



Dear Participant of the WCPG 2017,

I welcome you to this year's meeting in Orlando, Florida. Whether this is your first time or whether you are a frequent WCPG-goer, I thank you very much for honoring our Society with your presence!

This year, our Society, the International Society of Psychiatric Genetics (ISPG), celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary: twenty-five years of fostering the advancement of biological psychiatry across the globe; 25 years of giving specialists in mental health genetics a scientific home; 25 years of spawning world-renowned collaborations.

Without the ISPG, the field of psychiatric genetics wouldn't be what it is today: a respected discipline at equal footing with other fields of complex genetics. This is a feat that has not come easily as we have gone through ups and downs over the last two decades. In all those years, the ISPG has been the unwavering beacon illuminating the way forward; a feat applauded by respected leaders in the field, as illustrated by the kind congratulatory note by Dr. Francis S. Collins, director of the National Institutes of Health.

But without you, the congress participant and ISPG member, this would not have been possible. You are bringing your ideas, projects, and desire to collaborate to the WCPG. This is what has helped make ISPG a true success story and will do so for many years to come.

Thanks again for being here. Let's celebrate together.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas G. Schulze, MD, *ISPG President*