

STP Report of the APA Council Meeting August 2017

APA's Council of Representatives met in plenary session on Tuesday, August 1, all day on Wednesday, August 2, and 8:00 a.m. to noon on Friday, August 4.

Presidential Update (Tony Puente):

APA has been active in legislative affairs, including opposition to the repeal/replace of the Affordable Care Act and funding for mental health issues.

President Puente reported on the successful APA Summit on High School Psychology, citing the statistic of 1,000,000 high school students taking psychology each year and the success of AP Psychology. He also noted the Clark University meeting of high school psychology teachers.

Report by the new APA CEO (Arthur Evans)

Remarks by new APA Chief Executive Officer Arthur Evans outlined his background and his support for practice, policy, and science. He wants to increase the visibility of psychology; build APA's capacity for advocacy; prepare psychology for the future, including practice and academia; increase the visibility of psychological science; develop partnerships and collaborative efforts; and engage membership. There was no specific mention of teaching issues. There is a hiring plan in place for major positions, beginning with the replacement of Katherine Nordal as Executive Director of the Practice Directorate and, in 2018, hiring for the Executive Directors of the Science Directorate and the Public Interest Directorate.

Financial report (Jean Carter)

- Decline in membership has leveled off; there is the possibility of an increase in membership this year.
- 65% of APA's revenue is from publications. Print is declining, but that is expected. Electronic products and projects are growing.
- APA has over \$100 million in equity in real estate and may borrow on this revenue stream to fund activity of the association.
- In general, finances are in good shape.

Discussion of Master's Level Education in Psychology

Council addressed the issue of how to address the reality of growth of Master's degree programs in psychology. There were two framing questions:

1. Have current issues and developments risen to the level that APA should take a position on master's level training and/or practice?

2. If so, should Council direct staff and governance to identify and explore options for APA to pursue?

There are many more master's students than doctoral students. An important question involves what we can do regarding career paths for such students. In addition, in terms of health issues, is there any evidence of differential effectiveness of master's and doctoral providers? Apparently, there is no documented difference. Can doctoral training be enhanced so that such training will provide additional skills or knowledge above the master's level that will serve the needs of people?

Bylaws Changes

Dues-Exempt Membership

Council voted to send a bylaws motion to the membership about dues-exempt membership. The change would allow Council to alter lifetime membership status criteria rather than doing it via a bylaws change, which is the current rule. Current criteria are age 65 and 25 years of APA membership. One point that had been discussed previously in APA was to increase revenue by changing the criteria to 70 years of age and 30 years of continuous membership.

There is also a proposal to change the bylaws to eliminate the \$2 dues credit for membership in divisions.

Ethics Policies

A committee on ethics reported on recommendations related to changes in ethics policies. Part of the focus was on ethical outreach and education for its members. Much of the report of the committee had greatest focus on issues of ethics codes and adjudication.

Recording of Votes in Council

Council discussed whether the votes cast by Council members should be recorded in a way that makes each Council member's vote identifiable. Members of Council were asked to contact their divisions to get input regarding divisions' sentiments on this matter. Feedback from divisions is requested by October 1.

Diversity Work Group Report

The Diversity Work Group submitted a report on diversity issues in APA governance. Because of time limitations, the presentation of the report was abbreviated and no time was allowed for discussion. This caused great concern for what appeared to be a sizable majority of Council members, especially in light of the extensive time give to other issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Kite

STP Council Representatives