

**Minutes for the TOPSS Committee Zoom Meeting
July 28, 2025, 7:30 PM Eastern time**

Participating on call: Natasha Alston, Michael Berndt, Stephanie Franks, Kari Hall, Melissa Rogers, Joshua Viau, Virginia Welle, Jennifer Thompson, Frank Worrell, Jenni Redifer, Emily Leary Chesnes, Beth Schwartz, Aliza Epstein

Unable to participate: Hideko Sera

Approving May meeting minutes

TOPSS approved minutes from the May 19, 2025, TOPSS Committee meeting.

TOPSS Elections Update

Kari Hall gave an update on the TOPSS election nominees. There are nine member-at-large candidates and one chair-elect candidate this year. The Committee needs to select a new college faculty representative this year and the call for nominees will be discussed on the August call.

Policy and Planning Board Self-Survey Discussion

All APA committees were asked to participate in a self-study this year at the request of APA's Policy and Planning Board. The survey assessed committee functioning in three key domains: (a) Mission, (b) Operations, and (c) Impact. Kari Hall facilitated a committee discussion of the survey results and asked committee members to consider:

1. Tactile goals to improve our work
2. Strategic ideas to support APA's strategic plan
3. Key takeaways

Much of the discussion focused on the Committee nomination process and options for encouraging early career teachers to run for office. Members confirmed plans for 2026 to recruit early career teachers to run for one of the two open member-at-large positions. Continued collaboration with faculty members on APA's Committee on Associate and Baccalaureate Education was mentioned.

While time constraints and political pressures in education were identified as challenges, the survey results generally reflected positive Committee feedback about their work and impact. The Committee should consider how to keep the Committee workload manageable. Committee members noted that TOPSS worked on high-impact activities over the past year.

TOPSS Subcommittees

Committee members broke into two breakout rooms to discuss subcommittee work.

The subcommittee on resources reviewed edits made to the *Teaching Psychology: Where can I get Help?* resource and agreed to make final edits by August 4. The group also discussed the ongoing call for pacing calendars.

The professional development and regional teaching networks subcommittee considered the workplan goal to develop guidelines for professional development and issues related to regional teaching networks.

Next TOPSS Calls

The next planned call will be held Monday, August 18, at 7:30 PM eastern, unless the Committee decides to hold two shorter calls in August.