

## **Ramaswamy Viswanathan, MD, DMSc**

### **Candidate for Minority/Underrepresented Representative (M/UR) Trustee**

- APA: Assembly (Asian American Caucus/MUR, 1996-2002; Brooklyn DB Representative, 2002-present); PAC Board of Governors; President: Caucus on MOC. Past positions: Chair, Bylaws Committee, 2006-07; Vice-Chair, Council on Member DB Relations, 2005-09; Council on Global Psychiatry; Nominating Committee; Committee on C-L Psychiatry and Primary Care Education; APA representative to the AMA IMG Section.
- New York State Psychiatric Association: Secretary; Founding Chair, Sub-Committee on Residents' Scholarly Poster Presentations Contest; Legislative Committee.
- Indo-American Psychiatric Association: Chair, Board of Trustees; Past President; Academician Award Recipient.
- Society for Study of Psychiatry and Culture: Board of Directors; Past: Chair, Finance Committee; Co-Chair, Scientific Program Committee.
- Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry: Chair, Committee on Psychosomatic Medicine; Consultant, Committee on Psychiatry and Religion.
- SUNY Downstate Medical Center: Director, Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry; Chair, Psychiatry Grand Rounds; Faculty Private Practice.
- Board certified in internal medicine, psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry and forensic psychiatry; scheduled for recertification in psychosomatic medicine and addiction psychiatry.

#### **Vision / Goal:**

- **I will strengthen APA's relationship and collaboration with IAPA and other allied and diversity-oriented organizations.**
- **When I was the Secretary of IAPA, I started the tradition of annually inviting the President-Elect of the APA to the Fall Meeting of IAPA. This and other measures that I and others implemented have considerably strengthened the ties between APA and IAPA.**
- **I have mentored several IAPA members to ascend into leadership positions and make significant contributions in the APA.**
- **I got the support of APA's Office of Diversity and Health Equity and organized an IAPA conference on mental health of Indian Americans.**
- I will work toward our APA advocating for increased service and research affecting women, minority, and marginalized patients.
- I will work with our APA to promote the professional, academic, organizational and personal development of minorities, IMGs, women, and LGBTQ members, and fight discrimination against them.

- I led a petition drive placing a referendum on our 2011 ballot urging our APA to work against burdensome Maintenance of Certification (MOC) requirements. That referendum was supported by 80% of the voters. In the BOT, I will push for MOC reform, and lessening the financial burden of certification, important issues for most of our members.