

Office of Strategic Programs APAGS Annual Report

The [American Psychological Association of Graduate Students \(APAGS\)](#) aspires to achieve the highest quality graduate training experience for the next generation of scientific innovators, expert practitioners, and visionary leaders in psychology. As the largest organized group of psychology graduate students worldwide, the APAGS mission is to build a better future for psychology by serving as a united voice to enrich and advocate for graduate student development.

In 2013, APAGS adopted a new three-tiered strategic plan to help guide its activities. These goals represent APAGS' main objectives and helps determine which activities APAGS pursues and which resources to develop. The first goal is to end the internship crisis. APAGS advocates for an APA-accredited internship for each student from an APA-accredited doctoral program. The second goal is to create powerful training opportunities for scientists, and our third is to create a culture of leadership in psychology. What follows are APAGS 2016 activities guided by its mission, vision, and strategic plan.

Internship

The psychology internship crisis remains a top priority for APAGS. Liaisons have attended the [Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers](#) (APPIC) and [Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards](#) (ASPPB) meetings to advocate for Medicaid reimbursement for psychology services delivered by psychology interns. In addition, APAGS continues to advocate for the Graduate Psychology Education (GPE) program. APAGS hosts an internship series at Convention for health service psychology students.

TPS Journal



The journal [Translational Issues in Psychological Science \(TPS\)](#) continues to be a proud accomplishment for APAGS. First published in 2015, TPS is unique in that each issue is based on a different theme within psychological science; each issue is led by a Special-Issues Editor working with a team of associate editors who are advanced pre-doctoral or early postdoctoral scholars; and each article has at least one senior scientist and one student author.

In 2016, there were 38 peer reviewed articles published in four issues: [The Psychology of Trauma](#) (December 2016); [Psychological Advances in Social Media](#) (September 2016); [Incentives and Motivation](#) (June 2016) and [The Psychology of Humor](#) (March 2016).

Stats:

Number of new manuscripts received:	61
Number of revisions received:	82
Rejection rate:	47.1%

Grants

APAGS gave away more than \$38,000 in grant and award funding in 2016 and awarded more than 35 research grants. Funded research topics included racial discrimination and internalizing psychopathology,

emotion dysregulation among individuals with borderline personality disorder, histone deacetylase inhibition and amphetamine self-administration, identity threats and prejudice, and executive functioning among low and high SES preschoolers.

Stats:

Number of applications for grants and awards: 450
Number of applications for Psychological Science Research Grant: 230
Number of applications for APAGS/Psi Chi Junior Scientist Fellowship: 63

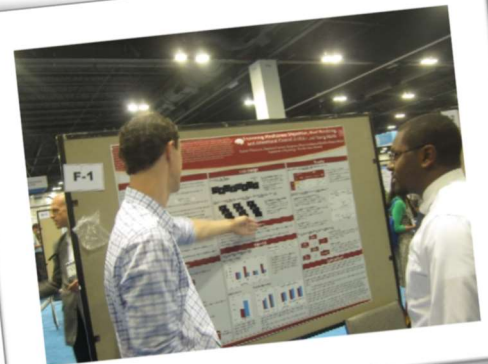


Leadership

APAGS inaugurated its Leadership Institute this year. This became a popular program, as 79 members applied for 5 positions. The selected participants were offered \$500 in reimbursement to attend the 2016 APA Convention, paired with an ECP mentor, participated in a series of webinars on leadership, and developed a leadership project.

Convention

Each year, APAGS accepts and develops more than 20 sessions for students at the annual APA Convention. The 2017 APA Convention was held in Denver, Colorado and there were more than # [waiting on info from Candy] APAGS members in attendance. APAGS co-sponsored a late-breaking poster session (with 152 proposal submissions) with the [APA Science Directorate](#) and invited diverse speakers to participate in our Food for Thought series which were posted [live](#) on Facebook and had over 1000 views.



Stats:

Number of submissions for Late Breaking Poster Session: 152
Number of acceptances: 40
Average attendance regular convention programs: 68
Average attendance suite Food for Thought programs: 42
Average attendance suite programs: 15

Webinars (Membership, Education, Division 45)

Graduate students enjoy access to numerous webinars with their membership in APAGS. APAGS hosted the following webinars in 2016:

- Introduction to Social Network Analysis in Psychology – April 2016 (collaboration with Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues)

- Applying to Psychology Doctoral Programs 101 for Students of Color – May, October, November 2016 (Collaboration with Society for the Psychological Study of Culture, Ethnicity and Race and APA Office on Ethnic Minority Affairs)
- High Cost of Helping: Graduate Student Debt in Psychology – July 2016 (collaboration with APA Membership Directorate)
- Measuring True Change over Time: An Autoregressive Latent Trajectory Analysis – August 2016 (collaboration with Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues)
- Emerging Career Paths for Psychology Graduate Students – October 2016 (collaboration with Membership and Education Directorates at APA)

Papers on Student Debt

Two papers published by APAGS staff and former committee members examined the current status of graduate student debt in psychology. Recent graduates report delaying milestones such as buying a home or starting a family due to debt.

Doran, J. M., Kraha, A., Marks, L. R., Ameen, E. J., & El-Ghoroury, N. H. (2016). Graduate debt in psychology: A quantitative analysis. *Training and Education in Professional Psychology, 10*, 3-13. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/tep0000112>

Doran, J. M., Reid Marks, L., Kraha, A., Ameen, E. J., & El-Ghoroury, N. H. (2016). Graduate debt in psychology: A qualitative analysis. *Training and Education in Professional Psychology, 10*, 179-187. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/tep0000132>

Stats:

Percentage of recent graduates who have any graduate student loan: 78.7%

Median anticipated debt of current grad students:

- All doctorates in psychology \$110,000
- Research and other fields \$72,500
- Health Service Psychology \$120,000
- PhD students \$75,000
- PsyD students \$160,000

LGBT Mentoring

The [APAGS Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity](#) (CSOGD) offers a year-long [mentoring program](#) for LGBT graduate students in psychology to be mentored by colleagues who share similar interests, experiences, and goals. In 2016, APAGS matched 63 graduate students with mentors.

APAGS has worked hard to increase its social media presence in 2016.

APAGS initiated an [Instagram Account](#) and quickly amassed 1075 followers within a year, by using various campaigns and contests to engage members. One of our most popular pictures was a repost from the APA Public Interest Directorate with a quote from President-Elect Dr. Jessica Henderson Daniel.

The [APAGS Facebook page](#) currently has 110,000 followers.

The APAGS Twitter account (@APAGradStudents) has 7,659 followers.

The [gradPSYCH blog](#) solicited student guest contributors throughout 2016. There were more than 50 guest contributors that provided content for gradPSYCH Blog last year.



- 1) [Being an Undergrad Isn't Like Being a Grad Student](#) (12,770 views)
- 2) [Match Day: The Best of Times, The Worst of Times](#) (6180 views)
- 3) [Tips for Interviewing for Internship by Dr. Mitch Prinstein](#) (3319 views)
- 4) [How to Ace Your Internship Essays](#) (3265 views)
- 5) [What's Your House in Psychology Game of Thrones](#) (2904 views)