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## WAIMH 2016 Conference: Infant Mental Health in a Rapidly Changing World: Conflict, Adversity and Resilience.

As most of you already know, the 2016 WAIMH Conference has been transferred from Tel Aviv to Prague, for reasons we have explained in detail in a previous issue of Perspectives. The Scientific Committee and the Local Committee are already working at full speed and the first Call for Papers will be launched by the end of this month. Creativity and flexibility are needed to organize this conference in unusual circumstances, and this, in itself, has become an adventure. We hope to get as many abstracts as we got for the enormously successful Conference in Edinburgh!

Thank you for the work you are each doing in your own corner of the world.

Very warm regards to all of you, Miri Keren, WAIMH President

# From the Editors

By Deborah J. Weatherston, Editor, Michigan, USA,

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Joshua Sparrow, Anna Huber and Angela McLaughlin, Contributing Editors

This Issue has been put together with great enthusiasm and an abundance of care. The editorial staff provided lots of suggestions and feedback; the authors submitted papers that represent a great deal of hard work, provoking us to think more deeply about research, community, policy and practice focusing on the developmental and relationship needs of infants and very young children. We thank them for their contributions.

Miri Keren, discusses the policy work that WAIMH has been engaged in for the past 3 months in her President's Column. The World in WAIMH introduces Niels Rygaard, a Danish consulting psychologist who raises important questions about infancy research in his article, "Infant Mental Health in the Global Village." Connie Lillas, a family therapist and analyst from Southern California and Mary Ann Marchel, research faculty from the University of Minnesota Duluth, challenge traditional research assumptions and practices in their paper in which they look at dynamic systems theory and its influence on

research, cultural disparities, and shifts that support the IMH field. Kaija Puura, Associate Director, provides a window into her recent journey to Fukushima where she discovered again the power of community to support the healing process. Maree Foley and Ana Huber, Affiliates Council Chair and Representative, respectively, bring news about affiliates around the world. Angela McLaughlin features the work of masters and doctoral students in infant mental health research. Finally, in recognition of the Infant Mental Health Journal and its contributions to our work, and with permission, we invite readers to read one article from the first issue of the IMHJ, Through the Eyes of a New Dad: Experiences of First-Time Fathers of Late-Preterm Infants; Karen M Benzies, University of Calgary, Canada and Joyce Magill-Evans, University of Alberta, Canada Infant Mental Health Journal, Vol. 36(1), 78-87 (2015).

Clearly, WAIMH's perspective is worldwide. An inclusive organization working on behalf of the wellbeing of all babies, their families and communities, we invite comments and contributions from all over the world. Be sure to share WAIMH Perspectives, an open source document, with others in your social media networks.