
**BEA Award in Support of Conferences and Workshop
2021**

Workshop or Conference name: School Psychology "Futures 2022"

Sponsoring Organization: School Psychology Leadership Roundtable (SPLR)

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Please provide responses to the prompts below (limit of 1500 characters for each).

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.

School Psychology Futures is a decennial event sponsored by the major national school psychology professional organizations dedicated to improving the life outcomes for children and families across the globe. Futures is a one-of-a kind convening unique to school psychology. While the field has held ongoing national convenings since the 1954 Thayer Conference, the priorities have arguably been internal to the field. School Psychology Futures 2022 will differ through an external focus on broader social inequities. School psychology, has watched carefully as COVID-19 has laid bare already known racial/ethnic, ableist, and other inequities (Annamma et al., 2012). It is within this larger societal context that Futures 2022 planning has occurred. Beginning with a May 2022 kickoff event for all participants with a goal of having a shared understanding of social justice, diversity, equity and inclusion and how these constructs cut across all professional activities, conference participants will subsequently elect to engage in ongoing social-justice stage specific and affinity group learning communities throughout the year, culminating in an all participant April 2023 event focused on long-term action planning. The broad Futures outcome is to provide resources and recommendations for how the field can critically examine their training, supervision, and mentorship practices to be accessed not only during Futures 2022, but thereafter as part of critical life-long growth and learning.

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/leadership in past workshops, etc.)

The Futures conference leadership consists of a steering committee (school psychology constituent organizations), led by two co-chairs, Drs. Tammy L. Hughes and Sam Song, seven chaired sub-committees, two working groups and fifty volunteers to date. The Futures 2022 Conference Steering Committee is composed of School Psychology Leadership Roundtable (SPLR) leaders representing all major professional associations in school psychology, are at all professional career stages (i.e., early, middle and late), graduate students and practitioners representing eight national school psychology organizations engaged in practice and training (i.e, NASP and APA Div 16).

The Futures 2022 co-chairs, Drs. Tammy Hughes and Sam Song, have extensive national service, conference planning and scholarly accomplishments. Dr. Hughes is a Duquesne Professor of School Psychology at Duquesne University, an incoming Representative to Council (16) of the American Psychological Association (APA), past BEA Chair (2xs), past Division 16 president, and has received numerous national professional awards. She has directly chaired three national professional conferences. Dr. Samuel Song, Ph.D. (he, they) is a Professor and director of School Psychology programs at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He is the current President of APA Division 16 (School Psychology), has directly chaired three national professional conferences, and is also the recipient of numerous national professional awards.

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.

The conference participants are national and international professionals in the field of school psychology, including practitioners, graduate students and faculty from across the world, who will carry out the objectives (toward outcomes) in their local educational, university or practice setting. As in previous years, SPLR will serve to organize and facilitate the implementation of the specific goals outlined in Futures 2022. A primary reason why this funding is sought is for technology platforms that will ensure accessibility of graduate students and international practitioners to Futures 2022 content.

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.

This conference will improve curriculum, supervision, and mentorship across school psychology programs worldwide; increase school psychologists' understanding of minoritized children exposed to inequitable educational practices; and support the delivery of high quality culturally-informed mental health services to youth, adults, and families in schools.

The didactic and workshop portions of the conference will be conducted via Whova and will be audio/video recorded for dissemination and accessibility to a larger national and international audience. Speakers will be asked to make their presentation, as well as a list of relevant resources, available to all participants as well via a Futures website for dissemination to a larger audience. Unlike traditional conference experiences, Futures 2022 will not be a static traditional conference, but will be structured through curricular scaffolding, with a unique opportunity for participants to individualize their experiences through a planned, sequenced series of professional development activities beyond traditional formal workshops. The format of the conference is intended to ensure that ideas and outcomes are both accessible and translatable to the international participants that will engage in this ongoing work. The potential impact of Futures 2022 is immense in shaping the future direction of school psychology as a field in becoming less biased, more equitable and responsive to larger systems of oppression.

Budget

The clarity and completeness of the conference or workshop budget, how realistic it is, how the grant funds are to be used to offset expenses incurred (e.g., travel, registration, speaker fees), as well as provide strong justification for the requested amount and whether the conference or workshop can be offered without BEA funding.

The \$10,000 requested funds would be used in two ways. First, we would be able to use Whova as the on-line venue that will permit participation across the US and international audiences of school psychologists. These funds will also provide virtual space for ongoing professional meetings, engagement, addressing personal reflection by topic areas, and group affiliated professional development.

Second, we plan to engage in an electronic process for providing CEs (state boards of psychology) and CPDs (state boards of education). At this time, we are exploring several technology options with the hopes of making Futures 2022 accessible to all in the school psychology community. SPLR has secured some funds from its organizations, however, we do not have enough funds for technology platforms to achieve goals of accessibility and utility. Funding is critical to accomplish the delivery of Futures 2022 in a seamless and accessible manner, specifically with persons without historical equal access to professional development, including international partners and graduate students. Resources for delivering Futures 2022 in an effective on-line format allows international colleague participation which would otherwise not be likely.

In years past, we have met in person and used university on-line support. Neither of those options are available in the new normal of the COVID-19 environment (i.e., no travel funds; no capacity/resources at universities to host on-line formats).