

# CIRCULAR LETTER #597

## Pre-Meeting Spring

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MARCH 2006

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Dear Colleagues:

Our Spring Meeting is fast approaching and I hope it is as successful as our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting was. This will be a very unusual meeting because the Board has planned for a strategic planning meeting to take place on Thursday, which will include the Board and the Steering Committee, to take a good look at the organization and to try to figure out the direction of GAP for the next decade. I am sure the entire organization will be buzzing about the “retreat” and everyone will get a chance to voice their opinion and views over the next few months.

There are many members who love the organization and find it to be one of the few places where small groups of psychiatrists gather to work on areas of our specialty that need further exploration and explication. We are laid back and yet quite intense, creative, and still product oriented with a deep sense of comradeship, fun loving and still determined to make a mark. There is truly no other psychiatric organization like it in the world.

Work in between meetings has picked up and you will hear that we have a lot of good work in the pipeline and our decision to move beyond books to other forms of publication and other media is in keeping with the new electronic age that many of us have, reluctantly, been schlepped into (at least it feels that way to me).

In the last few years we have used the term “think tank” more and more frequently and that means we want to use our meetings to think out of the box, to be creative and develop new ideas, to enter new territories, and to truly believe that nothing is off limits.

I look forward to seeing everyone in April.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Jay Fink, MD

**Announcements:**

The Board of Directors would like to thank each of you who do not request any travel reimbursement for attending meetings, in essence, making a donation to the organization. This is helpful in making for a balanced budget.

**Report from the Nominating Committee:**

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate for election for two Board of Directors' positions at the Spring Meeting:

Jack Drescher, M.D.  
 Jacqueline Feldman, M.D.  
 Frances Levin, M.D.  
 Calvin Sumner, M.D.

**Jack Drescher, M.D.**

Jack Drescher, M.D., was Chair of GAP's Committee on Human Sexuality from 1998-2003 and a member from 1995-2003. He also served as a member of GAP's Publications Committee from 2001-2005. He is presently a member of GAP's Committee on Sexual Minorities. He is a Training and Supervising Analyst at the William Alanson White Institute and Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor at New York University's Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis. He is also a supervisor at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital in New York City where he was recently awarded APA's 2006 Irma Bland Award for Excellence in Teaching Residents.

Dr. Drescher is an independent scholar in private practice. He is author of *Psychoanalytic Therapy and the Gay Man* (The Analytic Press) and has edited 19 books. He is Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy* and Editor of the *Bending Psychoanalysis* Book Series (The Analytic Press). He has authored and co-authored numerous professional articles and book chapters, including a chapter in *Kaplan and Sadock's Comprehensive Textbook of Psychiatry* (8th edition, 2005) and forthcoming chapters in APPI's *Treatment Companion to the DSM-IV-TR Casebook* and the *Textbook of Psychiatry*.

Dr. Drescher has served in numerous leadership positions in psychiatric, psychoanalytic and non-profit organizations. He is Past President of the New York County District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association (2000-2001). He is a former Trustee of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry (1997-2000) and a current Trustee of the Accreditation Council for Psychoanalytic Education (2005-Present). He serves on the William Alanson White Institute's policy-making body, the Council of Fellows (2001-present). He serves on the Board of Directors of City University of New York's Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies (2004-Present) and is on the President's Advisory Council of the New York Disaster Counseling Coalition (2004-Present). Last year he was greatly honored in being nominated as a candidate for President-Elect of the APA.

Dr. Drescher is an expert spokesperson on issues related to gender and sexuality. He has appeared on ABC's Good Morning America, CNN's Paula Zahn Now, Fox News' The O'Reilly Factor, PBS's In The Life, and NPR's On Point. His views have been quoted in *Time Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Seattle Times*, and *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, among others.

**Jacqueline Maus Feldman, MD**

Dr. Feldman is the Patrick H. Linton Professor of Psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurobiology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). There she serves as Director of the Division of Public Psychiatry, Medical Director of the Community Psychiatry Program, and Executive Director of the UAB Mental Health Center. In concert with the UAB Department of OB/GYN, she has also established the only program in Alabama for women with pre- and postpartum depression. Work finds her seeing patients with serious and persistent mental illness, teaching residents and medical students, performing research, and advocating for systems of care that are organized, reasonable, adequately

funded, and that embrace the concept of recovery.

Dr. Feldman graduated from the University of Iowa, performed graduate work in behavior genetics, attended medical school at UT Medical School at Houston, and completed her residency in psychiatry at Duke, where she then joined faculty, running an inpatient unit and emergency psychiatry services until she moved to Birmingham 15 years ago.

Her commitment to public and community psychiatry is manifested in multiple ways. She serves on the board of the American Association of Community Psychiatrists, most recently for four years as the organization's president. She has served as a consultant to the Department of Medicaid, and the Department of Corrections, serving now as the federal court monitor for women's mental health services in Alabama's prison system. She has been a member of the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry/ Psychiatry and the Community for several years. She serves on the Scientific Program Committee for the APA Institutes of Psychiatric Services (to be chair next year), and serves on the national board of the American Psychiatric Foundation.

Her research interests have evolved over the years. She has participated in NIMH funded research on the genetic liability for schizophrenia, but more recently has received funding to assess the efficacy of jail diversion, mental health courts, drug courts, services for patients with co-occurring disorders, and assertive community treatment. She has also recently submitted an NIMH grant assessing the efficacy of diagnosing and treating women with postpartum depression.

Dr. Feldman has published and spoken extensively on topics near and dear to her heart: schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, adherence, the Medicare Modernization Act, and development of systems of care that promote resilience and recovery in those with serious and persistent mental illness. Universal health care is her next goal.

Dr. Feldman's body of work has been recognized by receipt of 2 NAMI Exemplary Psychiatrists Awards, numerous teaching awards, and being named in Best Doctors in America 3 times. More importantly, she receives (most of the time) the grand and loving support of her two teenage children.

### **Frances Rudnick Levin, MD**

Frances Rudnick Levin, MD, is the Q.J. Kennedy Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. Director of Clinical and Educational Activities for the Division on Substance Abuse and Columbia University/New York State Psychiatric Institute and Director of the Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship Program at Columbia University/New York Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Levin received her medical degree from Cornell University Medical College and completed her residency at the New York Hospital-Payne Whitney Clinic.

She is the principal investigator on several federally funded grants, principal investigator on a T32 NIDA funded Substance Abuse Research Fellowship, and co-principal investigator on several other grants. She is also a recipient of an independent scientist grant from the National Institute of Drug Abuse. Her research interests include pharmacologic treatment interventions for cocaine abuse, psychotherapeutic and pharmacologic interventions for marijuana dependence, and treatment approaches for substance abusers with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and other psychiatric illnesses.

Dr. Levin has numerous presentations and publications to her credit in the area of substance abuse and/or dual diagnosis. She serves on several advisory panels and was a member of the NIDA – Initial Review Group: Training and Career Development Subcommittee. She has also been a member of consensus panels sponsored by the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment.

### **Calvin R. Sumner, M.D.**

Calvin R. Sumner, M.D., is currently a Medical Advisor for Lilly Research Laboratories with primary responsibility for the design and implementation of phase III-B and phase IV clinical trials, analysis and dissemination of scientific results and medical support for marketing and sales divisions. As the child psychiatrist for the Lilly US medical team, he serves as a key

internal expert consultant for all brands on issues related to the treatment of psychiatric disorders in children and adolescents. He holds an academic position as clinical associate professor of behavioral medicine and psychiatry at West Virginia University School of Medicine, where he served as director of the psychiatry residency programs and chief of the psychiatry section prior to joining Lilly.

Dr. Sumner’s breadth of interests in clinical psychiatry and research is complemented by his continued activity in medical education and administrative psychiatry. He is a popular lecturer and frequent presenter at national and international medical meetings on topics in adult and child psychiatry including schizophrenia, mood disorders, behavioral disorders, and developmental disorders. In addition to numerous publications and service awards, his professional contributions include longstanding efforts in community education, prevention and advocacy for adults and children with mental illness

Dr. Sumner is a graduate of Columbia University where he earned his Bachelor’s degree in Biology and Master’s degree in special education. He received his M.D. degree from George Washington University School of Medicine and trained in adult psychiatry at GWU Medical Center. He completed his fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at Children’s Hospital National Medical Center. Dr. Sumner is an examiner for the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and is active in leadership positions in professional organizations at the state and national level.



### DATES OF FUTURE GAP MEETINGS

**2006**  
**APRIL 6-8**  
**NOVEMBER 9-11**

**2007**  
**MARCH 29-31**  
**NOVEMBER 8-10**

**2008**  
**APRIL 10-12**  
**NOVEMBER 13-15**

**2009**  
**APRIL 16-18**  
**NOVEMBER 12-14**

**2010**  
**APRIL 15-17**  
**NOVEMBER 11-13**