

Passing of the Torch

This Special Issue is my final issue as Editor of *JAACAP Connect* given the completion of my term in December 2018. Originally slated for publication in Fall 2018, this issue was delayed due to the illness and passing of a member of my family.

I take pride both in this Special Issue's focus on mental health among sexual and gender minority youth and in the fostered connections—through mentorship, co-authorship, and collaboration—that are reflected in this *Connect* issue. Our Editorial Board and I very much enjoyed working with Nix S. Zelin, MD, a talented and knowledgeable resident, and with Scott Liebowitz, MD, Co-Chair of the AACAP Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues Committee—both of whom helped curate and bring to fruition this issue. We also enjoyed the opportunity to connect our authors early in their process with experts in our field who are active in our national and international professional organizations. In so doing, this issue exemplifies the mission with which Michelle S. Horner, DO, founded *Connect*: “to engage trainees and practitioners in the process of learning throughout the lifespan via readership, authorship, and publication experiences that emphasize translation of research findings into the clinical practice of child and adolescent psychiatry.”

As *Connect* moves forward, I also would like to acknowledge and congratulate Justin Schreiber, DO, MPH, who assumed the role of Editor in January 2019. He is a remarkable individual whose passion for advocacy and citizenship as a physician are impressive, and I very much look forward to the directions in which he will lead *Connect*.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the authors and mentors who have contributed to *Connect* over my tenure as Editor, and, in addition to Michelle and Justin, also would like to thank Andrés Martin, MD, MPH, Douglas K. Novins, MD, Mary K. Billingsley, ELS, Mariel Gambino, and the entirety of the *Connect* Editorial Team for their tremendous commitment to ensuring that connections of all kinds are made.

What immediately follows is an introduction that I invited Nix to prepare, given her significant contributions to this Special Issue.

Oliver M. Stroeh, MD
Former Editor