

Flat-Out: It Has Been a Good Year

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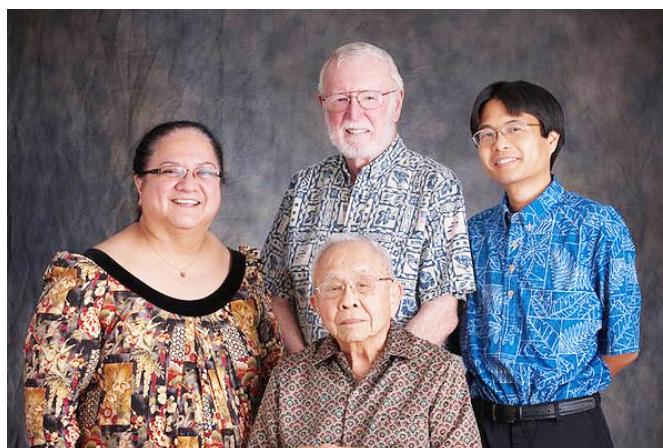
In his provocatively titled blockbuster *The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*, Thomas Friedman tracks the seismic shifts in global markets and emphasizes the increasing blurriness of geographic boundaries. He examines how physical distance presents an increasingly shrinking barrier to migration, communication, and collaboration, erasing advantages among competing countries.

As markets go, so goes psychiatry: the late John (“Jack”) F. McDermott, Jr., MD, whose support helped develop *JAACAP Connect*, smoothed out some wrinkles on this metaphorical map by expanding child and adolescent psychiatry (CAP) training to Indonesia. Jack arrived early to an international CAP scene that has been blossoming of late. This year alone, “Partnering for the World’s Children,” the international initiative of AACAP Past President Paramjit Joshi, MD, accomplished several of its goals, including the Academy joining forces with its Spanish counterpart in a first-ever AACAP meeting held abroad (in San Sebastian) and the launch of an international membership option; the International Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions (IACAPAP) holding its biannual meeting in Calgary; and electronic educational resources like the *IACAPAP e-Textbook*¹ edited from Sydney by Joseph M. Rey, MD, PhD, and the Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs)² coordinated from Paris by Bruno Falissard, MD, PhD, reaching every corner of the globe. It has been a flat-out good year to be a part of the international kinship of child and adolescent mental health.

Earlier this year, *Connect*’s editorial board paid tribute to Jack. In this issue, we revisit his legacy with particular attention to his international efforts, which will be discussed in more detail at this year’s Annual Meeting in New York City³ by three of the authors featured in this issue: Norbert Skokauskas, MD, PhD, Anthony Guerrero, MD, and Tjhin Wiguna, PhD. They examine

trends in spreading CAP training worldwide, and they note Jack’s early and visionary role in these endeavors.

Connect will also feature in an Annual Meeting event. If you are interested in learning about publishing as a medical professional, how to boost your writing portfolio, or have a topic you think could be a valuable addition to *Connect*, consider stopping by Workshop 29,⁴ where *Connect* editors Michelle S. Horner, DO, and Oliver M. Stroeh, MD, and other members of the editorial team will offer concrete guidance on getting started in writing. This publication is itself the starting place for many first-time authors, and we welcome reader proposals. The fourth article in this issue was in fact the result of successful “pitching” to the editors: that is, at Jack’s encouragement, Dorothy Chyung, MD, put forward an idea and an outline for an article that was then accepted (instructions and guidance for getting involved in *Connect* can be found on the previous page). Here at *Connect*, we are leveling the playing field by encouraging participation from first-time authors, perhaps providing more evidence of our ever-flattening world.



Four generations of psychiatry chairs at the University of Hawaii: Walter Char, seated (Section of Psychiatry Chair 1965-1970), Naleen Andrade (Chair 1995-2012), Jack McDermott (Founding Department Chair 1970-1995), Anthony P.S. Guerrero (Chair 2012-present). Reprinted with permission of Naleen Andrade.

References

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2. Essentials of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Across the World. International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions. <http://iacapap.org/essentials-of-child-and-adolescent-psychiatry-across-the-world>. Accessed September 22, 2016.
3. Guerrero AP, Martin A. Updates in Global, Indigenous, and Cross-Cultural Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: The Legacy of Dr. John F. McDermott, Jr. *J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jaac.2016.07.657>.
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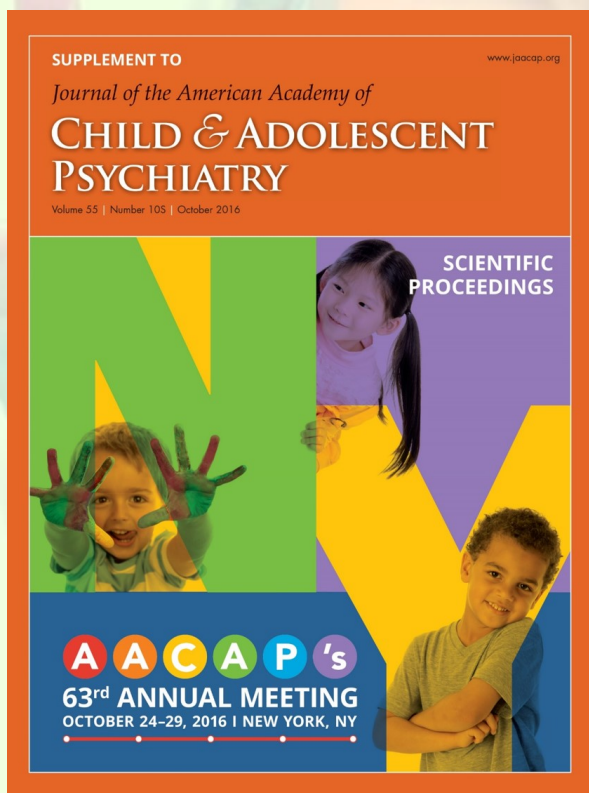
About the Authors

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Ms. Murphy is a stockholder of Amgen, Celgene Corp, Gilead, AbbVie, and Merck.



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