



AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

*The Division of State,
Provincial & Territorial
Psychological Association Affairs*

2023 Officers

PRESIDENT (2023)

Paul T. Korte, Ph.D.
Harry Truman Mem. Veterans' Hospital
800 Hospital Drive (BH)
Columbia, MO 65201
Phone: 573-355-2084
pkorte@palcoaltou.edu

PRESIDENT-ELECT (2023)

Mayra Zoe Ortiz, PsyD
645 Water Garden Way
Roswell, GA 30075
Phone: 917-363-5706
Zoe07470@gmail.com

PAST PRESIDENT (2023)

Elena Eisman, EdD
25 Clover Way
Eastham, MA 02642
Phone: 617-680-5302
elena.eisman@gmail.com

SECRETARY (2021-23)

Tyler Bradstreet, PhD
2503 6th Street
Lubbock, TX 79409
Phone: 903-631-9319
tyler.bradstreet@ttu.edu

TREASURER (2023-2025)

Nanci Klein, PhD
265 East 100 South, Suite 275
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
Phone: 801-350-0116
nklein@sisna.com

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (2023-25)

Michele McKinnie, PsyD
1648 Ellis Street #302
Bozeman, MT 59715
Phone: 406-582-1321
michelecatherine@hotmail.com

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (2021-23)

Lawrence Perlman, PhD
623 W. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Phone: 73-846-7949
perlman44@gmail.com

APA COUNCIL REP (2023-25)

Chuck Hollister, Ph.D.
1051 S Freemont Avenue
Springfield, MO 65804
Phone: 417-227-0960
chuckatmopa@gmail.com

CESPPA REP (2022-24)

Danna Fowble, CCM, IOM
PO Box 1585

Norman, OK 73070

Phone: 405-664-0270

okpsychassociation@gmail.com

STUDENT REP (2020-22)

Erika Brink Mesojednik, PsyD
55 Beechwood Dr., Cornish, NH 03745
emesojednik@hanovercbt.com

Focus on 31

Summer 2023 • Volume 55 • Issue 2

Collaboration with SPTA Governance Groups



**By Paul
Korte, PhD
Division 31
President**

This year, Division 31 initiated a meeting between our Division, the Council of Executives of State and Provincial Psychological Associations (CESPPA), the Committee of State Leaders (CSL), and the Caucus of SPTA Representatives within APA's Council of Representatives. This may be the first time these groups have all come together to focus on our common goal of working for the betterment of our SPTAs with plans for ongoing meetings to maintain our connection to one another.

For those engaged with governance, or have maintained a watchful eye, there is an ongoing challenge in maintaining the SPTA voice in the larger APA world. We see examples where SPTAs have been overlooked, where APA may have acted without consultation with a local SPTA, and most recently recommendations to eliminate SPTA voices on APA's Council of Representatives. I believe we've

generally done well with our relationship with the APA's Practice Directorate but have struggled to form stronger relationships with the other branches of APA. By strengthening our partnership with the other SPTA-oriented governance groups, we can better coordinate our efforts and demonstrate greater unity in our voices for SPTAs. As an example, CESPPA included Division 31 in presenting to APA's Advocacy Coordinating Committee to further advocate for the role of SPTAs in APA and psychology's larger advocacy agenda. We know that advocacy is local and that so much policy occurs at the state, provincial, and territorial level.

APA needs SPTAs and SPTAs need APA. APA needs SPTAs for the grassroots advocacy and local presence when policy makers address issues of which psychology has expertise. Licensure and practice issues occur at the state, provincial, and territorial level and unfortunately the rise of anti-EDI legislation is occurring in these local jurisdictions more so than at the federal level. SPTAs need APA for access to grants, educational

SPTA Governance Collaboration

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“Come Gather ‘Round People, Wherever You Roam”



**By Pat
De Leon,
PhD,
former APA
President**

A National and International Priority: As reported by the USPHS Surgeon General and numerous health policy organizations, including reports from the National Academy of Medicine (NAM), our nation is facing an unprecedented demand for quality mental health services, especially among children and youth. This is also evident in the underlying policy discussions regarding effectively addressing Health Disparities and the growing realization of the importance of ensuring that everyone receives timely, patient-centered holistic care. Personally, it has become increasingly evident that we must especially focus upon assuring equitable *access to care* as a national priority. This would include affirmatively embracing telehealth services, licensure mobility (40 jurisdictions have now joined the Psychological Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT)), Psychology Connect (the National Register’s national psychology matching service [<https://connect.nationalregister.org>]), and developing mental health extenders for psychology and psychiatric nurses (similar to the role today of Physician and Dental Assistants).

Perhaps most intriguing is taking a serious look at whether

our traditional training models could be significantly modified, as proposed by former University Deans Morgan Sammons and Ron Levant (2005 APA President). Could not psychology’s underlying training efforts be shortened, updated, and crafted more specifically toward providing targeted clinical care? In response to our colleagues’ suggestion, former APA President Joe Matarazzo has called for a high-level APA taskforce. As another former APA President, I was stunned by my own inability recently to find a therapist for several close friends located in different regions of the country.

To collectively ignore this thoughtful proposal by Morgan and Ron would not only be socially irresponsible, but I believe would ultimately result in the other health professions or service delivery systems or payors creatively developing their own version of what they feel would best address the national need for a significantly expanded mental health workforce. The pandemic has provided visionary leaders with an exciting opportunity to “make a difference.” Fighting to maintain the status quo and to ignore this growing national priority is simply unacceptable for any learned profession.

National Academy of Medicine: This year NAM released its publication *A History of the National Academy of Medicine: 50 Years of Transformational Leadership*. President Victor Dzau: “But we cannot and will not rest on our laurels. As rapid developments in science, technology, and communication transform the social

landscape and climate change, infectious disease, and inequities fuel new threats to health, the unique contributions of the IOM/NAM are just as vital, if not more so, than 50 years ago. Decision makers at every level – within governments, organizations, communities, and households – need evidence-based solutions that support equitable good health. More than that, they need decisive leadership and innovative strategies to anticipate the formidable challenges of the future and ensure that everyone benefits from exponential gains in knowledge.... (o)ur legacy will be one of action.”

Founded in 1970 as the Institute of Medicine (IOM), the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) is one of the three academies that make up the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (the National Academies) in the United States. Operating under the 1863 Congressional Charter of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academies are private, nonprofit institutions that work outside of government to provide objective advice on matters of science and health. From its beginning, IOM (now NAM) has been interdisciplinary oriented, with an emphasis upon data-based decision making. It recognizes the intricate connections across evidence, quality, and value; the critical importance of catalyzing change across health care systems; and that achieving a learning health care system requires access to high-quality data from defined quality measures which focuses

Come Gather ‘Round
Continued on page 10

Division 31 Project Enjoys Success Since 2009



**Jennifer Kelly,
PhD, ABPP
Past President
APA**

The Diversity Leadership Program, sponsored by the Division of State, Provincial and Territorial Association Affairs (Division 31) has been held prior to the Practice Leadership Conference since 2009. The primary purpose of the program is to provide leadership development training to psychologists of color with the goal of assisting the Diversity Delegates to advance into leadership positions within their SPTA and APA.

The program was initially developed to expand upon the noted successes of the Diversity Initiative of the Committee of State Leaders (CSL). At that time, although there had been progress with the initiative over the years (e.g., a number of the delegates had moved into leadership and governance positions within their SPTA and APA), it was felt that the initiative was not progressing at the rate anticipated. The organizers of the program believed there remained a disconnect between Diversity Delegates and SPTAs that limited the Initiative from achieving maximal success. Subsequently, the program was initiated to assist the Diversity Delegates in becoming leaders within their SPTAs, serving on the Executive Committee of their SPTAs, and becoming more active in APA governance.

In discussing the initiative with the Diversity Delegates a number of them noted their challenges and concerns about moving into governance. They felt the challenges were primarily twofold:

1. Developing the confidence to become successful leaders within the SPTA. Diversity Delegates bring significant strengths and experiences (e.g., successfully completing the requirements for a doctoral degree, maintaining a successful practice, or gaining academic tenure); however, they cited a need for specialized training combining general leadership skills with a targeted focus on governance in psychological associations.
2. Building an alliance with experienced SPTA leaders that mentor movement into the leadership track. The Delegates also reported that they sometimes felt isolated and challenged in their efforts to develop, expand, or maintain diversity in their SPTAs. They expressed an interest in finding ways to better connect with the Executive Directors and SPTA leaders and develop a shared vision about diversity.

In order to continue to advance the Diversity Initiative, it was proposed that Division 31 and the Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (OEMA) partner to sponsor the Diversity Leadership Development Workshop. The workshop would coincide with the Practice Leadership Conference. In 2009, APA's Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention, and Training in Psychology (CEMRRAT)

provided partial funding for the first Diversity Leadership Development Workshop. It was organized and facilitated by prominent psychologists with leadership and governance experience. They have an understanding of the challenges that psychologists of color face in becoming leaders within SPTAs and APA. The inaugural faculty were Drs. Sandra Shullman, Jessica Henderson Daniel, Melba Vasquez, and Cathy McDaniels Wilson.

The goals of the leadership development workshop were to:

1. Explore leadership styles and impact of behavioral style on others.
2. Provide knowledge/information needed to facilitate movement into leadership positions within the SPTA.
3. Address readiness/confidence in moving into leadership positions.
4. Address the manner in which being a minority fits into this context.

Eight diversity delegates participated in the first workshop. Because the workshop was considered a success by many, including the participants, the leadership of Division 31 wanted to continue to build upon the success and a second workshop was held in 2011. The goals of the workshop remained the same and The Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs remained a co-sponsor of the event.

The Diversity Leadership Program has been held every two years since 2009, and it continues to grow, and participants have

Diversity Leadership Program

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Div. 31 Hosting Multiple Exciting Programs at APA 2023!



**Kendra
Westerhaus,
PhD
Div. 31
Convention
Chair**

Division 31 is excited to have multiple programs available at the first in-person APA Convention in Washington, DC since before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Consistent with the Division's focus on issues relevant to SPTA's, this year's programming includes sessions on rural healthcare and navigating the current political climate. In addition to Paul Korte's divisional Presidential Address, "How APA and Division 31 are Filing the Gaps in Rural Health" on Friday, August 4th at 1:00pm and the Social Hour and Awards ceremony on Thursday, August 3rd from 6:00pm – 8:00pm, Division 31's program includes:

- "Think Globally, Act Locally: Overcoming Barriers to Integrated Healthcare Around the World" (Co-Chairs Diana Prescott and Nancy Ruddy with a multi-country panel, Thursday, August 3rd, 1:00pm)
- "Connecticut's Social Justice Speaker Series: Ways to Increase Psychologist' Engagement" (Anne Klee, Neda Moinolmolki, and Minnah Farook, Friday, August 4th, 9am)
- "Exploring the Intersectionality of Anti-Semitism in Society/ in APA and How to Effectively Address It" (Beth Rom-Rymer, Ted Kahn, Lenore Walker, and Elena Eisman, Friday, August 4th, 12:00pm) *CE credit available*
- "Current Issues and Needs for State, Provincial, and Territorial Psychological Associations (SPTAs)" (Elena Eisman, Mayra Ortiz, Peter Oppenheimer, and Chuck Hollister, Friday August 4th, 2:00pm)
- "Women's Healthcare in Rural Areas: Empowering Women to Manage Their Health and Reproductive Freedom" (Emily Selby-Nelson, Marlee Layh, and Diana Prescott, Friday, August 4th, 5:00pm) *CE credit available*
- "Utilizing a Psychological Foundation for Engaging Psychologists in Research, Producing Social Media" (Betsy Gard, Joanna Peeler, Rabia Subhani, and Mark Gilson, August 5th, 9:00am)
- "Rural Psychology and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: The Hispanics/Latinx Experience" (Dinelia Rosa and Mayra Ortiz, August 5th, 12:00pm) *CE credit available*
- "Promoting the Growth of Low Budget and Rural SPTAs" (Lawrence Perlman, Paul Korte, Ian King, Paul Ascherman, Amy Safford, Michele McKinnie, August 5th, 2:00pm)
- "Student Leadership 101 in State, Provincial, and Territorial Associations" (Noelle Lefforge, Julie Takishima-Lacasa, Stephanie Miodus, and Cody Kaneshiro, August 5th, 4:00pm) Please see APA's official pro-

gram for more details about these presentations, found at <https://www.xcdsystem.com/apa/program/pBf12Ke/index.cfm?pgid=760>.

We hope to see many of you in person for our social hour and our symposia, skill-building sessions, and critical conversations!

Congratulations to the winners of the Division 31 elections!

We welcome the incoming leadership of:

- **President-Elect**
Ray Folen, PhD
 - **Secretary**
Jeanne Slattery, PhD
 - **Member at Large**
Julie Wolter, PsyD
 - **Student EC Member**
Kymbriana Taylor, MED
- Thank you to all of our self-nominating members who ran in these elections and to Elena Eisman Past-President and Elections Chair for the coordination of our nomination and elections processes!

Div. 31 Integrated Care Task Force Summer Update

Drs. Stella Nelms and Nataliya Pilipenko, Co-Chairs of the Division 31 Integrated Care Task Force have resumed meetings and initiatives. Currently, they

are recruiting for new taskforce members through various channels and are exploring options for dissemination of a survey with aims

to improve understanding of the needs of the psychologists working in medical/integrated care across different states.

Div. 31 Congratulates Winner of Raymond Fowler Award

Division 31 congratulates Division 31-member, Sandra L. Shullman, PhD, recipient of the 2023 Raymond D Fowler Award for Outstanding Contributions to APA!

This prestigious award recognizes an APA member who has had a significant and enduring impact on APA as an organization and who has shown a clear dedication to advancing APA's mission.

We are excited to celebrate all your contributions to our field!



SPTA Governance Collaboration

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resources, and membership to further our collective efforts to use psychology for the advancement of the profession and public wellbeing, which includes opposition to unjust and ill-informed proposals.

A mistaken belief is that SPTAs are a formal part of APA. Many national professional associations have a “chapter” model where each state is a part of the national group.

For us, SPTAs are each an independent organization. Although we maintain a close relationship with APA, APA itself does not have governance over a SPTA. This gives each SPTA the freedom to function as they decide, but also presents a challenge to continuously work on our relationship with APA, highlight our mutual need of each other, and advocate for recognition of the SPTAs role in our joint effort to advance psychology and

psychologists.

APA needs SPTAs and SPTAs need APA. Our continued partnership is what advances the field and the profession at both the local and national levels. Should SPTAs lose our voice, psychology will lose its voice in shaping our society for the wellbeing of all. I hope this new effort in connecting the SPTA-oriented groups enhances our shared mission for the betterment of our field and our profession.

ECP-focused Programming at APA 2023



**Ryan E. Flinn, Ph.D.,
Div. 31 ECP
and Student
Committee
Co-Chair**

As a member of the Committee on Early Career Psychologists (CECP) and Liaison to Division 31's Executive Board, I am thrilled to announce that CECP has been hard at work preparing a number of events for APA 2023 Convention. Below is a brief and non-exhaustive list of events I would encourage ECPs to consider attending. Please also feel free to reach out to me directly with any questions or if you want to connect during convention with me or any other member of CECP (<https://www.apa.org/education-career/development/early/cecp-roster>). You can reach me at: ryanelliottflinn@gmail.com

Thursday, Aug. 3

What I Wish I Learned During Grad School (CE Credit)

- Speaker(s): APA Committee on Early Career Psychologists
- 1-1:50pm ET
- Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Level 1, Room 144C

Fostering Mutual Respect Between Early Career Psychologists and Senior Clinicians

- Speaker(s): Danita Bowling, PhD, Broughton Hospital
- 2-2:50pm ET
- Location: Walter E.

Washington Convention Center, Level 2, Room 204C

Grant Speed-Dating: Find Your Perfect Funding Match

Sponsored by American

Psychological Foundation

- Social Hour
- 3-4:00pm ET
- Location: Emerging Leaders Network Booth in the Solutions Center

Early Career Social Hour

Sponsored by American

Professional Agency

- 6-7:50pm ET
- Location: Marriott Marquis, Level 2, Marquis Salon 2

Friday, August 4

From Roots to Branches II: Enhancing Leadership for ECPs through Community Building and Learning

- Speaker(s): Jacks Cheng, PhD, CECP Chair 2-2:50pm ET
- Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Level 2, Room 201

Graduate Students & Early Career Psychologists Networking & Coffee Break

Sponsored by American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP)

- 3-4:00pm ET
- Location: Emerging Leaders Network Booth in the Solutions Center

From Roots to Branches II: Enhancing Leadership for ECPs through Community Building and Learning

- Speaker(s): Jacks Cheng, PhD, CECP Chair 2-2:50pm ET
- Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Level 2, Room 201

Graduate Students & Early Career Psychologists Networking & Coffee Break

Sponsored by American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP)

- 3-4:00pm ET
- Location: Emerging Leaders Network Booth in the Solutions Center

Visit the
[Div. 31 web site](#)
for current
important
information and
informative
blog posts.



WASHINGTON DC
AUGUST 3-5

APA
2023

**APA's Committee on Early Career Psychologists (CECP)
Programs & Social Activities**

Thursday, August 3

What I Wish I Learned During Grad School (CE Credit)

Speaker(s): APA Committee on Early Career Psychologists

1-1:50pm ET

Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Level 1, Room 144C

Fostering Mutual Respect Between Early Career Psychologists and Senior Clinicians

Speaker(s): Danita Bowling, PhD, Broughton Hospital

2-2:50pm ET

Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Level 2, Room 204C

**Grant Speed-Dating: Find Your Perfect Funding Match
Sponsored by American Psychological Foundation Social Hour**

3-4:00pm ET

Location: Emerging Leaders Network Booth in the Solutions Center

Early Career Social Hour

Sponsored by American Professional Agency

6-7:50pm ET

Location: Marriott Marquis, Level 2, Marquis Salon 2



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WASHINGTON DC
AUGUST 3-5

APA
2023

Friday, August 4



ASPPB
Association of State and
Provincial Psychology Boards

Early Career Coffee Hour

Sponsored by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB)

9-9:50am ET

Location: Marriott Marquis, Level 2, Marquis Salon 14

APA Committee on Early Career Psychologists Poster Session

10-10:50am ET

Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Level 2, Halls D and E

Q&A with APA's Advocacy Office

Speaker(s): Kenneth Polishchuk, APA's Senior Director of Congressional & Federal Relations & Education Policy Lead

10-11:00am ET

Location: Emerging Leaders Network Booth in the Solutions Center

Considerations for Equitable Autism Evaluations in Marginalized Populations (CE Credit)

Speaker(s): Julia Cartwright, PhD, UT Southwestern Medical Center

12-12:50pm

Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center
Level 1, Room 143B

**Convention Travel Grant Award Ceremony & Networking Session
Sponsored by National Register of Health Service Psychologists**

1-2:00pm ET

Location: Emerging Leaders Network Booth in the Solutions Center



NATIONAL REGISTER
OF HEALTH SERVICE PSYCHOLOGISTS

REGISTER AT
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WASHINGTON DC
AUGUST 3-5

APA
2023

Friday, August 4 (Continued)

From Roots to Branches II: Enhancing Leadership for ECPs through Community Building and Learning

Speaker(s): Jacks Cheng, PhD, CECP Chair

2-2:50pm ET

Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Level 2, Room 201

**Graduate Students & Early Career Psychologists Networking & Coffee Break
Sponsored by American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP)**

3-4:00pm ET

Location: Emerging Leaders Network Booth in the Solutions Center



Saturday, August 5

Building Sustainability For Your Practice: Understanding Fiscal and Value Methods

Speaker(s): Lesley Manson, PsyD, Arizona State University

9-9:50am ET

Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Level 2, Room 204B

Landing an Academic Job in Health Service Psychology Fields

Speaker(s): Lindsay Fallon, PhD, University of Massachusetts Boston

1-1:50pm ET

Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Level 1, Room 102B

APA 2023

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Come Gather 'Round

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upon what truly matters. *The New York Times* described it as one of “the nation’s most esteemed and authoritative advisors on issues of health and medicine.” Its commitment to providing rigorous, apolitical scientific advice – as well as to the advancement of the scientific enterprise – can be traced to its roots in the National Academy of Sciences.

From early in its history, it promoted the idea that social factors were prominent influences associated with health outcomes, as reflected in its Rhoda and Bernard Sarnat International Prize in Mental Health. Several of its far-

reaching historical reports include: *The National Children's Study*; *Vibrant and Healthy Kids: Aligning Science, Practice, and Policy to Advance Health Equity*; *Gulf War and Health*; *To Err Is Human*; *Crossing the Quality Chasm*; *The Future of Nursing*; and *Reducing Risks for Mental Disorders: Frontiers for Preventive Intervention Research*.

The first overarching goal in NAM’s current strategic plan dictates that it proactively identify and respond rapidly to address the most urgent challenges that present a threat to the health of people worldwide, one of which is clearly accessing mental health and substance use care. NAM is dedicated

to Building a Learning Health System through its Leadership Consortium. Danny Wedding and Bob Frank were the first psychologists to be selected for its Health Policy Fellowships which they report was transformational. Not surprisingly, NAM is fully committed to addressing Racial and Health Equity, most recently through its visionary Culture of Health program which emphasizes community engagement at all levels. The underlying question for each of us is whether our own profession will rise up to the challenges of today’s ever-changing world? “And the first one now. Will later be last. For the times they are a-changin’” (Bob Dylan, *The Times They Are A-Changin’*). Aloha,

Visit the [Division 31 web site](#)
to see these blogs for a variety of communities:
[Diversity Task Force](#)
[Early Career Psychologists](#)
[Ethics Education](#)
[Health Care Reform](#)
[Student Task Force](#)

Diversity Leadership Program

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advanced into leadership positions within their SPTA and APA, including the APA Council of Representatives and Board of Directors. Division 31 is currently in partnership with the Leadership Development Institute in the organization and implementation of the program.

The 2023 Diversity Leadership Program participants included:

Shannon Dodani of Arizona, Kamaljit Sidhu of British Columbia, Jei Africa of California, Janan Wyatt of Connecticut, Ana L. Gomez of Florida, Krystal Frieson Bonaparte of Georgia, Sharon Pinto Khurana of Illinois, Lindsay Woods of Manitoba, Sukanya Ray of Massachusetts, Alexander Abhijit Jendrusina of Michigan, Sonal Markanda of Minnesota, Amy R. Beck of Missouri, Leandrea Caver of Nevada,

Elisa C. DeVargas of New Mexico, Ashleigh Coser of Oklahoma, Jade N. Logan of Pennsylvania, Aradhana Srinagesh of Rhode Island and Mona E. Abuharnda of Virginia.

The 2023 program was led by Drs. Erin Alexander, Jennifer F. Kelly, Dinelia Rosa, Sandra Shullman, Ruddy Taylor, Cathy McDaniels-Wilson, Melba Vasquez, and Randall White.



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APA Division 31 Committee Chairs

Executive Director

Connie Paul, Ph.D.
5154 Stage Road, Suite 102
Memphis, TN 38122
Phone: 901-372-9133
TPAMember@juno.com

Advocacy

Felicia Smith, PhD
Phone: 502-614-7600
drfsmith@gmail.com

Awards

Elena Eisman, EdD
Phone: 617-680-5302
elena.eisman@gmail.com

Communication

Terrence Koller, PhD
Phone: 847-475-5551
tjkoller@gmail.com

Convention Program

Kendra Westerhaus, PhD
Phone: 208-232-3355 x 1508
kwesterhaus@healthwiseinc.org

Diversity

Mayra Zoe Ortiz, PsyD
Phone: 917-363-5706
Zoe07470@gmail.com
Keisha Ross, PhD
Phone: 314-652-4100 x 55401
drkeishaross@gmail.com

ECP and Students

Ryan Flinn, PhD
Phone: 402-575-7016
ryanelliottflinn@gmail.com
Erika Brink Mesojednik, PsyD
Phone: 507-244-0014
emesojednik@hanovercbt.com

Federal Advocacy

Tyler Bradstreet, PhD
Phone: 903-631-9319
tyler.bradstreet@ttu.edu

Fellowship

Donald McAleer, PsyD, ABPP
Phone: 814-877-8013
DonPsyD@aol.com

Heiser Award

Tom J. Demaio, PhD
Phone: 434-971-6924
tjd@demaiopsychology.com

Membership

Dinelia Rosa, PhD
Phone: 646-283-2589
rosa@exchange.tc.columbia.edu

Newsletter Editor

Zoe Proctor-Weber, PhD
Phone: 727-398-6661, x4678
zoe.proctor-weber@va.gov

Newsletter Managing Editor

Diane Slaughter, APR, Fellow
Phone: 304-984-0308
homesteadcommunications@
frontier.com

Nominations/Elections

Elena Eisman, EdD
Phone: 617-680-5302
elena.eisman@gmail.com

Website Manager

Andy Benjamin, JD, PhD, ABPP
Phone: 206-616-6220
gahb54@u.washington.edu

Liaisons & Task Forces

APA Advocacy Coordinating
Danna Fowble
okpsychassociation@gmail.com

APA Interdivisional Healthcare

Elena Eisman, EdD
elena.eisman@gmail.com
BPA

Peter Oppenheimer, PhD
pmoppenheimer@bbhsri.com

Committee of State Leaders

Raymond Folen, PhD, ABPP
hpaexec@gmail.com

Diversity Leadership Program

Jennifer Kelly, PhD, ABPP
jfkphd@aol.com

Early Career Psychologists

Ryan Flinn, PhD
ranelliottflinn@gmail.com

Integrated Care Task Force

Stella Nelms, PhD
stella.d.nelms@emory.edu

Natalie Pilipenko, PhD, ABPP
np2615@cumc.columbia.edu

*LGBT Concerns Office/Comm on
Sexual Orientation-Gender Div.*

Lindsey Buckman, PsyD
buckmanconsulting@gmail.com

Regulatory Task Force

Peter Oppenheimer, PhD
pmoppenheimer@bbhsri.com

Rural Health

Emily Selby-Nelson, PhD
Emily.Selby.Nelson@cchswv.org