhD, William Jaffee, PhD, Christian Teter, PharmD, and Cathryn Freid, PhD, made many critical contributions and ensured the ongoing integrity of our communications with our Editorial Board and growing community of authors and peer reviewers.

I would also like to thank the Founding Co-Editors of the journal, Joseph T. Coyle, MD, and Steven M. Mirin, MD, who had the idea to develop this new journal in order to provide the field of psychiatry with a "peer-reviewed publication that would provide succinct, readily understood, and authoritative reviews of the current approaches to psychiatric diagnosis and treatment." Joe and Steve asked me to serve as Deputy Editor in 1994, and I am grateful to them for that early opportunity that led to what is now two dozen years of learning and leadership of the journal.

The *Harvard Review of Psychiatry* is fortunate to have an esteemed group of editors and colleagues who contribute their expertise to the journal. In addition to the editorial leadership team described above, including the Assistant and Associate Editors, we have approximately 50 Field Editors, Column Editors, Clinical Challenge Editors, and general Editorial Board members. Individually and collectively, they have made major contributions to the journal's success.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the leadership of Harvard University and Harvard Medical School, especially Deans David Roberts and Nancy Tarbell, for their ongoing support of the journal. I am indebted to the members of the HMS Department of Psychiatry Executive Committee for their support and guidance through the years. In addition to their support of the journal in their roles on the Executive Committee, these individuals also serve as dedicated members of the journal's Editorial Board. They have provided advice and expertise at many critical moments of the journal's history. As a member of the Executive Committee, and as the HRP liaison, Scott Rauch, MD, has provided essential advice and guidance regarding the journal's advancement and its unique role in the HMS Department of Psychiatry, Harvard community, and broader field of psychiatry. In his capacity as President and Chief Executive Officer of McLean Hospital, he has also provided a welcome home for the journal's editorial office. I also would like to thank Linda Messier, the executive administrator for the HMS Department of Psychiatry, who has supported the journal in more ways than I can possibly recount here. I am indebted to her.

I am confident that the *Harvard Review of Psychiatry* will continue to serve our field in new and exciting ways. I look forward to seeing the journal's development and expanding impact on the dissemination of critical knowledge to advance mental health at this important time for psychiatry.