



Board of Professional Affairs

Friday, May 2, 2025 2-3pm ET

Virtual Meeting MINUTES

<https://apa-org.zoom.us/j/98949106059>

BPA members:

Ravi Prasad, PhD, Chair (2023-2025)
Catherine C. Vieira-Baker, PhD, Vice Chair
(2023-2025)
Tiffany Brown, PhD (2025-2027)
Nicolle Cai, MA (2025-2027)
*Charles D. Callahan, PhD, MBA, ABPP, FACHE
(2023-2025)
*Michelle Casimir, PsyD, ABPP (2025-2027)

Kamieka O.S. Gabriel, PhD (2023-2025)
April Harris-Britt, PhD (2024-2026)
*Paul Korte, PhD (2025-2027)
Janine M. Jones, PhD (2024-2026)
*Paul W. Kettlewell, PhD, ABPP (2024-2026)
*Krithika Malhotra, PhD (2024-2026)
Eric Russ, PhD (2025)
Theresa Schultz, PhD (2025-2027))

Practice Team Staff:

Lynn Bufka, PhD, ABPP, Head of Practice
Robin McLeod, PhD, Senior Director for Strategic Relations & Leadership
Marnie Shanbhag, PhD, Senior Director for Independent Practice

Additional invited APA staff:

Deborah Baker, JD, Head of Professional Legal and Regulatory Affairs
*Aliza Epstein, Director, Elections & Volunteer Leadership

Liaisons:

*Mary Ann McCabe, PhD, ABPP, APA Board of Directors Liaison
*Rhonda Allen, PhD, APA Board of Directors Liaison
Teri Strong, PhD, former BPA Chair, BPA-appointed MLA-TF member
Bhupin Butaney, PhD, ABPP, BPA-appointed MLA-TF member

* = not present

Meeting called to order at 2:01pm Eastern Time

AI-generated **SUMMARY** of the meeting (edited for accuracy): The meeting focused on discussing the MLA Task Force meeting updates and feedback, with a particular emphasis on the challenges in moving forward with the MLA Task Force's work and the need for more direction from senior leadership. The group also discussed the integration of master's level

professionals into the psychology field, including the need for clear differentiation between master's and doctoral level professionals and the importance of defining competence in assessment. The conversation ended with a discussion on the potential benefits of having master's level professionals in the field and the need for further clarification on the differentiation and lines within the profession of psychology.

1. Dr. Prasad called the meeting to order and welcomed participants.
2. Dr. Prasad provided a frame for the meeting and led a discussion of possibly establishing a separate task force to address issues related to the practice of applied psychology, allowing the MLA-TF currently convened to focus on the practice of health service psychology. Dr. Vieira-Baker agreed to draft a relevant motion to be voted on via email ballot. All agreed that the work of this group should be done in close coordination with CAGAP.

MOTION made by Dr. Vieira-Baker after the meeting and sent via email to BPA members: BPA will form a task force to explore and make recommendations to BPA regarding relevant issues and licensure/regulatory needs associated with practicing applied psychology for individuals with both master's and doctoral degrees. (Motion **approved unanimously** via email on 5/8/2025.)

3. Dr. Prasad facilitated discussion of the MLA-TF to clarify BPA's guidance to the TF's work.

AI-generated **SUMMARY** of the discussion (edited for accuracy): Participants discussed the need for clear differentiation between master's and doctoral level professionals, with some expressing concerns about the potential future impact on practicing doctoral psychologists as the profession transforms. The group also discussed the importance of defining competence in psychological assessment and the need for a clear scope of practice for master's level professionals that is distinct from the scope for psychologists. The conversation ended with a discussion on the benefits of having master's level professionals in the profession, including their ability to provide services independently and their distinct role in health service psychology.

4. Dr. Prasad facilitated discussion of an email sent by the MLA-TF leaders with the goal of providing responses to their specific questions requesting clarification regarding issues that impact the psychology profession. All agreed that a memo to senior APA leadership clarifying key issues and providing information on plans for how to move forward would be warranted. Dr. Prasad stressed his perspective that gaining clarity on and a recognition that as APA works toward a multi-tiered profession, it would be prudent to address additional potential unintended consequences as a natural step in a strategic change process.

Other questions from the TF leaders were discussed and answers provided when available.

5. Dr. Prasad thanked participants for attending the meeting, noting that he would be sending a response to the MLA-TF leaders, and that discussion of several of the pending issues will be added to the BPA meeting agenda later this month.

Meeting adjourned at 3:07pmET