

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 4 & 5, 2026

APPROVED MINUTES

Board Members Present: Wendi S. Williams, PhD; Linda M. Woolf, PhD; Debra M. Kawahara, PhD; Olivia Moorehead-Slaughter, PhD; Mira Jourdan, PhD; Arthur C. Evans Jr., PhD; Rhonda B. Allen, PhD; Mary Louise Cashel, PhD; Jermaine Jones, PhD; Elizabeth Klonoff, PhD; Margaret Kovera, PhD; Rodney L. Lowman PhD, ABPA; Lindsay Patterson, CIA, CPA; Ana Urena Rosario, PhD

Board Members Absent: Elizabeth Louis, PhD; Hideko Sera, PsyD

I. MINUTES OF MEETING

A.(1) The Board voted to approve the minutes if its April 28 and May 19, 2026, calls.

II. ELECTIONS, AWARDS, MEMBERSHIP AND HUMAN RESOURCES

A. In executive session, the Board voted to recommend that Council elect the members listed to Fellow status, on the nomination of the indicated divisions and on the recommendation of the Fellows Committee and the Board of Directors.

B. In executive session, the Board voted to approve the Board of Convention Affairs election slates.

C. In executive session, the Board voted to approve the continuing committee appointments.

D. In executive session, the Board voted to approve the appointment of the following members to serve on the Task Force to Revise the *Multicultural Guidelines: An Ecological Approach to Context, Identity, and Intersectionality*:

- Karen Tao, PhD- Co-Chair
- Riana Anderson, PhD, LCP - Co-Chair
- Ayse Ikizler, PhD
- Bedford Palmer, PhD
- Jessica Binkley, PsyD
- Roseanne Flores, PhD
- Yesenia Serrano, PsyD, ABPP-CN
- Lorraine Benuto, PhD
- Andrew Choi, PhD, ABPP

E. In executive session, the Board voted to approve Jeffrey Younggren, PhD, as the recipient of the 2026 Raymond D. Fowler Award for Outstanding Contributions to APA – Member.

F. In executive session, the Board reviewed and recommended no changes to the Board member-at-large slates recommended by the Needs Assessment, Slating and Campaigns Committee. The Board voted to appoint Jeannette Betancourt as the Public Member of the Board for a term beginning January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2029.

G. In executive session, the Board voted to recommend that Council approve APA affiliation with the Association of Jewish Psychologists as a recognized Ethnic Psychological Association and, once so approved, the opportunity for the Association of Jewish Psychologists to designate one voting representative on Council, in accordance with APA Bylaws and Association Rules.

III. ETHICS

No items.

IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

No items.

V. DIVISIONS AND STATE AND PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL ASSOCIATIONS

A.(2) The Board voted to accept the 2025 Division Annual Reports.

VI. ORGANIZATION OF THE APA

A.(3) The Board voted to recommend that Council extends the expiration date for the *Guidelines on Psychological Practice with Transgender and Nonconforming People* and the *Standards and Criteria for Approval of Sponsors of Continuing Education for Psychologists* to December 31, 2028.

B.(4) The Board voted to recommend that Council approve the following Association Rule changes (bracketed/strikethrough material to be deleted; underlined material to be added;):

30-6.3 When indicated, motions/reports and new business items shall reflect the most appropriate and relevant scientific data and literature available. Reviews of the scientific literature must be fact-checked. The moving party (whether a board, committee, or individual member(s)) shall assume responsibility for conducting or obtaining the appropriate scientific review, including the identification of pros, cons, and limitations of the conclusions based on the science. Independent scientific merit review shall be the responsibility of the moving ~~[board or committee]~~ party. The lead board or committee reviewing will ensure that a scientific review was conducted as described in this Rule. The results of such review shall be made available as part of the supporting documentation.

Upon receipt of any substantive written feedback from boards or committees to which the item has been referred under Rule 30-4.1, the moving party shall provide a written response addressing the substance of that feedback. An item for which the moving party has not provided the written response required by this Rule shall not be deemed in final form under Rule 30-1.5. The feedback received and the moving party's written response shall be included in the supporting documentation distributed to Council.

30-1.5 No matter may be properly placed before the Council for its votes that has not been disseminated to the members of Council, in its final form and with a response from the Council Leadership Team, at least two weeks prior and whenever possible 30 days prior to the meeting at which the matter is to be deliberated.

"Final form" shall mean that all sections of the agenda item are complete. Agenda item sections that must be complete include (1) a description of the issue, (2) a description of the implementation plan, (3) the fiscal implications of passing the main motion or any amended or substitute motion, (4) any substantive written feedback received from boards and committees and the moving party's written response required under Rule 30-6.3, (5) the exact wording of the main motion and any amended or substitute motion, and (5-6) the recommendations of the Council Leadership Team and any other board or committee that has reviewed the issue.

This rule shall not be interpreted to apply to supplemental materials such as exhibits, comments, or minutes that are not available at the time the agenda is finalized and posted.

C.(5) The Board voted to recommend that Council approve forwarding to the Membership for a vote the following amendments to the APA Bylaws, Article IV, Section 3 (bracketed/strikethrough material to be deleted; underlined material to be added):

Council shall publish its minutes and proceedings. If [~~one-fourth~~] a majority of the Representatives present so request, the minutes shall include a record of those Representatives voting for and against a motion. If [~~one-fourth~~] a majority of the Representatives present so request, the Recording Secretary shall record in the minutes a brief description of majority and minority positions on any given Council action. Meetings of Council, except those specifically designated as executive sessions, shall be open to Members of the Association, but they may not speak or otherwise participate in the meeting unless specifically invited to do so by the President.

The Board voted to recommend that Council approve the following amendments to Association Rule 30-2 to take effect, if and when, the Bylaws amendments are approved (bracketed/strikethrough material to be deleted; underlined material to be added):

30-2.1 An affirmative vote of [~~25%~~] a majority of the members attending a Council meeting is required to order a roll call vote on any issue and to require the publication in a designated location on APA's website of the votes on any motion before Council.

D. The Board provided feedback on a presentation outlining APA's multi-level approach to AI. Grounded in Council's 2024 AI policy, the presentation highlighted examples of how the organization is leveraging AI internally, supporting the field in effectively using and navigating AI, and addressing the broader societal implications of this technology.

E. In executive session, the Board voted to approve actions related to APA's ongoing efforts to counter antisemitism. An update about the association's continued work to combat antisemitism, including several actions that have been approved by the Board of Directors, was posted on APA's webpage and distributed to Council members and Division leaders on June 19, 2026.

VII. PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

No items.

VIII. CONVENTION AFFAIRS

No items.

IX. EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

A.(6) The Board voted to recommend that Council approve the following amendments to Association Rule 120-5.1 (bracketed/strikethrough material to be deleted; underlined material to be added):

120-5. COMMITTEE OF TEACHERS OF PSYCHOLOGY IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

120-5.1 There shall be an American Psychological Association of Teachers of Psychology in Secondary Schools (TOPSS) Committee whose mission shall be to (a) promote the highest standards in the teaching of Psychology both as a science and discipline; (b) promote professional development and other means for lifelong learning for high school teachers of psychology; (c) increase professional identity and promote leadership for high school teachers of psychology; (d) facilitate networking, including the formation of both horizontal and vertical linkages, among teachers from all teaching levels of psychology; (e) encourage recruitment and retention of students~~[, particularly minorities, in the field of]~~ in psychology; (f) enhance the visibility and legitimacy of high school psychology within the American Psychological Association; (g) enhance the visibility and legitimacy of high school psychology with other members of the psychological community and in the community at large; (h) recommend the appropriate response to advocacy, education policy, and certification issues that impact on the quality or viability of teaching of high school psychology.

The voting members of the TOPSS Committee shall consist of seven members, who serve staggered three-year terms. The other members of the TOPSS Committee, who shall serve ex-officio without a vote, shall be composed of two college faculty advisors who serve three-year terms and one liaison from the BEA. All voting members of the Committee must be high school teacher affiliates of the association.

Each year, a call for nominations for the three open positions that will become vacant in the following year shall be broadly disseminated. Following the call, the committee shall prepare a slate of candidates for each position and hold an election in which all TOPSS affiliates are eligible to vote. ~~[Following the election, the results of the election shall be forwarded to the Board of Educational Affairs and the Board of Directors for final approval.]~~

The TOPSS Committee shall report to Council through the APA Board of Educational Affairs.

B.(7) The Board voted to 1) determine that the *Guidelines for Education and Training Competencies for Doctoral-Level Psychology Practice in Primary Care* pose no undue risk to the Association and 2) refer the item to the Council Leadership Team for a content review and to make a recommendation to Council.

C.(8) The Board voted to recommend that Council approve the revisions to the APA Commission on Accreditation (CoA) Implementing Regulations (IR) A.1.

X. PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS

A.(9) The Board voted to 1) determine that the proposed *Professional Practice Guidelines for Diagnosis of Intellectual Disability in Forensic Settings* pose no undue risk to the Association and 2) refer the item to the Council Leadership Team for a content review and to make a recommendation to Council.

B.(10) The Board was informed of the Publications and Communications Board's recent adoption of a publishing policy prohibiting members of the APA Board of Directors and Council of Representatives and staff from proposing or editing sections or special issues of APA -owned journals. This policy is intended to preserve editorial independence and avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

C. In executive session, the Board voted to support the formation of a workgroup to consider and develop the specific exemption language for individuals with doctoral degrees in psychology under Section J.1 of APA's Model State Licensure Act (Model Act) with the work group's final recommendations to come back to the Board for approval in advance of the Model Act being considered for adoption by the Council of Representatives in 2027.

XI. SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

No items.

XII. PUBLIC INTEREST

No .

XIII. ETHNIC MINORITY AFFAIRS

No items.

XIV. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

No items.

XV. CENTRAL OFFICE

No items.

XVI. FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

No items.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTION TAKEN BY UNANIMOUS WRITTEN CONSENT IN LIEU OF A MEETING

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Board Members Absent: None.

The Board confirmed the following action by unanimous written consent in lieu of a meeting:

In late June, the Board voted to approve the appointment of the following five members to the Advisory Steering Committee (ASC) for Development of Clinical Practice Guidelines:

- Stephanie Budge, PhD, LCP
- Kenneth Critchfield, PhD
- Patty Kuo, PhD
- Susan Raffa, PhD
- Nili Solomonov, PhD