

Society for the Teaching of Psychology - 2011 Presidential Task Forces

1. Empowering Teachers Taskforce

Charge: To generate practices and initiatives to empower and connect teachers of psychology across the spectrum.

Specific target groups include:

Early career and minority teachers, special interest groups (SIGS) across divisions, psychology departments, Council of Undergraduate Psychology,

Specific activities could include ways to: Establish STP department spokespeople, develop a national undergraduate database of teachers around the nation, expand the STP mentoring service, establishing STP division liaisons, guidelines to ensure a slot for explicit-diversity/SoTL/early career faculty on STP programs, develop and expand ToPIX to provide more user-friendly resources to facilitate teaching, and establish personal contact with all new members.

2. Advancing Pedagogical Science Taskforces

APST- I Charge: Develop criteria and procedures to establish an annual STP-SoTL Writing Workshops where we invite faculty who have data on teaching/learning and equip them to leave with a manuscript.

APST-II Charge: Develop practices and materials to support those doing and using SoTL for gaining jobs, getting tenure and promotion.

Specific activities could include: Creating an online SoTL Lesson, and exploring further outlets for SoTL (e.g., with Div. 15, Education and APS), collecting published evidence that faculty using an SoTL approach can demonstrate enhanced learning, show how SoTL makes a difference in student learning outcomes.

3. Strengthening Psychological Literacy Taskforce

Charge: Develop practices and materials to foster the assessment of skills for each APA learning outcome and debunk myths about psychology.

4. Model Teaching Competence Taskforce

Charge: Develop teaching competencies to guide, inspire, and reward teachers of psychology.

Specific activities could include: Developing criteria for a 'Master Teacher Certificate', creating teacher-training modules (short online guides to using different pedagogies or techniques successfully), establishing adjunct teaching awards, and 'Conference Toolkits' –Guides to develop and host local workshops for teachers to develop skills and learn best practices.