

**The APA Board of Educational Affairs (BEA)**

**Award in Support of Conferences and Workshops  
on Graduate and Postgraduate Education and Training in Psychology  
Application**

**1. Title and Date(s) of the Conference or Workshop:**

2016 APPIC Membership Conference  
May 26-May 29, 2015  
Hilton Riverside New Orleans

**2. Name(s) of group organizing the Conference or Workshop:**

Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC)

**3. Name, email, and phone number of contact person and organization for proposal and receiving funds if proposal is selected:**

- a. Name:** Allison N. Ponce, Ph.D., APPIC Membership Conference Chair  
Jeff Baker, Ph.D., Executive Director, APPIC
- b. Organization:** Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC)
- c. Email:** allison.ponce@yale.edu
- d. Phone:** 860-922-4134 (Ponce)  
832-284-4080 (Baker)

***Background***

The 2016 Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) Membership Conference will be held May 26-29 in New Orleans. APPIC's biannual conferences focus on internship and postdoctoral training and education in health service psychology and typically draw about 300 attendees. Those who attend the conference are training directors and directors of clinical training from APPIC-member or associate doctoral, internship and postdoctoral training programs from around the United States and Canada.

In order to ensure that particularly important issues related to training are addressed at a very high level of skill, the Conference Committee invites a handful of selected speakers to present at the conference. These topics for 2016 include diversity with regard to trainees with physical disabilities, the state and future of psychology training, and ethics related to education and training.

APPIC is requesting \$2000 from the Board of Educational Affairs to cover travel expenses for two speakers who have been invited to teach attendees about working with psychology trainees

who have physical disabilities. The funds from this grant would offset the costs to our organization and contribute to our goal of ensuring that our members are educated in state of the art thinking and practice with regard to diversity.

- **Goals and objectives**

*The clarity and nature of the conference or workshop goals and objectives and how they will enhance the training of faculty and supervisors of graduate students, interns, and/or postdoctoral fellows in psychology.*

The APPIC Membership Conference focuses on internship and postdoctoral training in health service psychology. The attendees are training directors and directors of clinical training from APPIC-member or associate training programs from around the US and Canada. In 2016, the conference will include topics such as working with students with competency problems, managing ethical and legal issues, integrating diversity in all elements of training, and assessment of competencies.

An overall *goal* of the conference is to engage participants in learning to improve the quality of training for interns and postdoctoral residents/fellows.

Some *objectives* for the conference include that participants should be able to:

- Identify methods to assess intern competency
- Articulate ways for managing trainee competency problems
- Discuss ethical issues related to psychology training
- Evaluate their program's competence with regard to working with diverse trainees

Proposals received in response to a call for presentations will be judged on their applicability, attention to diversity, and the level of engagement expected. All presenters will be required to address diversity in some capacity. All presentations will be focused on enhancing psychology training in one capacity or another.

- **Leadership**

*The qualifications of the person(s) identified to plan and lead the conference or workshop, relative to the topic of focus. Included in the qualifications should be evidence of national or regional leadership (e.g., publication of scholarly works related to education and training, participation in past workshops, etc.).*

The 2016 APPIC Membership Conference will be chaired by Dr. Allison Ponce (Yale Department of Psychiatry; Vice-Chair and Chair-Elect, APPIC Board of Directors). Other members of the Conference Committee include Dr. Allison Aosved (VA Puget Sound; APPIC Board of Directors), Dr. Jeff Baker (Executive Director, APPIC), Dr. Jennifer Cornish (University of Denver; Chair, APPIC Board of Directors), Dr. Eugene D'Angelo (Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School; Former Chair, APPIC Board of Directors), Dr. Mary Mendoza-Newman (Stanford University; APPIC Board of Directors), and Dr. Mariella Self (Texas Children's Hospital/Baylor University; Treasurer, APPIC Board of Directors).

Each member of the committee has specific expertise in the training and education of psychology interns and postdoctoral fellows/residents and many have peer-reviewed publications in this area.

Nearly every member of this committee has presented at the APPIC conference in the past and all have given presentations on training in national venues.

- **Participants**

*The qualifications of conference or workshop participants relative to the topic of focus, including their potential for implementing outcomes of the conference or workshop toward enhancing graduate education.*

APPIC Membership Conference attendees are almost exclusively internship or postdoctoral training directors or doctoral program directors of clinical training. Our organization is comprised of 751 internship member programs and 178 postdoctoral member programs along with 428 doctoral program associates. In 2012, there were 260 conference attendees and the number rose to 305 attendees in 2014. In order to accommodate what the increasing demand for this conference, the New Orleans facility will allow for up to 350 attendees.

Given that the APPIC Membership Conference is designed exclusively for the education of the faculty of these training programs, the potential for implementation of the material presented is extremely high. The presentations will be directly relevant to the education and training of interns and fellows/residents and by virtue of their roles as training faculty, the conference participants have direct impact on the learning of these psychology trainees.

- **Impact**

*The estimated or potential impact of the conference or workshop in terms of the diffusion of new ideas resulting from its outcomes in the education community appropriate to the proposal's focus.*

The APPIC Membership Conference is offered every two years to ensure that training directors and directors of clinical training are offered high quality education to enhance their work in providing the best training opportunities to psychology trainees. The Conference Committee has already begun to create a program that will do just that. Steve McCutcheon, Ph.D., will deliver the keynote address on the future of psychology training. Melba Vasquez, Ph.D., will offer a plenary session focused on ethics related to training, and Erin Andrews, Psy.D. and Angela Kuemmel, Ph.D. will co-present a second plenary session on working with psychology trainees who have physical disabilities. These three sessions demonstrate the types of information that will be taken forward into the training community as a result of the conference. Presentations that will be solicited through the call for proposals must also offer material that is practical and can be utilized by participants at their training sites. The potential for dissemination of ideas from the conference is extremely high.

**Budget**

*The clarity and completeness of the conference or workshop budget, how realistic it is, and how the grant funds are to be used to offset expenses incurred (e.g., travel, registration, speaker fees).*

The draft budget for the APPIC Membership Conference currently stands at \$202,904. APPIC has signed a contract with the Hilton Riverside New Orleans. The budget includes the costs of

food and beverage, audio/visual needs, printed programs, the meeting planner, postage, shipping of items to the meeting, ADA accommodations, and the like.

In order to attract excellent keynote and plenary speakers, the Conference Committee has committed to offering travel support to the selected presenters. Should APPIC receive grant funds for the Membership Conference, they will be applied toward the travel expenses of the presenters, which are estimated at a total of about \$6000.

The travel costs per presenter are estimated to be around \$1000. Additional funds in the amount of \$500 will be provided to two participants to defray the costs of travel companions to support their participation in the conference. The presenters may be reimbursed for expenses related to their hotel stay (\$179 plus tax per night), conference registration (\$305), airfare, mileage, and meals.

Further details of the budget can be made available upon request.