Mobilizing health professionals on issues that represent the gravest dangers to human health.
WHAT A YEAR!

You’re the reason I’m so appreciative and energized these days. If you look at PSR’s 2016 highlights on page three, you’ll see some of our many wins. They were possible because members like you were engaged on the front lines and supported our work.

The entire West Coast has made tremendous progress in the fight for clean energy. I’m happy to see more young people stepping up to take on new roles since we launched our New Leadership Campaign in November. All over the country, we see people coming forward with vim and vigor to fight fracking, stop coal, eliminate nuclear weapons and resist the Trump administration’s agenda that will exacerbate our worst public health threats.

The U.N.’s pursuit of a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons is the best news we’ve heard about global security in 30 years.

My second term as PSR’s president was eventful. In addition to our program work, our board conducted a search to replace our esteemed colleague, Catherine Thomasson, MD, as our executive director. The search committee interviewed many distinguished professionals with various talents that could benefit PSR.

Outstanding among them was Jeff Carter, JD, who comes to us with many years’ experience running education nonprofits and a relentless belief in our causes. A strategic thinker and a quick study with energy and passion to spare, Jeff started his tenure last fall and immediately felt at home with the PSR family. Although we’ve wished Catherine a fond farewell, the PSR board and staff know they can count on her to continue our work.

It is an honor for me to hand the reins of the presidency over to my dear friend and valued colleague, Iowa physician John Rachow. With a pleasure that’s new to many of us, PSR finished 2016 in the black!

Thanks to all of you who made this possible through your many years of support and trust in our work. We hope our New Leadership Campaign continues to inspire all our members and staff and that you’re ‘in it’ for the long run.
PSR’s contributions to the Humanitarian Impact Initiative influenced the U.N. General Assembly to vote to pursue negotiations for an international treaty to ban nuclear weapons.

PSR members in Washington State challenged Representative Adam Smith (WA-9), Ranking Member of the House Armed Service Committee, to rein in nuclear weapons spending by opposing the new Long Range Standoff (LRSO) weapon. Representative Smith fulfilled this promise in June 2016 by co-sponsoring a Defense Appropriations amendment to cut funding for the LRSO. He also published an opinion piece in Foreign Policy Magazine titled, “America Already Has More Than Enough Nuclear Missiles.”

PSR members and allied organizations successfully urged President Obama to be the first sitting President of the United States to visit Hiroshima, Japan. President Obama visited the Hiroshima Peace Park on May 27, 2016, drawing worldwide attention to the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons.

PSR advocated for the historic reform of the Toxics Substances Control Act, breaking the logjam that kept the EPA from reviewing and removing dangerous chemicals from the marketplace.

PSR intensified work to halt hydraulic fracturing (fracking) by adopting a call for a ban, citing the extensive leaks of methane, a powerful accelerator of climate change, as a significant cause for concern. The position also calls on gas and oil industries to shoulder responsibility for water testing, public disclosure on chemicals used, and the costs of managing health-endangering practices. The position replaces PSR’s earlier position calling for a moratorium.

PSR pushed for nationwide standards curbing dangerous methane pollution from oil and gas wells.

PSR co-released the fourth edition of the “Compendium of Scientific, Medical, and Media Findings Demonstrating Risks and Harms of Fracking” with our colleagues at Concerned Health Professionals of New York. Several members of PSR New York helped write the report and members of the PSR national board edited. PSR National helped distribute this document which offers abstracts and links to hundreds of articles on fracking’s impacts on health.

PSR supported the anti-pipeline protests at Standing Rock. PSR members traveled to Standing Rock to participate in the protests. PSR raised funds to purchase solar panel generator kits for the onsite Medic and Healer Council.

PSR board member and senior scientist Alan Lockwood, MD toured seven states upon the publication of his new book, “Heat Advisory” (MIT Press, 2016). He spoke about the public health consequences of climate change.
SECURITY PROGRAM REVIEW

The Security Program focused on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons Initiative and, with the guidance of partners International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) and International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), witnessed an historic move toward a nuclear ban treaty. An Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) established by the U.N. General Assembly voted to recommend to the U.N. First Committee that the U.N. sanction negotiations for a treaty. Ira Helfand, MD, PSR national board member and co-president of IPPNW, attended the OEWG to educate national delegations on the medical consequences of nuclear weapons. The OEWG concluded with a final vote of 123 for, 38 against, and 16 abstentions to mandate negotiations for a treaty. The vote represented a stunning victory for PSR, IPPNW, ICAN, and all ICAN partner organizations. The treaty is designed to put pressure on the nuclear-armed states to commence further negotiations for a detailed agreement setting forth a timeline for actually eliminating nuclear weapons with detailed verification and enforcement mechanisms.

PATH TO THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS BAN TREATY

2016: UN OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP

Convened to discuss proposals for multilateral nuclear disarmament.

LEGAL TOOLS + GLOBAL NORMS = DISARMAMENT

PSR’s physician addressed 177 UN national delegations.

Health Federation Joint Statement

“Prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons.”

October 2016 UN First Committee Vote

123 YES 38 NO 16 ABSTAIN

VOTE RECOMMENDS 2017 NEGOTIATIONS
We believe that a physician’s response stems from their dual role as scientist and clinician. It is the physician’s responsibility as a scientist to share their knowledge with the public. But as clinician, the physician is an active participant, not only an impartial supplier of information. The aim of PSR is to provide for the medical community and the general public the scientific data on which political decisions must in part be based.
PSR pursued three strategies in 2016 to stave off the worst effects of climate change:

1. PSR launched its Clean Energy Saves Lives campaign to educate and engage members on the health benefits of clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency.

2. PSR worked against methane, a dangerous greenhouse gas, and fracking, the process widely used to extract the gas. PSR joined a lawsuit to shut down all oil and gas activity on federal lands.

3. PSR advanced public awareness of the health threats posed by climate change with a series of “Climate Change Makes Me Sick” e-post cards.
CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS FROM AROUND THE UNITED STATES

1. **PSR WASHINGTON AND PSR OREGON**
   Helped pass a resolution in the Seattle City Council to replace fossil-fuel and nuclear-generated electricity with clean energy sources.

2. **PSR OREGON**
   Accomplished vital policy work promoting clean energy and preventing oil trains from using the state’s rails and ports.

3. **PSR SAN FRANCISCO**
   Helped advance clean air legislation in California. Multiple legislative victories in 2016 established climate gas reduction targets, created community climate grants in disadvantaged communities, and outlined greenhouse gas emission reduction plans.

4. **PSR ARIZONA**
   Worked successfully to shut down Arizona’s last coal-fired power plant in Tucson.

5. **PSR CHESAPEAKE**
   Contributed to the successful passage of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act Reauthorization (GGRA) in the Maryland State Legislature.

6. **PSR PHILADELPHIA**
   Contributed to a coalition of environmental activists that prevented the construction of a liquid natural gas terminal on the Delaware River.

7. **PSR GREATER BOSTON**
   Hosted a full-day conference on how citizens can change the country’s nuclear weapons policies.

8. **PSR MAINE**
   Worked with coalition partners to publicize the effects of climate change on health, highlighting the state’s high asthma rates.
Student PSR at University of Washington undertook greening projects in their neighborhoods for Earth Day (above and below).

Student PSR at UC San Diego hosts a lecture series on climate change and health. This photo is from a 2016 presentation by pediatrician Dr. Jane Burns on the relationship between changing weather patterns and Kawasaki disease.
2016 FINANCIALS

### INCOME

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<th>Income Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
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<td>Member Dues</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
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### EXPENSES

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<td>Program Expenses</td>
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<td>Fundraising Activities</td>
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<td>General and Admin</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td>$1,283,760</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

PSR launched a New Leadership Campaign that encouraged many current and lapsed members to reengage with PSR.

PSR received a $25,000 gift to start an endowment fund for PSR.
PSR BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016

James Baier, MS4  
Medical/MPH Student,  
University of Pennsylvania

Johanna Congleton, PhD  
Senior Scientist, Environmental  
Working Group

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Associate Adjunct Professor  
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Gynecology and Reproductive  
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Health Professional Outreach  
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Program on Reproductive  
Health and the Environment  
(PRHE) at the  
UCSF School of Medicine

Ira Helfand, MD  
Security Committee Chair  
Co-President, International  
Physicians for the Prevention  
of Nuclear War  
Physician in private practice

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Environmental Health Program  
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Adjunct Professor, Security  
Studies Program, School of  
Foreign Service, Georgetown  
University; Distinguished  
Advisory Panel, Sandia  
National Laboratory; and  
Consultant, Verification  
Research, Training and  
Information Centre (London)

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Emeritus Professor, University  
of Nebraska

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Health Committee  
Emeritus Professor at the  
University at Buffalo,  
Neurology, Nuclear Medicine

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President, PSR New York

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Neurology, Nuclear Medicine

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Clinic

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Health Student Representative  
Creighton University School of  
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Member, New Mexico PSR  
Board

Elizabeth Wiley, MD  
Family and Community  
Medicine

Peter Wilk, MD  
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Psychiatrist in private practice

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Fellow, Pediatric Environmental  
Health, Icahn School of  
Medicine at Mount Sinai, New  
York, NY
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Catherine Thomasson, MD, Executive Director

Security Program
Martin Fleck, Director

Environment and Health Program
Barbara Gottlieb, Director
Kathy Attar, MPH, Toxics Program Manager

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Julia Morgan, Web Manager

Development
Christine Herrmann, Senior Manager of Philanthropy
Amy Ciciora, Membership & Direct Mail Manager
Renee Nida, Database Manager

Student Physicians for Social Responsibility
Michelle Gin, National Student Coordinator

Interns
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Paola Avendano (UC-Riverside)
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Jenna Meltzer (U TX-Austin)
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Suyeon Yang (U IL/Urbana-Champaign)