INTRODUCTION: Bylaws Amendment Explanation

Note: You have received a link to vote on these changes via email through the division listserv. Please vote by Dec. 31!

The amended bylaws below were approved through a unanimous electronic vote by the Division 36 Executive Committee on November 12-19, 2021. The major changes include:

Membership

- Graduate Student Members (ArtII.S1.Cd1-4) is a new membership status that is reflected in both APA and our division. This membership status is for graduate student members and increases the membership classes from three to four.
- Members (ArtII.S1.Ca1-3) can now include Early Career Professionals.
  - This has been in practice with APA and our division for over 10 years but has not been reflected in the division's bylaws.
- Fellows (ArtII.S1.Cb1-5) to be eligible for nomination by Division 36 to APA Fellow must be APA members and follows APA policy.
- Associate membership in the division will now correspond with APA classification for Associates.
- Affiliates (ArtII.S1.Ce2) now include a new student affiliate category for, but not limited to, college students.
- Membership dues shall be set by the Executive Committee of Division 36. This has been in practice by the division but was not reflected in the division’s bylaws. (ArtII.S1.Cf)

Officers and Executive Committee

- A new officer position has been created. The Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Officer was-established by the division’s Executive Committee at the Business Meeting during the 2021 APA Convention. The bylaws now include the new position. (ArtIII.S1)
  - The EDI Officer will be elected to membership on the Executive Committee and will serve for three years.
  - This officer position is to ensure the coordination of our division’s activities within the APA’s EDI framework as well as ensure our division’s view of equity, diversity, and inclusion, which are vital to the progress of our division, the field of psychology, and the wider society. These activities are reflected in our goals and mission. (ArtIV.S5)
- The Early Career Professional (ECP) Representative and the Graduate Students Representative will now have voting privileges on the Executive Committee. This decision was made by the Executive Committee at the Business Meeting during the 2021 APA Convention. The bylaws now reflect this change. (ArtIII.S1)

Committees

- The Membership Committee will now include the ECP Representative and the Graduate Students Representative. This will help the drive for recruitment and retention of new members, including early career professionals and graduate students.
- The new Early Career Professionals Committee (ECPC) is outlined in ArtV.S7.
  - The ECPC shall organize programs and activities that are designed to interest ECP members in the Society.
  - The ECPC will be a channel for committee members to promote their involvement and leadership within the Society.
- The Graduate Students Committee (GSC) is outlined in ArtV.S8.
  - The GSC will organize programs and activities that are of particular interest to the Society’s graduate students.
  - The committee will serve as a lightning rod for graduate students to communicate and advocate for the concerns of fellow graduate students in the division.