



Ekaterina Sukhanova, Ph.D.

Distinguished guests, dear colleagues,

Welcome to the 24th World Congress on Psychotherapy in New York City. Its main theme, “Psychotherapy, Mental Health and Human Rights: Caring for Vulnerable Populations, Humanitarian Relief Workers, and Healthcare Professionals” focuses on issues that are acquiring particular urgency today.

It is an honor and privilege to co-host this event with the World Federation for Psychotherapy (WFP) and the Critical Incident Stress Management Section (CISMS) of the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS).

It gives me particular pleasure to welcome you to the part of the congress that will take place at the CUNY Graduate School and University Center (GSUC). The Graduate Center is the hub of doctoral education at CUNY and the institutional home for university wide professional schools such as the CUNY School of Medicine; CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy; and the School of Professional Studies. In addition, the Graduate Center is the only public institution in New York City to achieve the prestigious Research 1 designation from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. And it just happens to be my alma mater.

On the CUNY side, in the true spirit of a unified university, this event has been made possible through the generous efforts of multiple university units and administrative divisions. In particular, our most sincere thanks are due to the Office of the CUNY Chancellor Félix Matos Rodriguez; President Joshua Brumberg and Dean for Sciences Brian Gibney of the Graduate

Center; Dean Ayman El-Mohandes and Dr. Victoria Ngo of the CUNY School of Public Health: and Dean Patricia Simino Boyce, Health and Human Services, CUNY Central Office.

The CUNY system brings together some 250,000 students with family backgrounds linked to over 160 countries. We too represent the world, and we are happy to welcome the world to our academic home. May this congress give rise to many new initiatives and lasting partnerships.



Dr. Ekaterina Sukhanova

Associate Dean, CUNY School of Medicine

Co-Chair, World Psychiatric Association Section on Art & Psychiatry

Co-Chair, World Psychiatric Association Section on Literature & Psychiatry