

**BYLAWS OF THE  
SOCIETY FOR THE TEACHING OF PSYCHOLOGY**  
Amended December 16, 2014

**ARTICLE I—NAME AND MISSION**

1. The name of this organization shall be the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (hereinafter the "Society").
2. The Society for the Teaching of Psychology advances understanding of the discipline by promoting excellence in the teaching and learning of psychology. The Society provides resources and services, access to a collaborative community, and opportunities for educational and developmental activities. The Society also strives to advance the scholarship of teaching and learning, advocate for the needs of teachers of psychology, foster partnerships across academic settings, and increase recognition of the value of the teaching profession.
3. The Society functions as Division Two of the American Psychological Association (APA).

**ARTICLE II—MEMBERSHIP**

1. The Society shall consist of two classes of membership: Members and Fellows.
2. Members shall be any persons interested in the teaching of psychology who are current in their payments of dues to the Society.
3. Fellows of APA in the Society shall be persons (a) who qualify for Fellow status according to the bylaws of the APA, and (b) who have been actively engaged in the teaching of psychology for a period of five years or more, not less than three of which shall have been spent in employment in the same institution, and (c) who have made significant contributions to the advancement of the teaching of psychology as determined by the Fellows Committee. After approval by the APA, their names shall be announced to the membership as Fellows.
4. On matters calling for a vote by the membership of the Society each Fellow and Member shall have one vote; no voting by proxy shall be allowed.

**ARTICLE III—ELECTED OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

1. The elected officers of the Society shall be a President, a President-Elect, a Past President, five Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and one or more Representatives to the APA Council of Representatives, as provided for in the bylaws of the APA.
2. The President, President-Elect, Past President, five Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer constitute the voting members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Director of the Society shall serve as a nonvoting member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall supervise the affairs of the Society subject to the provisions of these bylaws. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and oversee all other discussions, deliberations, and votes of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall make decisions by majority vote. The Executive Committee may send formal invitations to other individuals in appointed positions within the Society (e.g., Editors, Directors, and Standing Committee Chairs) and liaisons from other organizations that promote the teaching of psychology to attend its meetings or contribute to discussions as nonvoting participants.
3. The President-Elect shall be elected by the voting members of the Society. The term of

office for President-Elect shall be one year starting on January 1 in the year following the election and ending on December 31. It shall be the responsibility of the President-Elect to perform the duties of the President in the event of the absence or incapacity of the latter. The President-Elect shall become President upon the expiration of the President's term. The President-Elect shall not simultaneously hold any other elected office or appointed position as Editor, Director, or Chair of a Standing Committee in the Society.

4. The term of office for President shall be one year starting on January 1 in the year immediately following that individual's term as President-Elect and ending on December 31. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Society, to serve as Chair of the Executive Committee of the Society, to supervise the affairs of the Society with the approval of the Executive Committee. The President may create committees and task forces to perform other duties incident to the office or that may be required by vote of the Executive Committee, except where Vice Presidents have the responsibilities for the creation of committees. The President shall not simultaneously hold another elected office or appointed position as Editor, Director, or Chair of a Standing Committee in the Society.
5. The term of office for Past President shall be one year starting on January 1 in the year immediately following that individual's term as President and ending on December 31. The Past President shall serve as a member of the Elections and Appointments Committee and shall write the annual report of the Society's activities during his or her Presidential year to be submitted to APA. Upon completion of this term of office, the Past President shall serve a one-year term as Chair of the Elections and Appointments Committee. The Past President shall not simultaneously hold any other elected office or appointed position as Editor, Director, or Chair of a Standing Committee in the Society. Past Presidents of the Society shall be prohibited from future candidacy for any office whose incumbent is a voting member of the Executive Committee, but they may be considered for future candidacy for any other elected office or appointed position in the Society. The Past President is also in charge of conducting removal-from-office proceedings; see Article III, Section 11.
6. Each of the five Vice Presidents shall be elected by the voting members of the Society to represent one of the Society's five functional areas: Resources; Programming; Membership, Recognition & Awards; and Diversity & International Relations. The term of office for each Vice President shall be three years starting on January 1 in the year following the election and ending on December 31. Ordinarily, elections for Vice Presidents shall be staggered so that Vice Presidents for no more than two functional areas shall be elected in any calendar year. It shall be the duty of each Vice President to coordinate communication among the Editors, Directors, and Committee Chairs in that officer's assigned functional area, to seek input from them, and to represent their interests to the Executive Committee. No Vice President shall simultaneously hold another elected office or appointed position as Editor, Director, or Chair of a Standing Committee in the Society. An individual is limited to serving a total of two three-year terms as Vice President and shall be prohibited from future candidacy for Vice President in any functional area, but this individual may be considered for future candidacy for any other elected office or appointed position in the Society.
7. The Secretary shall be elected by the voting members of the Society and shall not simultaneously hold another elected office or appointed position as Editor, Director, or Chair of a Standing Committee in the Society. The term of office for Secretary shall be three years starting on January 1 in the year following the election and ending on December 31. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to maintain the official non-financial records of the organization, to take minutes at all Executive Committee meetings and business meetings of the Society membership, to record and prepare an annual summary of major Executive Committee decisions for review and approval at the Executive Committee meeting, to serve as editor of the Society's newsletter, and to perform other

duties related to organizational needs as they arise. An individual is limited to serving a total of two three-year terms as Secretary.

8. The Treasurer shall be elected by the voting members of the Executive Committee of the Society and shall not simultaneously hold elected office or appointed position as Editor, Director, or Chair of a Standing Committee in the Society. The term of office for Treasurer shall be three years starting on January 1 in the year following the election and ending on December 31. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to oversee the timely collection of dues from members; to monitor the funds and investments of the Society; to maintain custody of the financial records of the Society; to work with the officers of the Society on major financial matters; to maintain records of receipts and expenditures of the Society; to deposit receipts in a timely fashion; to make timely disbursements as authorized by the Executive Committee; to prepare a proposed annual budget for approval at the Executive Committee Meeting; to prepare an annual financial statement for the Executive Committee Meeting; to notify the APA's Office of Membership Services of any changes in dues assessments at the prescribed time; to function as the Treasurer of the Fund for Excellence; and to perform other general duties of a treasurer as needed. An individual is limited to serving a total of two three-year terms as Treasurer.
9. Candidates for the Society's Representatives to the APA Council of Representatives shall be Fellows or Members of the APA. Representatives to APA Council shall be elected only by those Society members who are eligible to vote in APA elections. Representatives to APA Council shall serve the terms, perform the duties, and accept the responsibilities specified in the bylaws of the APA and shall bring important issues to the attention of the Executive Committee. Representatives to APA Council shall not simultaneously hold another elected office or appointed position within the Society.
10. Should an elected officer, other than the President or President-Elect, leave office for any reason, the Executive Committee shall by majority vote elect a successor to complete the remainder of the unexpired term. Should a candidate receiving the most votes decline to serve after the balloting but before the outcome of the election has been announced, the Elections and Appointments Committee shall declare elected the candidate receiving the next largest number of votes for that office. Should the President leave office for any reason, the President-Elect shall complete the current President's term. Should the President-Elect leave office for any reason, the candidate receiving the next largest number of votes in the election for that office shall complete the President-Elect's term.
11. In cases where an elected officer, other than the President, fails to perform the specified duties of that office as evaluated by the President, the President shall notify the officer in writing stating the concerns and expectations for remedying the situation. If the officer continues to fail in the performance of duty, the President may choose to submit to the Past President a written statement and documentation concerning the failure of performance with a recommendation for removal from office. The Past President shall then contact the officer in question requesting a written response to this recommendation within thirty days. Upon receipt of this response or, if no response is received after thirty days, the Past President shall convene a meeting of the Executive Committee, excluding the President and the officer in question. The Executive Committee shall then review the documentation. A majority vote of the Executive Committee, excluding the President and the officer in question, shall be required for removal from office.
12. In cases where the President fails to perform the specified duties of the office as evaluated by a member of the Executive Committee, that member shall notify the President in writing stating the concerns and expectations for remedying the situation. If the President continues to fail in the performance of duty, the member shall then submit to the Past President a written statement and documentation concerning the failure of performance with a recommendation for removal of office. The Past President shall then contact the

President requesting a written response to this recommendation within thirty days. Upon receipt of this response or after a period of thirty days, the Past President shall convene a meeting of the Executive Committee, excluding the President and the member who made the initial charge, to review the documentation. A majority vote of the Executive Committee, excluding the President and the member who made the initial charge, shall be required for removal from office.

#### **ARTICLE IV—EDITORS AND DIRECTORS**

1. The Executive Committee shall appoint an Editor of *Teaching of Psychology* for a term of six years. The President, upon approval by the Executive Committee, shall appoint an ad hoc search committee for the Editor. In order to provide a smooth editorial transition, the search for a new Editor should be started three years prior to the end date of the current Editor. Once selected, the Editor-Elect should begin working with the current Editor, with the new Editor-Elect beginning to receive manuscripts one year prior to his or her January 1 start date as Editor. Ordinarily the Editor shall serve no more than two consecutive terms. The Editor shall appoint Associate and Section Editors and other members of an editorial staff to assist in editing and producing the journal. The Editor shall submit an annual report to the Vice President for Resources and a budget to the Executive Committee for review and approval.
2. The Executive Committee shall appoint an Internet Editor for a term of five years. The President, upon approval by the Executive Committee, shall appoint an ad hoc search committee for the Internet Editor. In order to provide a smooth editorial transition, the search for a new Editor should be started two years prior to the end date of the current Editor. Once selected, the Editor-Elect should begin working with the current Editor. Ordinarily the Internet Editor shall serve no more than two consecutive terms. It shall be the duty of the Internet Editor to oversee all Society Internet resources, including the Society's Web pages, electronic discussion lists, and other Internet activities and materials. The Internet Editor may appoint an editorial staff and managers of specific Internet resources of the Society. The Internet Editor shall submit an annual report to the Vice President for Resources and a budget to the Executive Committee for review and approval. A new Internet Editor should assume the position on January 1.
3. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Director of the Office of Teaching Resources in Psychology (OTRP) for a term of five years. The President, upon approval by the Executive Committee, shall appoint an ad hoc search committee for the Director of OTRP. In order to provide a smooth transition, the search for a new Director should be started two years prior to the end date of the current Director. Once selected, the Director-Elect should begin working with the current Director. Ordinarily the Director of OTRP shall serve no more than two consecutive terms. It shall be the duty of the Director to maintain the office that distributes the Society's teaching materials and to oversee other resources and services provided through OTRP. The OTRP Director may appoint an editorial staff and managers of specific OTRP resources. The OTRP Director shall submit an annual report to the Vice President for Resources and a budget to the Executive Committee for review and approval. A new OTRP Director will assume the position on January 1.
4. The Executive Committee shall appoint an Executive Director of the Society for a term of five years. The Executive Director shall be eligible for continuing reappointment for an additional five years upon the recommendation of the Elections and Appointments Committee and the approval of the Executive Committee. In order to provide a smooth transition, the search for a new Director should be started a year prior to the current Executive Director's term ending date or immediately upon either the resignation or departure from office for any reason of a sitting Executive Director. The search will be conducted by the Elections and Appointments Committee and include the current

President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer as ad hoc members. Once selected, the Director-Elect should begin working with the current Director. It shall be the duty of the Executive Director to manage and coordinate membership records, renewals, and inquiries; coordinate the development and printing of selected Society publications and communications; maintain current and archive relevant Society records; provide support for Society officers; serve as the Society's liaison to APA, APS, and other teaching organizations as directed by the Executive Committee; and serve as a nonvoting member of the Executive Committee and the Membership Committee. The Executive Director may appoint clerical staff. The Executive Director reports directly to the Society President and shall provide the Executive Committee with an annual report and budget for review and approval. A new Executive Director will assume the position on January 1.

5. In cases where an appointed Editor or Director fails to perform the specified duties of that position as evaluated by the Executive Committee, the President shall notify the Editor or Director in writing stating the concerns and expectations for remedying the situation. If an Editor or Director continues to fail in the performance of duty, the President may choose to submit to the Past President a written statement and documentation concerning the failure of performance with a recommendation for removal of position. The Past President shall then contact the Editor or Director in question requesting a written response to this recommendation within thirty days. Upon receipt of this response or, if no response is received after thirty days, the Past President shall convene a meeting of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall then review the documentation. A majority vote of the Executive Committee shall be required for removal from the position.

#### **ARTICLE V—STANDING COMMITTEES AND APPOINTED TASK FORCES**

1. Committees of the Society shall consist of Standing Committees provided by these bylaws, Task Forces recommended by the President and established by vote of the members of the Executive Committee, and Ad Hoc Committees that are appointed by the President or any Vice President. An individual may not serve concurrently as a Chair of more than one Standing Committee nor in any other elected office or appointed position. The Chair of the Elections and Appointments Committee will assume the position on September 1 during of that person's term as Past President. New Chairs of other standing committees will assume the position on January 1 following their appointment.
2. There shall be seven Standing Committees: The Membership Committee, Fellows Committee, The Elections and Appointments Committee, The Committee on Teaching Awards, The Diversity Committee, The International Relations Committee, and The Early Career Psychologist Committee.
3. The Membership Committee shall consist of a Chair, who is selected by the Vice-President for Membership (with the approval of the Executive Committee) and at least three committee members. The Chair shall serve for a period of three years. The duties of the Chair and committee are to assist with Society recruitment and public relations efforts as well as communicate with current and lapsed members. These efforts may be done in collaboration with other existing Standing Committees and task forces of the Society. The Executive Director shall serve as a nonvoting member of this committee. The Chair of the Membership Committee shall submit an annual report to the Vice President for Membership and a budget to the Executive Committee for review and approval.
4. The Fellows Committee shall consist of four members who are Fellows of APA and members of the Society. With the approval of the Executive Committee, the Vice President for Recognition & Awards shall appoint a Chair of the committee for a two-year term. During the year prior to the expiration of the Chair's term and with the approval of the Executive Committee, the Vice President shall appoint an Associate Chair for a one-year term. Ordinarily, the Associate Chair shall succeed the Chair. Terms of service on the

Committee shall ordinarily be three years with terms staggered so that one new member is appointed each year. It shall be the duty of the Chair to solicit nominations and to compile the files of nominees for review. It shall be the duty of the Fellows Committee to examine qualifications of a member's application for initial Fellow status according to the standards established by the Society. The committee will also review the Society members with Fellow status in another Division of APA who wish to become Fellows of the Society as well. The Fellows Committee approves those individuals deserving of recognition as Fellow and makes recommendations to the APA Fellows Committee. In the cases of nominees who are not Fellows of other APA divisions, the Fellows Committee shall forward materials to the APA Membership Committee. Those individuals who are already APA Fellows will be informed of the Committee's decision concerning APA Fellow status by the Society. Appeals of a decision by the Fellows Committee will be directed to the President and reviewed by the Executive Committee for final resolution. The Chair of the Fellows Committee shall submit an annual report to the Vice President for Recognition and Awards and a budget to the Executive Committee for review and approval.

5. The Elections and Appointments Committee shall consist of the President, Past-President, and the past, Past-President, who will serve as the chair. It shall be the duty of this Committee to conduct and supervise the elections of the Society as provided in Article VII of these bylaws and to make recommendations for appointments of Society representatives as requested by other organizations. The Committee will consult with the Society's Council Representative(s) on all recommended appointments to APA Boards, Committees, and Task Forces. The Chair of the Elections and Appointments Committee shall provide the Executive Committee an annual report and a budget for review and approval.

The Committee on Teaching Awards shall consist of a Chair and Associate Chair appointed for three-year terms by the Vice President for Recognition & Awards with the approval of the Executive Committee. Members of review subcommittees shall be appointed annually by the Chair. Subcommittee members will normally be previous award winners. The Committee shall determine the recipients of the Society's annual Excellence in Teaching Awards. Further, the Committee, in conjunction with the Vice President for Recognition and Awards, shall be responsible for formal presentation of these awards at the annual meeting. Ordinarily, the Associate Chair of the Committee shall succeed the Chair. The Chair of the Committee on Teaching Awards shall submit an annual report to the Vice President for Recognition and Awards and a budget to the Executive Committee for review and approval.

7. The Diversity Committee shall consist of a Chair, who is appointed by the Vice President for Diversity & International Relations with the approval of the Executive Committee, and at least three committee members appointed as per Policies and Procedures Manual guidelines. The Chair shall serve for a period of three years. The Committee shall oversee and assess all Society activities related to diversity issues, including, but not limited to, diversifying the membership, integrating diversity into the curriculum, hiring and retaining a diverse faculty, and attracting members of diverse groups to psychology as a major and a profession. The Chair of the Diversity Committee shall submit an annual report to the Vice President for Diversity & International Relations and a budget to the Executive Committee for review and approval.

8. The International Relations Committee shall consist of a Chair and at least three committee members, appointed by the Vice President for Diversity & International Relations with the approval of the Executive Committee. The Chair shall serve for a period of three years. The Committee shall oversee and assess all Society activities related to international issues, including, but not limited to, internationalizing membership, integrating international issues into the curriculum, and attracting members of international communities to psychology as a major and a profession. The Chair of the International Relations Committee shall submit an annual report to the Vice President for Diversity & International Relations and a budget

to the Executive Committee for review and approval.

9. The Early Career Psychologist Committee shall consist of a Chair and at least three committee members appointed by the Vice President for Membership with the approval of the Executive Committee. The Chair shall serve for a period of three years. The Committee shall oversee and assess all Society activities related to early career professionals, including, but not limited to, spearheading activities and opportunities to aid Early Career Professionals through education, training, and networking, as well as representing Early Career Professional interests in Division matters. The Chair of the Early Career Psychologist Committee shall submit an annual report to the Vice President for Membership and a budget to the Executive Committee for review and approval.
10. The President may establish a Task Force to pursue any topic relevant to the concerns of the Society with the approval of the Executive Committee. The Task Force shall be given a charge and time frame for executing that charge.
11. In cases where an appointed Chair of a Standing Committee fails to perform the specified duties of that position as evaluated by the Vice President of that respective area, the President shall notify the Standing Committee Chair in writing stating the concerns and expectations for remedying the situation. If a Standing Committee Chair continues to fail in the performance of duty, the President may choose to submit to the Past President a written statement and documentation concerning the failure of performance with a recommendation for removal. The Past President shall then contact the Standing Committee Chair in question requesting a written response to this recommendation within thirty days. Upon receipt of this response or, if no response is received after thirty days, the Past President shall convene a meeting of the Executive Committee, excluding the President and the Standing Committee Chair. The Executive Committee shall then review the documentation. A majority vote of the Executive Committee, excluding the President, shall be required for removal from the position.

#### **ARTICLE VI—GRADUATE STUDENT TEACHING ASSOCIATION**

1. There shall be a Graduate Student Teaching Association of the Society. The Association shall be charged with educational and development activities for future psychology teachers. The Association shall be led by a Steering Committee comprised of a Chair, an Associate Chair, a Faculty Advisor, and at least four at-large members all of whom are appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee. The Chair and Associate Chair shall be graduate students and serve a term of one year, starting on January 1. Ordinarily, the Associate Chair shall succeed the Chair. The Faculty Advisor shall serve a three-year renewable term. The Chair of the Graduate Student Teaching Association shall submit an annual report to the Vice President for Membership and a budget to the Executive Committee for review and approval.

#### **ARTICLE VII—NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

1. The elected officers of the Society shall be determined by a vote of Members and Fellows of the Society, voting on a mail or electronic ballot, with the exception of Representatives to APA Council, for whom only APA members may vote and the Treasurer, for whom only members of the Executive Committee may vote.
2. The Elections and Appointments Committee shall issue a call for nominations for the offices of President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer in those years when a term of office expires, and for the offices of APA Council Representatives according to the time-line specified by APA. The Elections and Appointments Committee shall consider the results of this nomination procedure for advisory purposes in setting up a slate of candidates for the final selection.

3. The final ballot shall list at least two nominees for each vacancy in each elected office.
4. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes for each Society office shall be declared elected. The Chair of the Elections and Appointments Committee shall obtain the count of the votes for each office and shall announce the election results at the annual business meeting of the Society.
5. Officers shall assume office on January 1 of the year following their election and shall hold office until their elected successors assume office in their stead.
6. When an APA Council seat is lost on an apportionment ballot, the seat shall be vacated by the most recently elected Council Representative or the Council Representative who received the fewest votes when more than one Representative was elected in that year.
7. When an APA Council seat is gained on an apportionment ballot, the Council Representative candidate in the most recent election who received the next highest number of votes in the most recent election shall occupy the seat until an election can be held. If no candidate from the most recent election is available to serve, the President shall appoint someone to fill the seat with the approval of the Executive Committee.

#### **ARTICLE VIII—MEETINGS**

1. The annual meeting of the Society shall take place at a site and time determined at the previous annual meeting and announced to the membership at least three months prior to the meeting. The annual meeting serves for the transaction of business, the presentation of scientific papers, and discussions of professional matters in the field of the Society's interests.

#### **ARTICLE IX—DUES**

1. Annual dues and assessments of any special dues shall be determined by the Executive Committee to cover expenses to the Society and the subscription to *Teaching of Psychology*.

#### **ARTICLE X—FUND FOR EXCELLENCE**

1. The Fund for Excellence in the Teaching of Psychology is an endowment fund. The income from the Fund is to be used each year to provide a monetary award to the winners of the Society Teaching Awards. Other activities that promote good teaching may be supported after providing for the awards and the expenses of the Fund.
2. There shall be a Board to administer the Fund.
  - a. The Board shall consist of six persons, at least four of which are Members of the Society, appointed by the Society's Executive Committee. The Society's Treasurer shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Board.
  - b. Each Board member shall serve a term of six years. Terms shall be staggered so that two new members are appointed every other year. Ordinarily, a member shall serve no more than two consecutive terms.
  - c. The duties of the Board shall be to raise money for the Fund, to direct the investment of the funds after seeking professional advice, and to review the investment portfolio annually. The Board may make recommendations to the Executive Committee concerning the size of the teaching awards and other issues concerning the fund to promote excellence in teaching.
3. The Fund Board shall have three officers: Chair, Executive Secretary, and Treasurer. The

Board shall elect the Chair and Executive Secretary from among its members. Their term of office shall be two years; officers may be reelected as long as they serve on the Board.

4. Duties of the officers of the Board.
  - a. It shall be the duty of the Chair to report on the activities of the Fund to the Executive Committee of the Society and to the members at the annual business meeting of the Society and to preside over meetings of the Board.
  - b. It shall be the duty of the Executive Secretary to handle all correspondence for the Board, to make specific investments as directed by the Board, to maintain records of income and expenses, to maintain the bank account, to disburse funds as directed by the Board, to prepare a monthly report for the Fund's accountant, and to prepare the annual report.
  - c. The Treasurer of the Society shall serve as Treasurer of the Fund. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to review and approve the monthly deposits and expenses and the annual report of the Fund.

#### **ARTICLE XI—AMENDMENTS AND CHANGES TO THE OPERATING PROCEDURES OF THE SOCIETY**

1. The Society, at any annual meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, or by a majority of the members of the Society voting on a mail or electronic ballot, may adopt such amendments to these bylaws as have been (a) presented and read at the preceding annual meeting, or (b) mailed to each member, or (c) published as a ballot in an appropriate Society publication two months before the count. The Secretary, in consultation with the Executive Director, conducts the vote or oversees the mechanism by which the vote is conducted.
2. The Executive Committee, by a two-thirds majority, may vote to alter or suspend a portion of a bylaw for a temporary period of time when a need exists to respond to a legitimate and pressing concern to preserve or enhance the welfare of the Society if the membership incurs no additional financial liability. Should the bylaw alteration or suspension be deemed appropriate to stand, the change shall be submitted to the membership of the Society using the mechanisms for bylaw amendment as spelled out in this section.
3. The Executive Committee, by a majority vote, may establish and amend the operating procedures of the Society. These operating procedures are maintained in the Policies and Procedures Manual of the Society.