

2020 IPA Board of Directors Candidate Information
Daisy Acosta, *Dominican Republic*

Contact Information

Name Daisy Acosta, MD
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Professional Information

Professional Title MD
Institution / Facility Universidad Nacional Pedro Henriquez Ureña
(UNPHU)
Discipline Geriatric/Psychiatry

Letters of Recommendation

Recommended by: Raimundo Mateos, *Spain*
Henry Brodaty, *Australia*

Statement of Intent

I was very involved with IPA at the beginning of its formation as were many Latin-American members. We got involved in many other things and slowly left our memberships elapsed and went into other things, but for some reasons I always followed IPA developments. In 2016 when I saw an opening at the Board and as I had finished my leadership at ADI and got a position as a Board Member. During my first Board meeting in San Francisco, California, I was shocked to hear that the meeting was about the dissolution of IPA due to financial difficulties. I remember saying "I did not come this far to hear this". My first term as a Board member has come to an end and I have been reflecting on what have I done for IPA? Shall I aspire for another term? I am sure I have not done enough, but I have done! for some reason my region is not engage enough with IPA and I have tried, I am sure of this, but trying is not enough, is results what matters. This is the main reason why I want another term, it is not to prove the IPA is an excellent organization, because it is, it is to find out why others, especially from my region can not see it. I hope that with the guidance and leadership of IPA's EC and other BMs I can accomplish my goals, to see a quite increasing number of members from my region and ALL regions to make IPA GREAT!

Needless to say that if I apply again for another term is because I have the expertise and background to do the job.

Biographical Sketch

I am a Geriatric Psychiatrist, mother of 4 beautiful and healthy children and grandmother of four! My parents lived independently until they were 94 and 93. (I will always treasure them as a passport to a healthy ageing!).

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I have been working in the field, of Geriatric Psychiatry for almost 30 years and I was the first person to train in this field in my country, the Dominican Republic.

After finishing my training as a General Psychiatrist, and then acquiring added qualifications in Geriatric Psychiatry in The United States, I took both board exams (General and Geriatric Psychiatry), obtaining approved certification in both. Once I finished, I held several positions in different institutions and community's mental health centres. in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I worked very close to the school system of Allegheny County, while holding a staff position at Butler Community Mental health Centre, for which I had to testified on behave of children that had been physically or emotionally abused. Later on, for this work, I was invited to join the American College of Forensic Medicine, and was certified by its board.

In 1987, I came back to The Dominican Republic, my country of origin, and established my private practice in geriatric psychiatry, today Is the largest practice in this area in this country.

Since then, I have dedicated my life to the study and treatment of AD and other dementias, to the point that my colleagues and students call me "Lady Alzheimer".

I am very actively involved with our Geriatric and psychiatry associations and held the position of vice chair several times, of our national psychiatry association, and of The Dominican College of Neuropsychopharmacology, this has helped a lot in maintaining a good relationship between our Alzheimer's Association, (Asociacion Dominicana de Alzheimer) that I co-founded, and the professionals of other areas.

I teach on the subject of Geriatrics at Universidad Nacional Pedro Henriquez Ureña, UNPHU), where I am in charge and have coordinated this area for the last 17 years and at the present coordinate group #4 of the curricular change taking place at the University in our medical school.

I am a lecturer specifically on the subject of ageing and dementia in different universities, clubs, retirement's homes and others as well as around the world. Have organized many successful national and international medical congresses as well.

To serve the community in the mental health area I joined the group of "Catholic Psychiatrists holding a secretarial job in this group which aims are, to educate about mental illnesses and to provide home and treatment to the homeless mentally ill.

Research is badly needed to change health policies, reason why I got involved in The 10/66 Dementia Research Group. I am the PI of our centre. We have been working together since 1998 and to date we have published more than 100 scientific papers.

I have been involved with Alzheimer's Disease International since 1994, held many positions, until I became its chairperson 2008-2012. Today I hold the title of Honorary Vice-president of ADI, which is a lifetime honor. I was invited to be a member of the World Dementia Council, representing the developing world, until January 2016.

In 2019 I formed a Brain Biobank at our University with the aim to build a Neuroscience Institute to contribute to research in neurodegenerative diseases around the world. Today we have 14 brain donations which is a big accomplishment in a country like this.

Curriculum Vitae

Daisy Acosta

Principal Investigator, Special Projects Department, UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL PEDRO HERIQUEZ URENA (UNPHU), Associate Professor of Geriatric Psychiatry

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EDUCATION/TRAINING

Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña Santo Domingo DR (UNPHU)

Saint Francis General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA. USA

Woodville State Hospital

Allegheny County School System

American College of Forensic Medicine

Geriatric Psychiatry Medicine # 1652

Forensic Medicine #13994

1986 – Present	Private practice
1994 – Present	Scientific advisor, Dominican Alzheimer’s Association
1998 – Present	Member of the scientific committee of Alzheimer’s Disease International (ADI)
2000–2008	Coordinator, 10/66 Dementia Research Group for Latin America and the Caribbean
2000 – 2012	Vice president of the Dominican College of Neuropsychopharmacology
2002-2004	President Nominations Committee of ADI
2002-2005	Board Member, Alzheimer’s disease International
2002- 2006	Vice president of the Dominican Psychiatry Association
2002-Present	Associate Professor of Geriatric Psychiatry. Universidad Nacional Pedro Henriquez Ureña
2003-Present	PI of the 10/66 Center in the Dominican Republic
2004- 2009	Chief Psychiatric external consultation for the detection of early cognitive deterioration, Luis Pasteur Hospital
2005-2008	Vice President, Alzheimer’s Disease International
2008- 2012	Chair, Alzheimer Disease International
2008- Present	Chair, Research Committee, Universidad Nacional Pedro Henriquez Ureña
2013-2015	Member of the World Dementia Council (WDC)
2013-Present	Honorary Vice President, Alzheimer’s disease International
2016-Present	Board Member International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA)
2017-Present	PI of the Life2year10/66 project
2019-2024	PI Determinants of Dementia in The Caribbean and the Caribbean Hispanics living in the US = CADAS
2018-2021	PI of the Evaluation of the Expression del Factor de Empalme SC35 and iots Relation with Tau Protein in Alzheimer’s Disease.
2020-2021	PI of LATAM-FINGER. DOM Republic Center
2019-Present	Founder and Director, Banco Nacional de Cerebros UNPHU

Certifications

1979 Educational Comission for Foreing Medical Graduates (ECFMG)

1980 Visa Qualifying Examination (VQE)

1982 Federal License Examination(FLEX)

1982 American Board of Psychiatry And Neurology

1996 American Board of Geriatric Psychiatry

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1998 American Board of Forensic Examiners

License to practice medicine

1977 – Present Dominican Republic

1982 – 2009 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Honors

2005- Best Conference Presentation. II symposium of Geriatric and Gerontology. Monterrey Mexico

2005- Most Valued Participation. National System for the integral development of the family. Guanajuato, Mexico

2008- Chair of Alzheimer's disease International. Chosen unanimously by the Council, first chair from a developing country

2010- Highly recognized Member award. Latin American College of Neuropsychopharmacology.

2010- Best Collaborator of the Alzheimer's Associations of Latino America. Tampico Mexico

2014- Award 25th Anniversary. Asociación Alzheimer Argentina (ALMA)

2014-Excellence in the Contribution of scientific Investigation in Alzheimer's disease. Psychiatric Central American Association

2012- Lifetime Member of ADI as an Honorary Vice President

2017- Highest honor for disinterested support to continued education. Dominican College of Neuropsychopharmacology.

2018- Best Doctors in their specialties 2018. Chosen as #1 in two specialties; psychiatry and Geriatric Medicine. 'Mercado', edition # 396, October 2018.

2019- Winner of the award Sergio Bencosme Ruiz as researcher in the area of health given by the Ministry of Health Science and Technology (MESCYT)

2020- Recognized in the XXIV the edition as one of the " GRANDES DOMINICANOS"