

STP Executive Committee votes to discontinue mailing of print issues of *Teaching of Psychology*

January 9, 2023

Dear STP Members:

The Executive Committee of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (STP) voted to discontinue mailing print issues of *Teaching of Psychology (ToP)* to STP members. All paid members* will continue to have [online access](#) to all past issues and all future issues and articles, including Online First articles awaiting publication. STP members who have requested print issues will no longer receive *ToP* in print beginning with the January 2023 issue. All authors will continue to receive complimentary print copies of the issues in which their articles appear.

Below is the Executive Committee's rationale for this decision along with instructions for STP members who may be dissatisfied with this decision.

On October 22, 2022, Aaron Richmond, Editor of *ToP*, met with the STP Executive Committee. Dr. Richmond indicated that there is a significant backlog of articles accepted and published in the Online First format, but these articles have not been published in print. Although articles are published via SAGE's Online First service, authors have expressed concern that their departments and institutions may not acknowledge publication for tenure and promotion decisions until the articles appear in a print issue with an assigned Year, Volume, and Issue.

STP's current contract with SAGE Publishing only permits four issues to be published and mailed to members with strict word counts and page limits for each issue. The backlog of articles awaiting publication will only grow larger if we continue our current practices of accepting and publishing high quality articles.

Dr. Richmond contacted SAGE Publishing to discuss options for reducing the publication lag. SAGE Publishing is willing to increase the *ToP*'s page count per year if STP would discontinue mailing print issues to its members. STP members would continue to have full online access to past, present, and future issues, including access to Online First articles. SAGE would continue to distribute print issues to libraries and to those who subscribe via the SAGE website.

The members of STP's Executive Committee discussed SAGE's offer and decided that it would be in the mutual interests of STP members and authors to accept SAGE's offer. There are several distinct advantages to this decision.

- The decision is consistent with the STP Executive Committee's vote (July 12, 2021) to set the default option for new STP members to no longer receive print issues. As a result of this decision, fewer than half of our current members have opted to receive print issues, whereas all our current paid members have online access to the journal.
- The decision to opt out of print issues will reduce considerably the financial and environmental costs associated with the paper, printing, and mailing/distribution of print issues.
- STP members will benefit from the increased amount of content available to them. SAGE Publishing will now publish more articles in each issue of *ToP*.
- Prospective authors of *ToP* articles will also benefit from the reduced publication lag time.

We realize that some STP members may be dissatisfied with this decision. Any STP member who already paid for 2023 may request to resign from STP and receive a full refund of the dues for 2023. The deadline for this request is February 15, 2023. Send your request via email to the STP Executive Director at stp@teachpsych.org with the Subject: Request to resign from STP Membership.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Pusateri, Ph.D., Executive Director

Society for the Teaching of Psychology (Division 2 of the American Psychological Association) stp@teachpsych.org

** If you are an APA Life-Status (i.e., Retired) member of STP, you will receive online access to ToP only if you pay the subscription fee for the journal.*