



AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
of GRADUATE STUDENTS

APAGS Fall Consolidated Call (Parts 1-3)

Part 1- September 5, 2025

Part 2- September 24, 2025

Part 3- September 26, 2025

Minutes

Part 1 Minutes

Participants

APAGS Executive Committee: Ana Urena Rosario (Chair), Lamia Bagasrawala (Chair-Elect), Aldo Barrita (Past Chair)

Members-at-Large: Jasmine Bigelow, Vanessa Anyanso, Dan O'Connell, Jenee Edgerton

Subcommittee Chairs and Vice Chairs: Devon Kardel (ACT), Whitney Skippings (CARED), Marianne Chirica (Science), Kaley Davis (Science)

APA Staff: Wendy R. Williams, Heather Dade, TiShawn Polk

Executive Session Discussion

- Discussion about APAGS Award recommendations to the Board of Directors.
- Vote: Student Diversity Award, suggest to the Board of Directors to sunset, pause, or continue this award. Keep and recommend changes: 78%, Stop and Remove from website: 0, Pause for 2-3 years, update online language: 23%

Main Motion: Recommend to the APA Board of Directors to keep the award with recommended language changes.

Motion passes.

Discussion of CoR Updates

- Update provided on a variety of Council of Representatives (CoR) Business Items from the August meeting including items regarding Master's Professionals and policy related to higher education

Discussion about EPPP

- Update provided: APA passed a resolution to authorize an expert panel to write a statement on the EPPP and fairness in testing. APAGS Chair is a participant on panel and will update APAGS as the work progresses.
- EPPP Town Hall Sept 18th. APAGS leaders are encouraged to attend.

Social Media Working Group

- Group met on September 4th to generate ideas about how to best move forward with APAGS social media
- The group considered questions about audience, APAGS members versus grad students, and brought forward several ideas including highlighting work that is already being done, informing students on what we do, introducing APAGS leadership, highlighting work that subcommittees are doing, highlighting award winners, a student of the month campaign, posts that coincide with specific months (e.g., Suicide awareness month), and other broad ideas.
- The group suggests that the work continue into next year and to consider a mandate that leaders will contribute 1-2 posts per year.

Executive Session Discussion - Elections Committee

- Discussion among Elections Committee about timelines and processes for the upcoming APAGS election.

Part 2 Minutes

Participants

Executive Committee: Ana Urena Rosario (Chair), Lamia Bagasrawala (Chair-Elect), Aldo Barrita (Past Chair)

Members-at-Large: Vanessa Anyanso, Jasmine Bigelow, Dan O'Connell, Brianna Baker

Subcommittee: Kaley Davis, Vardha Kharbanda, Marianne Chirica, Nerissa Germain- Cronister, Megha Nagaswami

Guests: Elizabeth Louis (APAGS Liaison from the Board of Directors), Bianca Bonds

Staff: Wendy R. Williams, Heather Dade, Shawn Polk

Guest Visitor: Kenneth Polishchuk, APA Advocacy Office

Discussion about APA Advocacy efforts and the impact of current legislation on training and funding for students. Proposed next steps and information on how students will be able to get involved in APA Advocacy efforts.

APAGS 2026 work plan

- 1) Continuation of items from 2025: Increase engagement of graduate students; maintain high level of contributions to APA's work on comments, resolutions, guidelines, etc. and liaison work
- 2) Other anticipated work items for APAGS: P&P Self Study
- 3) Ideas for 2026 work plan:
 - Pathways into the profession—developing resources to help students get into and through graduate school
 - Student leadership – resources to support students getting into leadership positions
 - Financial wellness and advocacy – graduate school affordability, ways to revise the APAGS FEES tool or other advocacy around financial literacy.
 - Discussed if this need to be a separate bucket or can this be integrated into #2?

- Promoting psychological science – importance of highlighting the role of science and research in psychology, especially with current sociopolitical climate.

Discussion included (a) support for #1, considering that there are lots of barriers to get into grad school, with more likely coming due to current financial barriers, (b) a suggestion for mentorship pairing for leaders to work with undergrads or new grad students or a mentorship catalogue that compiles resources for mentoring, and (c) general support for all four items.

Next steps: Survey will come from Lamia asking members to rank ideas and propose additional ideas

Grad School affordability

This agenda item was tabled until after a determination of the 2026 workplan was complete.

Part 3 Minutes

Participants

Executive Committee: Ana Urena Rosario (Chair), Lamia Bagasrawala (Chair-Elect)

Members-at-Large: Yly Morales, Dan O’Connell, Vanessa Anyanso

Subcommittee Chairs/Vice Chairs: Whitney Skippings (CARED), Tom Schlechter (CSOGD), Devon Kardel (ACT), Marisa Moorhouse (Convention), Megha Nagaswami (ACT)

APA Staff: Wendy R. Williams, Heather Dade, Aliza Epstein (APA Governance Office), Shawn Polk

Students from APA Boards and Committees: Soonyoung Kim, Lakeiya Dulcio, Janelle Farias,

Guest Speaker: Dr. Amy Silberbogen, Chair of APPIC

APPIC Discussion

Discussion with Dr. Silberbogen about APPIC’s mission and vision, how APPIC centers student voices, and the upcoming match fee increase in 2026. Dr. Silberbogen’s slides will be shared with all invited guests.

Discussion with Student Seats:

- APAGS Check in with Student Seats – how are things going? Anything needed from APAGS?
- Request for minutes from Wednesday’s (Part 2 Meeting)- Ana will share with students seats
- General appreciation for invitation from APAGS --would like to stay connected with APAGS.

Discussion of Student Diversity Award

- Voted previously to recommend to the Board to keep the award
- Will need to update language on the web page.
- Charged now with finalizing the title of the award
- Proposed Title from the EC: APAGS Student Diversity Initiative Award: Institutional Excellence in Graduate Training
- Vote to support the title change.

Main motion: Update the title of the APAGS Student Diversity Award to “APAGS Student Diversity Initiative Award: Institutional Excellence in Graduate Training.”
Motion passes.