

What is APAGS?

- APAGS is the voice of student concerns within APA
- Our mission is to build a better future for psychology by serving as a united voice to enrich and advocate for graduate student development
- All graduate students who join APA as student affiliates are APAGS members
- Approximately 30,000 members (about a third of APA membership), led by committee of 14 students
- Five specialized subcommittees include:
 - Advocacy Coordinating Team
 - Committee on LGBT Concerns
 - Convention Committee
 - Science Committee
 - Committee for the Advancement of Racial and Ethnic Diversity

The future of psychology begins here



The APAGS Division Student Representative Network

- A free, virtual network that connects student leaders of APA divisions where they can
 - Connect with other student leaders in divisions and in APAGS
 - Share activities their division is doing for students, and collaborate on joint projects
 - Consult about member recruitment and retention best practices
 - Further develop leadership skills
- To appoint a student leader to the APAGS DSRN, or see who we have listed for your Division, go to <http://www.apa.org/apags/governance/division-reps/default.aspx>

APAGS Division of the Year Award

- This \$1500 cash award recognizes a division of APA for superior performance in promoting graduate student development, involvement, and joint APAGS/APA division membership.
- A qualified division must demonstrate an exemplary level of commitment to providing opportunities for graduate student development, including
 - actively incorporating students and student issues into the governance and activities of the Division,
 - developing and implementing innovative programs that target the needs of students,
 - promoting joint APAGS/APA Division membership,
 - encouraging socialization of student into the profession, and
 - helping students to shape their own professional identity.
- Applications are due annually in May. At least one APAGS member and one division member must collaborate. See details at: <http://www.apa.org/about/awards/apags-outstand.aspx>

Three Unique Characteristics of Graduate Students

- **Students stand on one side of the digital divide**
 - Very active in social networking (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, etc.)
 - Students often have different concerns about privacy than professionals; used to sharing more about themselves online
- **Concerned about their future careers**
 - Internship crisis and debt load upon graduating
 - Funding availability and faculty positions
 - Impact of economy on job outlook
- **Concerned about work-life balance**

Three Strategies to Recruit Graduate Students

- **Show me the money!**
 - Offer grants and awards that require membership
- **Publication**
 - Create opportunities for student involvement, writing and editing
- **Reduced dues for students**
 - Make it easy for students to join.

Three Strategies to Retain Graduate Students

- **Opportunities for leadership**
 - Have a student Committee/Section/Group
 - Nominate a student to the APAGS Division Student Representative Network
- **Networking**
 - Create a virtual community on a commonly used social network / listserv
 - Monitor community (including board) to keep welcoming attitude towards students
 - Provide a student-friendly social hour at convention
- **Communication**
 - Inform students about what the division is doing to help students

