



Dear IASP member,

Once again, after an unprecedentedly successful launch last year, the World Suicide Prevention Day will be held on September 10, 2005. As most suicidologists would agree, suicide prevention cannot be seen as the responsibility of experts alone, despite the complexity and severity of the problem. *Rather, prevention of suicide should be everybody's business.* And this will be the main message for the 2005 WSPD from IASP in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

We invite the public, communities, societies, individuals, professionals and volunteers to conduct activities on this day to promote and demonstrate our joint responsibility to save lives that would otherwise be lost to suicide. There are a wide range of possible activities that could be organised to help increase awareness of suicide as a major public health problem; stands, walks, open houses, cultural events, exhibitions, open meetings and press conferences - to mention a few. We also recommend institutions, organisations, professionals and volunteers to consider organizing and promoting educational activities focussing on first aid in suicidal crises for WSPD 2005 or to organise kick off events for new suicide preventive initiatives, strategies, methods or resources. Individuals and organisations may also want to use the World Suicide Prevention Day 2005 to raise funds for important projects.

Information material is now available from the IASP website (www.iasp.info) and the Executive Committee is preparing the international launch which will take place a few days ahead of our World Congress in Durban. For inspiration or ideas for your own WSPD event, visit the IASP website. Let's use this opportunity to put suicide prevention on the public agenda! *Prevention of suicide is everybody's business!*

Lars Mehlum
President

From the Taskforce Postvention: The European Directory of Suicide Survivor Services

is now available as a searchable database in the Postvention page in IASP website. The database aims to be a valuable resource for survivors, caregivers and clinicians. Therefore it is absolutely necessary that we keep the records up-to-date. We would be grateful if the members of IASP could be helpful in this. Herewith you are kindly invited to visit the database and to take a look at the records for your country. Of course, you may forward this information to any relevant person in your country. If you know of more recent data, or if you have a question re the database, please contact Karl Andriessen, iasp-tf-postvention@pandora.be.

The first Congress of the Latin American-Caribbean Association of Suicidology (ASULAC)

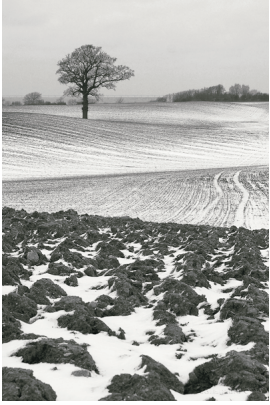
was held in Montevideo, Uruguay between March 3rd and 5th 2005. The congress was attended by nearly four hundred delegates from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Paraguay, Puerto Rico and Uruguay who enjoyed a scientific programme of high scientific standards set in a friendly atmosphere in the Intendencia Conference Centre. Dr. Silvia Pelaez, IASP national representative in Uruguay presided



over the congress and was reelected for another 2 years as president of the ASULAC.

Dr Pelaez with her organisation Ultimo Recurso is the organiser of the XXV IASP World Congress to take place in Montevideo in 2009.





Professor Diego de Leo

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the recent tragedy of the two sons of Professor Diego de Leo (IASP Past President 1999 - 2003) and his wife, Cristina. On 5 April the two boys, Vittorio (17) and Nicola (18) died tragically in a car accident. Our sincere condolences and sadness were conveyed immediately to Diego and messages have been received from his IASP friends and colleagues throughout the world. Flowers from IASP Board and membership were sent to the Duomo in Padua:

"We are deeply saddened and shocked by the loss of your two sons, Vittorio and Nicola. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and Cristina. In these saddened times we continue to stand closely by you."

Diego remains in Padua - inevitably he is deeply distraught. His address is Via.N. Sauro 15, 35139 Padua, Italy.

Lars Mehlum
President

XXIII World Congress – IASP International Association for Suicide Prevention Durban September 2005

There are exactly 5 months to go before we; the organisers of this event, will be welcoming you to our home - the Coastal City of Durban, South Africa. The Organising Committee is extremely busy trying to co ordinate all the different aspects of the Congress so that you will find the presentation appealing and informative.

The venue is booked, the draft programme is in place, more than 200 hundred abstracts have been submitted for revue and the hosting of the social events negotiated. It is our intention to make this a truly African Congress with as many delegates as possible coming from the countries of this vast continent - professionals, volunteers and organisations. Visit our website for the exciting and magical things to see besides attending the congress.

**Don't miss this opportunity;
submit your registration form by
return of post. We hope to see you
in September 2005.**

Lourens Schlebusch
Sue Thönell



Welcome to
The IASP 2005 Congress,
Durban, South Africa
13 – 16 September 2005

Suicide Prevention Master course, 40 credit points

Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm and National Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention of Mental Ill-Health, NASP, presents and offers a newly developed course in Suicide Prevention starting in August 2005!

It's a course for physicians, psychologists, public health specialists, nurses, social workers, healthcare administrators and others with an undergraduate degree and an interest in research and development in suicide prevention. The course entitles to a Swedish Degree of Master of Suicide Prevention (Swedish: Magisterexamen i suicidprevention). The course discuss for example Introduction to public health sciences, Suicide in vulnerable groups in the population, Population-based and individual-based suicide prevention and Suicide prevention among children and adolescents.

TIME & PLACE: The course starts in week 34, 2005. NASP, Granits väg 4, Karolinska Institutet, Solna, Stockholm.

FOR REGISTRATION: www.karolinskaeducation.ki.se

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 18th of June

Karolinska Education guarantees quality in all steps of the educational process. We are entirely owned by Karolinska Institutet, Sweden's largest Medical University.



"We believe that students who take this course could later serve as key personnel in the development of suicide preventive activities in the society."

Course leader David Titelman,
Ph.D. and Clinical Psychologist

