

Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs 2025 Annual Report

Members: David Zelaya, PhD (Chair); Judith Arroyo, PhD (Vice-Chair); Amoneeta Beckstein, PhD, Lakeiya Dulcio, MS, Bernadette Devantes Heckman, PhD, Nolan Krueger, PhD, Wendy Peters, PhD

The Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA) advanced its mission throughout 2025 by contributing subject-matter expertise, strengthening cross-committee collaborations, and elevating psychological science centered on race and ethnicity. Guided by APA's strategic priorities and the Five Connections Framework for Human Rights, CEMA continued to promote equity, inclusion, and culturally grounded psychological knowledge across the association.

Monitoring Trends and Advancing Expertise in the Psychological Science of Race and Ethnicity

CEMA remained committed to staying current with contemporary developments and strengthened its leadership role within APA by offering expertise, building meaningful partnerships, and advancing psychological science and expertise across APA programs, governance groups, and initiatives.

- Contributed subject-matter expertise to the *Strategies for Inclusive Mentoring in Cognitive Science Toolkit*, designed to support mentors, educators, and allies working to foster inclusive environments for historically excluded and minoritized students.
- Maintained active relationships with APA divisions and governance partners, who were regularly invited to attend CEMA meetings and engage in ongoing dialogue.
- Reviewed and provided expert feedback on eighteen (18) calls for comment, including new business items (NBIs), public comments, and guideline revisions.

Influencing and Promoting Psychological Science on Issues Central to Race and Ethnicity

CEMA advanced the visibility, application, and impact of psychological science focused on race and ethnicity across APA and the broader field.

- Partnered with the Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity (CSOGD), Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP), APAGS-CARED, APA

Advocacy, Division 45, and Division 35 to co-host the 2025 CEMA Networking Breakfast during the APA Convention in Seattle, WA.

- Reviewed 31 dissertation abstract submissions and selected the winner of the 2025 Jeffrey S. Tanaka Memorial Dissertation Award in Psychology.
- Presented the 2025 Tanaka Award to **Dr. Shawntell Pace** for the dissertation, *Finding Minagåhet: The Mental Health Implication of CHamoru Cultural Knowledge Among People of CHamoru Descent*. Dr. Pace shared an overview of her findings during the convention breakfast and was invited to a subsequent monthly CEMA meeting to further discuss her research.

Advancing Human Rights and DEI by Addressing Bias, Stigma, and Discrimination

CEMA continued to elevate human rights and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion through culturally grounded programming and collaborative action through targeted programming, research review, advocacy engagement, and collaborative planning.

- Organized the 2025 CEMA Professional Development Breakfast, featuring greetings from the APA CEO and Chief Diversity Officer, a cultural opening, and a cross-committee panel discussion titled “*Survivance*.” Panelists represented CEMA, CWP, CSOGD, and Division 45.
- Submitted an abstract for consideration in a special issue of *American Psychologist*, expanding on the theme from the “*Survivance*” panel discussion.
- Maintained strong engagement with APA Advocacy through a designated standing agenda item on monthly CEMA calls, allowing Advocacy staff to share policy updates and request CEMA’s expertise on issues impacting racial and ethnic minority communities.

Collaboration with BAPPI and the Public Interest Committees

CEMA played an integral role in cross-committee strategic planning and human rights work in alignment with APA’s Public Interest priorities.

- Participated in one of eight Public Interest Collaborative Workgroups, composed of BAPPI, the PI committees, and the Committee on Global Psychology.

- Participated in the Public Interest/ BAPPI priority-setting workshop to identify critical societal issues and provide culturally informed insights and actionable recommendations.
- Contributed to the development of the FY25–26 Public Interest Workplan by providing race- and ethnicity-focused subject-matter expertise to guide cross-committee efforts.