

**Minutes for the TOPSS Committee Zoom Meeting
May 15, 2023, 7:30 PM Eastern time**

Participating on call: Terri Lindenberg, Virginia Welle, Natasha Alson, Julie Gowans, Emily Polacek, Tony Puente, Jennifer Thompson, Debra Kawahara, Jenni Redifer, Emily Leary Chesnes, Aliza Epstein, Sue Orsillo

Unable to participate: Dana Melone, Melissa Rogers

The call began with a brief discussion of the new TOPSS video, which will be shared with the full committee soon. The few members who had already viewed the video noted that the video is useful, even if it is long (over 6 minutes). Members mentioned that adding minute markers to the video would be helpful, to direct teachers to content of interest.

Infusing anti-racism, social justice, and diversity topics in TOPSS work in 2023

TOPSS was asked to develop a prioritized list of actions to take to infuse anti-racism, social justice, and diversity topics in TOPSS work throughout the year. The Committee discussed the following question:

What policies or practices might help TOPSS ensure that all newly developed resources and professional development programs reflect anti-racism, social justice, and diversity topics in 2023?

- EDI should be considered in lesson plan development. Separate diversity reviews used to be conducted on all lesson plans before publication but now authors are told that issues of equity, diversity, and inclusions should be infused across the lesson plan.
- EDI is included in one of the National Standards integrated themes (“Psychology values diversity, promotes equality, and fosters inclusion in pursuit of a more just society”).
- A member mentioned that these issues have been considered during some of the undergraduate efforts through APA (e.g., the APA Introductory Psychology Initiative and the undergraduate major guidelines), with the hope of seamlessly integrating EDI into these resources or efforts.
- A suggestion was made to see if EDI is included in the revision to the summit vetting rubric.
 - Next steps: Staff will check to see if or how this is included in the template and follow up with the Committee if new language is needed.
- Diversity has been included in the TOPSS teaching award call (in the required personal statement), but could be considered for future student competitions.
 - Next steps: The resources subcommittee will be asked to consider this when discussing the future of the TOPS competition and making plans if needed for 2024.

TOPSS also reviewed its diversity statement and action plan and adding an “understanding” of diversity to the statement was recommended. Draft language will be shared with the committee for review and approval.

An article for the *Psychology Teacher Network* newsletter on the topic of diversity and current issues affecting teachers today was recommended.

Breakout Room Discussion: TOPSS subcommittees

EDI Subcommittee

The subcommittee discussed best way to share the pending TOPSS EDI materials with teachers. Having interactive links to the new resources from the pillars listed in the standards teacher resources page were recommended.

- Next steps: Staff will share this recommendation with the APA web services team.

Promoting Psychology and TOPSS Resources Subcommittee

The subcommittee discussed the following:

- The new standards toolkit would most likely be used by experienced teachers. TOPSS committee members can help promote standards dissemination and adoption within their own states.
- A webinar on writing op eds for newspapers was considered to be a lower priority. Tik Toc videos may be more relevant than op eds.
- Having classroom posters of standards pillar model would be helpful to consider producing.
 - Next steps: Staff will see what possible options are here and share with the subcommittee for feedback and input.

The next call will be held July 17, 2023, at 7:30 PM eastern.