



AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

*The Division of State,
Provincial & Territorial
Psychological Association Affairs*
2025 Officers

PRESIDENT (2025)

Raymond Folen, PhD, ABPP
PO Box 833
Honolulu, HI 96808
Phone: 808-521-8995
hpaexec@gmail.com

PRESIDENT-ELECT (2025)

Anne Klee, PhD
200 Edison Rd.
Orange, CT 06477
Phone: 203-313-9766
annekleephd@gmail.com

PAST PRESIDENT (2025)

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

SECRETARY (2024-26)

Jeanne M. Slattery, PhD
840 Wood Street
Clarion, PA 16214
Phone: 814-229-7242
jslattery176@gmail.com

TREASURER (2023-2025)

Nanci Klein, PhD
1263 East South Temple Unit#9
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102
Phone: 801-350-0116
nklein@sisna.com

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (23-25)

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

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (24-26)

Julie Wolter, PsyD
426 Scrabbletown Road A -1
North Kingstown, RI 02852
Phone: 603-340-1167
jwolterpsyd@gmail.com

APA COUNCIL REP (23-25)

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 (2023-25)

Kymbriona Taylor, M ED
506 S. 6th St. Room 16
Columbia, MO 65211
Phone: 708-296-5964
ktaylor@mail.missouri.edu

Focus on

31

Summer 2025 • Volume 57 • Issue 2

Time to Celebrate and Collaborate



**By Raymond
A. Folen,
PhD, ABPP
Division 31
President**

Denver is literally around the “calendar” corner for the APA Convention!

This will be a great opportunity to gather with your colleagues from around the country to share information, knowledge and fellowship! Whether you choose to attend a variety of sessions, or those related to your specialty, be sure to make time for the Division 31 sessions (see pages 204).

Thanks to Convention Co-Chairs Christopher Townsend,

Cheyenne Quilter and Pat Deleon, the Division 31 Convention program has something for everyone!

From advocacy and leadership to issues affecting Latinos and Veterans, they have put together an outstanding lineup of learning opportunities.

There’s also time for celebration, as we honor our Karl Heiser, Division 31 and National Register Award recipients at the Division 31 Social Hour where you can catch up with old friends and meet new ones. We want to thank Platinum Sponsors National Register and The Trust, plus Bronze Sponsor Mississippi Psychological Association for their support.

I hope to see you in Denver!

Congratulations to New Officers

Congratulations to Division 31’s new officers for 2026 and beyond:

President-elect:

Peter Oppenheimer, PhD

Council of Representatives:

Chuck Hollister, PhD

Member at Large:

Diana Prescott, PhD

Treasurer:

Nanci Klein, PhD

Student Representative:

Chris Townsend, PhD (in progress)



APA 2025

Denver | August 7-9



Division 31 Programs

Thursday, August 7

9:30AM-10:30AM

Life, Sudden Death, and Afterlife of the Practice Directorate

Dan Abrahamson, Bryant Welch, and Lynn Bufka

Location: Colorado Convention Center--Bluebird Ballroom 2A, Terrace Level

1:00pm-5:00pm

Division 31 Board Meeting

Division 31 Leadership

Location: Hyatt Regency Denver--Capitol Ballroom 1, Level 4

Friday, August 8

8:00AM-9:00AM

Unseen Warriors: Supporting Female Veterans

Niki Terranova

Location: Colorado Convention Center--Mile High Ballroom 4E, Ballroom Level

11:30AM-12:30PM

Division 31 Poster Session I

Jennifer Schriver, Michaela Blake, Ellie Hampton, Karina Koo, Cassie Toulet-Crump, Cara Bascom, and Angela Cabbie.

Location: Colorado Convention Center--Exhibit Hall A, Exhibit Level, Solutions Center, Poster Sessions

11:30AM-12:30PM

Effective Leadership Development and Retention in State, Provincial & Territorial Associations

Erin Alexander, Danielle Monique Johnson, Michelle Casimir, Janice Haskins, and Laura Faynor-Ciha

Location: Colorado Convention Center--Rooms 212-210, Street Level

Register at CONVENTION.APA.ORG

APA 2025

Denver | August 7-9



1:00PM-2:00PM

Latinos in the United States: Myths and Facts and reports on their military experience

Mayra Zoe Ortiz and Roxanne Ramirez

Location: Colorado Convention Center--Room 403, Street Level

2:30PM-3:30PM

How Skills Developed Through SPTA Leadership Enrich Retirement Activities

Elena Eisman, Jana Martin, Patrick DeLeon, Jo Linder-Crow, and Nancy Gordon Moore

Location: Colorado Convention Center--Rooms 212-210, Street Level

4:00PM-5:00PM

APA Karl Heiser Award Presentation Ceremony

Elena Eisman and Debra Kawahara

Location: Hyatt Regency Denver--Centennial Ballroom A, Level 3

5:00PM-6:30PM

Division 31 Social Hour

Location: Hyatt Regency Denver--Centennial Ballroom A, Level 3

Saturday, August 9

8:00AM-9:00AM

A Changing Health Policy Landscape: How State and Federal Advocacy Adapt to Political Change

Patrick DeLeon, Joanna Sells, Alexandra Ginsberg, Robert Frank, Jeffrey Sherman, and Antonio Puente

Location: Colorado Convention Center--Mile High Ballroom 4CD, Ballroom Level

1:30PM-2:30PM

Building Psychologist Resilience in Rural Health Practice

Paul Korte and Emily Selby-Nelson

Location: Colorado Convention Center--Mile High Ballroom 4AB, Ballroom Level

3:00PM-4:00PM

Military Cultural Competence in Mental Health: Partnership in Academia, VA VITAL & Veteran

Daniel Kilby and Dinelia Rosa

Location: Colorado Convention Center--Rooms 212-210, Street Level

APA 2025

Denver | August 7-9



Please Join Us...

If you are attending the Annual Convention in Denver, I cordially invite you to our Division 31 Social Hour and the Heiser Award Presentation Ceremony. The location for these events is listed below.

Friday, August 8

- 4:00PM-5:00PM

APA Karl Heiser Award Presentation Ceremony

Elena Eisman and Debra Kawahara

Hyatt Regency Denver-Centennial Ballroom A, Level 3

- 5:30PM-6:30PM

Division 31 Social Hour

Hyatt Regency Denver--Centennial Ballroom A, Level 3

At the Social Hour, in addition to Division 31's awards recognizing outstanding leaders, we will have the National Register presenting its 2025 National Register SPTA Advocacy Awards to Washington State Psychological Association and Utah Psychological Association.

We look forward to seeing you at these events! Ray, Anne and I want to greet you in person.

Sincerely,

Mayra Zoe Ortiz, PsyD

Immediate Past President

Two Honored with First National Register Advocacy Award

The National Register of Health Service Psychologists is proud to honor the Washington and Utah Psychological Associations (WSPA and UPA) as winners of the inaugural SPTA Advocacy Award. Both associations will receive a \$5,000 prize.

WSPA was honored for establishing a regulatory framework allowing interns to bill Medicaid, along with their commitment to collaborate with external organizations and regulatory bodies to achieve meaningful progress. UPA was honored for the passage of prescriptive authority legislation and their successful efforts to advocate for legislation defining best practices for the use of technology in the delivery of care.

"UPA is both humbled and honored to be chosen by the National Register for its first SPTA Advocacy Award. UPA members have long been committed to legislative and regulatory advocacy for both psychologists and those they serve. Members have also been dedicated to supporting and

sustaining the DPA position, a long-serving Executive Director, and an active, informed Board, as the cornerstones to accomplishing its advocacy successes."

-Deb Elliott-DeSorbo, PhD, President, UPA

"We are deeply honored to receive the inaugural SPTA Advocacy Award from the National Register. This recognition affirms the power of advocacy to turn member priorities into meaningful change. The Licensed Psychological Associate credential is just one example—and we're just getting started. As our latest survey shows, reimbursement, access to care, and equity remain urgent concerns. This award fuels our commitment to elevating the voices of Washington psychologists and drive lasting, systemic change."

-London Breedlove, PsyD, WSPA Director of Professional Affairs & Policy

Application for the 2026 Award cycle will open on March 1, 2026. Learn more at www.nationalregister.org.

More Than a Program: The DLP as a Movement for Building Community, Advancing Justice, and Leading Boldly



**Roxanne
Ramirez,
PhD**

Being a Diversity Delegate at the 2025 Practice & SPTA Leadership Conference (PSLC) left me feeling inspired, hopeful, and empowered—ready to keep pushing for inclusive leadership and meaningful change. As a proud graduate of APA’s Diversity Leadership Program (DLP), I am deeply grateful for the transformative experiences and lasting connections it has provided. The DLP has been a catalyst for both my professional and personal growth, opening doors to mentorship, collaboration, and

new opportunities for advocacy.

Through its structured mentorship program, the DLP connected me with Dr. Mayra Ortiz, whose guidance has been instrumental in helping me refine my leadership voice and deepen my commitment to social justice in psychology. Engaging with trailblazing leaders like Dr. Ortiz and Dr. Dinelia Rosa has had a lasting impact on my development, shaping how I lead and advocate within my professional spaces. I’ve seen this growth reflected in my work with my SPTA in Hawai’i, where my communication and advocacy efforts have become more focused, confident, and aligned with the values of social justice and inclusive leadership.

More than a training program, the DLP is a space for deep reflection, connection, and collective growth. It has connected

me with a powerful network of like-minded professionals committed to equity and systemic change. Whether through joint projects, committee work, or grassroots advocacy, the DLP has equipped me to contribute meaningfully to the field. Special thanks to my 2025 DLP cohort—you continue to inspire through our ongoing chats, texts, and shared commitment. We are not just DLP graduates—we are changemakers.

The vision established by Dr. Jennifer F. Kelly lives on in each of us. The DLP isn’t just a program—it’s a movement rooted in mentorship, connection, and the conviction that diverse voices strengthen our profession. I look forward to continuing this journey alongside fellow DLP alumni and Division 31 members as we work together to build a more inclusive and just future.



Staying Grounded in the “Why”: The Importance of Becoming a Well-Trained Psychologist in Today’s World



Kymbriona Taylor, M.ED, Div 31 ECP and Student Committee Co-chair

In the ever-evolving landscape of education, healthcare, and social justice, the call to become a well-trained career psychologist is more urgent than ever. As graduate students, we are navigating waves of change — from shifts in program funding and clinical site availability to growing demands for culturally responsive care. At the same time, our clients are experiencing unprecedented stress, whether due to systemic oppression, political unrest, economic instability, or personal trauma. This moment demands reflection, resilience, and renewed commitment.

How do we stay connected to our purpose? I would invite you to ask yourself:

- What initially called me to this work?
- What populations or issues am I most passionate about serving or addressing?
- What practices allow me to feel refueled and reconnected to my “why”?

Sometimes, this reflection looks like:

- Attending national conferences where you engage with leaders and peers.
- Participating in events or webinars that offer

psychoeducation on emerging topics.

- Joining organizations aligned with your values — where you see others advocating for the same causes that matter to you.

These spaces can serve as powerful reminders that you're not alone in your journey and that your work matters. I believe these questions and actions are especially important to consider as we embark on the upcoming academic year with potential feelings of uncertainty about the changes to come—whether you're seeing clients for the first time in practicum or preparing for your internship year. This is a meaningful time to reflect on the areas of your training and professional development that may need further support, both to sustain yourself and to best serve those who are trusting you with their care.

Since Division 31 is the home of state, provincial, and territorial associations (SPTAs), I have created a student needs assessment, that I aim to disseminate this fall, to gather feedback from graduate students about their experiences within their respective SPTAs. The goal is to identify both the strengths and areas for improvement within these associations. It is my hope that Division 31 can share this valuable information with SPTAs to help them offer programming and resources that address gaps in graduate training—especially those needs that may not be fully

met within university settings.

In addition, this effort will allow Division 31 to consider and create unique events aimed specifically at supporting graduate students across regions.

As student members of Division 31, I also invite you to consider joining the Student Task Force. This is an opportunity to contribute to our division's blog by writing about student-related issues, concerns, and perspectives. Your voice is valuable—because after all, we are the future of psychology. I hope to connect with many of you at the APA Convention in Denver!

Advertise with Division 31

Focus on 31 invites you to consider advertising in our newsletter. Published three times annually, we reach decision makers throughout the profession. For details, email the Editor.

Classified Ads:

- \$10 per line, minimum three lines.

Display Ads: Ads must be in digital format, 300 dpi, .eps, .tif or .pdf.

- 8x10: \$400;
- 3x5 Vertical: \$150;
- 3x2: \$50.

We seek to motivate
students and early
career psychologists
through Division 31
mentorship.



“Every Minute. That’s How It Be Happin’”



By Pat DeLeon, PhD former APA President

Artificial Intelligence:

The National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) recently conducted a two day Bootcamp highlighting the importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) while exploring its impact on health, health research, and clinical practice. One thousand interested colleagues enrolled in the program with an additional thousand on their waitlist. The Bootcamp’s stated objectives included: Providing an overview of Artificial Intelligence and the use of AI for promoting health and preventing disease; Describing steps for researchers interested in getting started in AI (e.g., defining research questions, determining data needs, and forging collaborations); Presenting research and clinical applications of AI; Providing examples on the use of AI in addressing social determinants of health and advancing health for all; Discussing ethical, legal, and social implications of AI; Discussing value-driven and community-engaged AI adoption strategies; and Discussing pitfalls in using AI, biases in models and algorithms, and how to address these biases. Impressively, one of the panelists was the Senior Medical Lead for Google. It is anticipated that a

recording of the proceedings will be made available in the near future.

Given that U.S. Senators Inouye and Burdick were instrumental in establishing the NINR, we were particularly sad to learn that the current Administration has proposed it’s elimination, notwithstanding the critical importance of the holistic behavioral/psychosocial component of quality health care. We would suggest that the various behavioral health State Associations (i.e., nursing, psychology, social work, and marriage and family therapists) should foster similar interprofessional IP bootcamps in order to collectively explore the potential of AI for their members.

The Evolving Psychopharmacology (RxP) Agenda:

Bob Ax, who possesses a long history of active involvement within the federal health care system, has always been an enthusiastic supporter of the prescriptive authority agenda (RxP). He recently proposed that those interested in the future of the profession should develop: “A more aggressive outreach and marketing campaign – enlarging the target audience by communicating with potential enrollees [in RxP training] at the high school and undergraduate levels. The academic psychology establishment has been either resistant to or simply disinterested in RxP for decades. Therefore, the RxP community should go around them or outflank them.

Do what the medical and dental professions do well -- reach out to students as early as high school (or even earlier) and inform them about RxP in order to help them develop a psychobiosocial perspective of health service psychology. We might find more undergraduates choosing a psychology major who are more diverse in their educational backgrounds and more grounded in the natural sciences.” Stated slightly differently, Bob envisions developing an educational policy-driven orientation, rather than solely relying upon those involved in enacting RxP laws. And, he further points out that these two approaches could well be complementary.

With higher education under siege from the new Administration, Bob postulates that the time should be ripe for creative efforts to expand academia’s recruiting efforts. This would mean teaching clinical psychopharmacology at the graduate and even undergraduate levels, and generally promoting RxP as a legitimate educational option, and not as an exotic hybrid. His approach should attract excellent students with solid backgrounds in the natural sciences. Recall that the original APA Task Force on RxP proposed that RxP training could, indeed, result in a new class of health care professionals. And, their proposed Level One training (which provided psychologists with a foundational understanding of psychotropic medications and their

Every minute.

Continued on page 7

Every minute.

Continued from page 6

use in treating mental disorders) was the knowledge base that every psychologist who saw patients was supposed to possess.

And yet, Bob stresses that today fewer than half of all APA accredited clinical psychology programs require a course in psychopharmacology and in reviewing the APA standards and guidelines for study in psychology at the high school, undergraduate, and graduate levels, his word search revealed that in all of these there were no – zero – uses of the term “psychopharmacology.” “Psychoactive drugs” was mentioned a total of five times, but only in the high school guidelines.

“Getting clinical psychopharmacology into the next version of the APA accreditation standards should be a priority for RxP advocates.” Given his federal public service background, Bob rhetorically asks: What is being done to

systematically develop supervision experiences for RxP trainees by those who profess to care about the profession’s future or about RxP in particular? What should the MSCP (Master of Science in Clinical Psychopharmacology) training programs which, in fact, profit from tuition-paying students do? Is there not an ethical responsibility here helping to find supervised clinical experiences for their students at a minimum? With all the advances in technology, having a clearing house similar to APPIC’s would make it easier for RxP students to find placements by: 1) locating existing placements and 2) encouraging the MSCP programs and other interested parties (presumably the rest of the RxP community) to create new ones. We would only add: What catalytic role might our state psychological associations play in fostering Bob’s exciting vision?

**An Important APA
Leadership Change:** Mitch

Prinstein recently announced that he will be leaving his position as APA’s first Chief of Psychology Strategy and Integration to return full-time to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Mitch has an exemplary history of serving within the Association’s governance, including on the Board of Directors and as Chief Science Officer. As CEO Arthur Evens has noted: “He brought a much-needed holistic perspective to the work of the organization and a strong desire both to elevate the unique contributions of science, education, practice and applied psychology and to grow their collective impact as a unified team.” Mitch has been an outstanding and frequent “voice of psychology” in the national media, before the Administration, and on Capitol Hill. We will personally definitely miss him. “Where they at? Get the gat” (Etouffee. Vince Staples). Aloha,

Pat DeLeon,
former APA President

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](#)

SAVE THE DATE—
OCTOBER 31, 2025!

Collaborative Webinar Series

Raise Revenue for Your SPTA

The National Register & CESSPA are partnering to bring high-quality webinars designed to financially support State, Provincial, and Territorial Psychological Associations (SPTAs).

 **Stay tuned for upcoming topics and registration links!**

How it works 🔍

- The National Register hosts the live webinars, which includes **finding & compensating expert content presenters, providing technical support, administering CE certificates,** and all other administrative tasks.
- CESSPA and the National Register **work together to promote each event widely,** helping your association **maximize participation and impact.**
- Attendees select a primary STPA when registering, and **100% of the proceeds are returned to that association.**

SPTAs do incredible work, and we're excited to support them through this new collaboration.

2025 Division 31 Calendar of Meetings and Liaison Activities



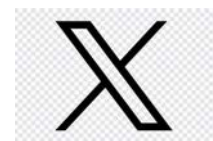
DATE	MEETING	LOCATION
August 1	Integrated Care	Zoom
August 5-6	APA Council	Denver, CO
August 7-9	APA Annual Conv.	Denver, CO
August 8	Conv. Board Meeting	Denver, CO/ Zoom
	Div. Reception Awards Denver, CO	
August 21	Executive Comm.	Zoom
September 9	Rural Health Section	Zoom
September 11	Communication	Zoom

DATE	MEETING	LOCATION
September 16	Diversity Com- mittee	Zoom
September 18	Executive Comm.	Zoom
October 3	Integrated Care	Zoom
October 16	Executive Comm.	Zoom
November 7	Integrated Care	Zoom
November 13	Communication	Zoom
November 20	Executive Comm.	Zoom
December 5	Integrated Care	Zoom
December 9	Rural Health Sec- tion	Zoom
December 18	Executive Comm.	Zoom

Editor's Note:

- Exec Conference Calls are held at 1 pm Eastern
- All Communication Calls are held at 1 pm Eastern
- All Integrated Care Calls are held at Noon Eastern
- All Diversity Calls are held at 7pm Eastern
- All Rural Health Calls are held at 7pm Eastern





APA Division 31 Committee Chairs

Executive Director

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

Awards

Mayra Zoe Ortiz, PsyD
Phone: 917-363-5706
Zoe07470@gmail.com

Communication

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

Convention Program

Pat DeLeon, PhD, MPH, JD
Phone: 301-775-3199
patdeleon@verizon.net
Christopher Townsend, PhD
christopher.townsend@usuhs.edu

Diversity

Roxanne Ramirez, PhD
doctora.roxanne@gmail.com

ECP and Students

Ryan Flinn, PhD
Phone: 402-575-7016
ryanelliottflinn@gmail.com
Kymbriona Taylor, M ED
Phone: 708-296-5964
ktaylor@mail.missouri.edu

Division Advocacy Partner

Jennifer Smith, PsyD
Phone: 404-808-0101
jennifersmithatl@aol.com

Fellowship

Bruce Bobbitt, PhD
Phone: 612-418-1952
b-bobbitt@comcast.net

Heiser Award

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

Membership

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

Newsletter Managing Editor

Diane Slaughter, APR, Fellow
Phone: 304-984-0308
info@homesteadcomms.com

Nominations/Elections

Mayra Zoe Ortiz, PsyD
Phone: 917-363-5706
Zoe07470@gmail.com
Website Manager
Andy Benjamin, JD, PhD, ABPP
Phone: 206-616-6220
gahb54@u.washington.edu

Liaisons & Task Forces

Advocacy Liaison
Jennifer Smith, PsyD
jennifersmithatl@aol.com
APA Advocacy Coordinating
Danna Fowble
okpsychassociation@gmail.com
APA Community-Div. Community
David Pascale Hague, PhD
dbha222@uky.edu
APA Interdivisional Healthcare
Elena Eisman, EdD
elena.eisman@gmail.com
BPA
Peter Oppenheimer, PhD pmop-
penheimer@bbhsri.com
Committee of State Leaders
Raymond Folen, PhD, ABPP
hpaexec@gmail.com

CWP

Kamieka Gabriel, PhD
kamieka@outlook.com
Diversity Leadership Program
Dean
Jennifer Kelly, PhD, ABPP
jfkphd@aol.com
Diversity Leadership Task Force
Mayra Zoe Ortiz, PsyD
Zoe07470@gmail.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
Integrated Primary Care
Paul Korte, PhD
pkorte@palou.edu
Integrated Specialty Care
Kathleen Ashton, PhD, ABPP
ashtonk@ccf.org
LGBT Concerns Office/Comm on
Sexual Orientation-Gender Div.
David Pascale Hague, PhD
dbha222@uky.edu
Refugee Mental Health Resource
Network
Diana Prescott, PhD
dlprescottphd@gmail.com
Regulatory Task Force
Peter Oppenheimer, PhD
pmoppenheimer@bbhsri.com
Rural Health
Emily Selby-Nelson, PhD
Emily.Selby.Nelson@cchswv.org