

Proposed Changes in Society Bylaws to Promote Involvement and Accountability

Approved by Executive Committee

February 4, 2017

Proposal 1 — Add Article VIII; Revise Article III

Article VIII — Ad hoc Committees and Groups

Section 1 — Ad hoc committees and groups

1. In addition to the Committees specifically provided for in these Bylaws, the President or the Executive Committee may establish such committees, working groups, task forces, special projects, liaisons, or representatives as are necessary to accomplish the work of the Society.
2. The Executive Committee or the President, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee at its next regular meeting, may establish committees, task forces, and/or special projects and shall charge the committee/task force/special project with a specific task to accomplish, establish a term of 1 to 3 years to complete the task, and appoint a membership with a designated Chair. Committees/task forces/special projects will disband when their task is accomplished or when their term has expired whichever comes first. Committees/task forces/special projects are subject to the membership, reporting, and sunset provisions of Section 2.
3. The Executive Committee may establish working groups to accomplish the ongoing work of the Society. Members of the Society may propose working groups for the approval of the Executive Committee. Members of a working group may be designated by the Executive Committee or may be members of the Society who have volunteered for the work of the working group. Prior to approval by the Executive Committee, the working group must have a formal written vision, purpose, or mission consistent with the purposes of the Society stated in Article I Section 1. Working groups must continuously maintain a membership of six or more Society members, fellows, professional affiliates, or student affiliates. The Executive Committee may increase the number of members required in a working group. Working groups may be established for a term of 1 to 3 years. Working groups are subject to the membership, reporting, and sunset provisions of Section 2.

4. Liaisons and representatives to other organizations, events, or activities may be appointed by the President subject to the approval of the Executive Committee at its next regular meeting. Liaisons and representatives will serve terms of one year and may be reappointed. Liaisons and representatives are subject to the membership, reporting, and sunset provisions of Section 2.
5. [This part is the subject of Proposal 2; see below.]

Section 2 — Membership, reporting, and sunset of committees, task forces, working groups, special projects, liaisons and representatives

1. Membership —
 - a. Except for working groups, all committees, task forces, and special projects may have the number of members appropriate to the task with which they are charged. Working groups must maintain a membership of six or more members.
 - b. Before any members are appointed to any ad hoc group the Membership Chair must be consulted for the names of Society members who might be appropriate members of the group.
 - c. The Membership Chair and the Internet Editor jointly shall maintain an easily accessible page on the Society's website that lists and describes the currently open opportunities for service in the Society and how a member might volunteer for the opportunity. With the exception of committees and task forces newly created by the President or the Executive Committee, all openings in committees, task forces, working groups, special projects, liaisons, and representatives shall be advertised via the APA Division 48 ANNOUNCE listserv and the website a minimum of 30 days before they are filled.
2. Reporting —
 - a. By July 1 of each year all committees, working groups, special projects, task forces, liaisons, and representatives shall submit a report of its activities and membership for the previous year. The report must contain a list of the members of the group, a narrative description of the activities of the group, and copies of reports, publications, presentations, media, updated content in the Society's website, articles in the Society's newsletter, and any other work product of the group.
 - b. The report shall be submitted to the President-elect. The report shall

include any proposals that need to be considered for action by the Executive Committee. The President-elect shall compile the work of the ad hoc committees and groups for presentation to the Executive Committee by August 1. The President-elect shall be responsible for the general oversight of all ad hoc committees and groups.

3. Sunset — All ad hoc groups will disband on the completion of their task, the completion of their term, or in three calendar years from their establishment, whichever comes first. Ad hoc groups which fail to meet membership and reporting requirements or which fail to show by their reports that they are meeting their assigned tasks will be disbanded by the Executive Committee at the next meeting following the August meeting at the APA National Convention.

Article III — Officers

Section 3 — President-elect [add title and number parts; add parts 2 and 3]

1. The President-elect shall be a Member of the Society who is elected one year prior to taking office as President. The President-elect shall serve as the presiding officer of the Society in the absence of the President and shall perform such other duties as may be required by the President or the Executive Committee.
2. The President-elect shall be responsible for the general oversight of all ad hoc committees and groups.
3. By July 1 of each year the President-elect will receive the reports of all ad hoc committees and groups required in Article VII, Section 2-2. The President-elect shall compile the work of the ad hoc committees and groups for presentation to the Executive Committee by August 1.

Proposal 2 — Add to Article VIII; Revise Article V

Article VIII — Ad hoc Committees and Groups

Section 1 — Ad hoc committees and groups [Add part 5]

5. Committee on the History and Archives of the Society shall be established. The Chair of the Committee shall be the Historian and Archivist of the Society. The Committee will recommend to the Executive Committee policies regarding the uses and disposition of the archives of the Society. The committee and its chair shall be-subject to

the membership, reporting, and sunset provisions of Section 2.

Article V — Executive Committee [delete Section 3; renumber sections]

~~Section 3 — A Historian/Archivist shall be elected to a three-year renewable term by the Executive Committee.~~

Proposal 3 — Add Article IX; Revise Section IV

Article IX — Strategic Plan

Section 1

To promote the continuity and effectiveness of the Society the Executive Committee shall every year revise and present for discussion the strategic plan of the Society at the general membership meeting of the Society. The plan will describe the priorities and proposed activities of the Society for at least a three-year period beginning the following January.

Section 2

The strategic plan will be drafted by the Strategic Plan Committee. The committee shall consist of seven members -- the President-elect, the Treasurer, and one other member of the Executive Committee (either elected or ex officio), the committee chair, and three members, fellows, affiliate members and/or affiliate student members of the Society appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee. The President must consult with the Membership Chair for the names of Society members who might be appropriate members of the committee. The Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee will be the Member-at-Large who is serving the second year of their terms of office. [requires change in Article IV Section 2]

Section 3

Each year at the general membership meeting the strategic planning committee will report on the status and accomplishments of items in the plan for the previous year. The strategic planning committee status report shall be published in the Society's website and newsletter.

Article IV — Executive Committee

Section 2 — President-elect [add title and number parts; add part 2]

1. Members-at-Large shall be elected for three-year terms. If a Member-at-Large is unable to serve a full term, the President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall appoint another Member of the Society to complete the unexpired term. Members-at-Large shall be elected on a staggered schedule so that at one time there is one member-at-large in the first year of the term, one in the second year of the term, and one in the third year of the term.
2. The Member-at-Large who is serving the second year of his/her term of office will serve as Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee of the Society.

Proposal 4 — Revise Article VII

Article VII — Amendments [delete and add as indicated]

Section 1

The Society ~~at any Annual Business Meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, or~~ by a majority vote of the members of the Society voting by a ~~mail or~~ electronic ballot, may adopt such amendments to these Bylaws as have been ~~presented and read at the preceding Annual Business Meeting, or (b) mailed or electronically-mailed to the last known address of each member and (c) published in the Newsletter and the website of the Society 60 days prior to the opening of voting on the proposed amendments.~~

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Section 4

The Executive Committee, by a two-thirds majority, may vote to alter or suspend a portion of a bylaw for a ~~temporary~~ period of six months ~~time~~ when a need exists to respond to a legitimate and pressing concern to preserve or enhance the welfare of the Society if the membership incurs no additional financial liability. ~~Should the bylaw alteration or suspension be deemed appropriate to stand, the change shall be submitted to the membership of the Society using the mechanisms for bylaw amendment as spelled out in this section. Such alteration or suspension of the Bylaws may be in force for no longer than six months with the possibility of renewal one time if the change is being submitted as an amendment to these Bylaws.~~

Proposal 5 — Add to Article VI

Article VI. ACTIVITIES [Add Section 4]

Section 4

The Society may develop and endorse public policy recommendations concerning peace, conflict, and violence. Such endorsements will may be forwarded to the American Psychological Association for consideration as APA public policy endorsements and APA public advocacy actions. Society publications may also include public policy recommendations, but in such cases should not imply Society endorsement unless the recommendations have been endorsed by majority vote of the Executive Committee following the process described in parts 1- 3 which follow.

1. Members may initiate the process of developing public policy recommendations by submitting a written proposal for such recommendations with supporting materials to the society President. Such materials should describe psychological theory and evidence relevant to the issue for which the recommendations will apply.
2. Upon receiving a proposal with supporting materials for developing public policy recommendations, the president will present the proposal and materials to the Executive Committee for consideration. If the Executive Committee decides by majority vote to go forward with the process of developing public policy recommendations regarding the issue in question, the President will appoint a committee with at least three qualified members to develop public policy recommendations regarding the issue. The original written proposal and supporting materials will be placed on the division website so that all members may have the opportunity to review the proposal and to submit comments for consideration by the committee. The division announce listserv will be used to announce that the proposal and supporting materials are posted to the website.
3. The committee will develop public policy recommendations and write a position paper describing how psychological theory and evidence support the recommendations. The recommendations and position paper will be forwarded to the Executive Committee for a decision by majority on two questions — (1) whether to endorse the recommendations and (2) whether to submit the paper and recommendations to the American Psychological Association for consideration for APA endorsement and advocacy actions.

Proposal 6 — Revise Article IV

Section 8 [Revise]

The Director of Student and Early Career Membership shall be nominated for a ~~two-year~~ three-year term and elected by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.