

12/15/15 version, voted on at 2016 meeting
3/26/08 version, voted on at 2010 meeting
Version 3/04/05- includes changes voted on at 2005 Annual Meeting (Life members).

CONSTITUTION

of

The American Psychopathological Association, Inc.

ARTICLE I

The Name

This Association shall bear the name The American Psychopathological Association, Inc.

ARTICLE II

Object

The object of this Association shall be to promote the study of the scientific problems of abnormal psychology, which will include: the study of phenomena arising from abnormal mental processes; the study of such organic pathological conditions as are directly connected with abnormal mental processes; and the study of means which may remove or modify the social or individual factors operating in the production of mental diseases. The Association shall also encourage the study of the relationship between psychopathological and social or cultural problems.

ARTICLE III

Official Organ

The Council may designate an official organ of the Association.

ARTICLE IV

Membership

Membership in the Association shall have five categories: active fellowship, active membership, life fellowship, life membership, and trainee membership.

Active fellows shall be limited to individuals living in and outside of the United States who have made important, original, and independent contributions to knowledge of psychopathology. Maintenance of active fellowship requires payment of annual dues and attendance at annual meetings at least every third year for United States (US) residents and at least every sixth year for non-US residents. Active fellows may nominate other members and vote on Association business.

Active members shall be limited to individuals living in and outside of the United States who have made important contributions to knowledge of psychopathology, but not to the extent required for active fellows. Maintenance of membership requires payment of annual dues and attendance at annual meetings at least every third year for US residents and at least every sixth year for non-US residents. Active members may nominate other members and vote on Association business.

Life fellows/members will consist of those active fellows or members of at least fifteen years' duration who, upon retirement from professional activities, may choose to request this category. They shall continue to receive information about association activities. They may continue to nominate other members and vote on association business. They can continue to provide financial support to the association using the contribution opportunities.

Trainee members will consist of current post-doctoral fellows and residents-in-training living in and outside of the US. Eligibility for trainee status expires after five consecutive years. They may vote, but not nominate. Following the completion of a maximum of five years as a trainee member, trainee members may be nominated for active membership in the usual fashion (described below). To be nominated for trainee membership, an adviser or member of APPA would need to write a letter on behalf of the trainee.

A majority of those present at the annual business meeting shall be necessary for election to the relevant membership categories. Candidates for all membership categories shall be proposed in writing to the Council by the Membership Chair.

ARTICLE V

Officers

The officers of the Association shall be a President, a President-Elect, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Local Arrangements Chair, and a Membership Chair whose duties shall be those usually fulfilled by such officers. There shall also be four Councilors. Collectively, the officers and councilors will be known as the APPA Council and these 11 individuals constitute the voting members of the Council. One of the Councilors shall be the outgoing President, who will become a Councilor for a one year period during the year succeeding his or her administration. The remaining three Councilors will be elected to serve non-overlapping four year terms. Elections for these positions will be held as necessary to replace the councilor(s) whose term(s) has (have) expired. Once elected, the Vice-President will serve on Council for four years, one year each as Vice-President, President-elect, President and Post-presidency councilor.

The Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Chair are important long-term positions in the organization and will each serve four-year renewable terms. Elections for each of these positions will be held in alternating years of a four-year cycle, such that election for only one of the positions occurs in any given year. The order of the elections in the four-year cycle will be determined and, if necessary, revised by the voting members of Council, on the basis of a majority vote.

At any point in which a Council member cannot complete his/her term, the Council will engage the process for electing an interim member, but the term of the interim member will be limited to the time remaining in the term of the officer whom he/she is elected to replace.

The nomination of candidates for office shall be made by a nominating committee appointed by the President. The nominating committee shall consider all names sent to it by mail by February 1st of each year, and will present their recommendations to the Council. The Council will select a slate to be presented at the annual

business meeting for election.

The nominating committee shall consist of at least three fellows, at least one of whom shall be a former president of the Association.

The Council shall meet at least once in the fall of the year prior to the annual meeting to conduct business. The Association may at the annual meeting, alter or reverse any action of the Council by a majority of at least two-thirds of those present.

ARTICLE VI

Quorum

Active and life members and fellows who attend the annual business meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII

Election to Membership

Candidates for membership may be nominated by APPA members or may self-nominate for membership. A nomination statement should be sent to the Membership Chair summarizing the qualifications of the candidate, and should include the candidate's current CV. To qualify for membership, candidates typically will have completed their graduate training and published peer-reviewed articles reflecting original contributions to psychopathology research.. Candidates for fellowship must be nominated in writing by two active fellows. Each fellowship candidate shall submit a current C.V. to the membership chair, along with two letters of nomination from active fellows. The membership chair will present a statement of qualifications for each nominated member and fellow prior to the consideration of candidates by Council. Only those membership or fellowship candidates recommended by a majority of the Council shall be eligible for election. In all cases, the vote of the Council on a candidate shall be reported to those attending the annual business meeting who will then vote on acceptance.

ARTICLE VIII

Forfeiture of Membership/Fellowship

Any person elected to membership, fellowship or trainee membership and failing to pay his or her first annual dues before the next meeting of the Association shall be deemed to have declined election.

Any active member or fellow failing to attend three (US members) or six (non-US members) successive annual meetings without written excuse acceptable to the Council may be dropped from membership. Anyone failing to pay dues for three successive years shall cease to be a member of the Association.

On recommendation of the Council and a majority vote of those present at the annual business meeting, membership or fellowship may be terminated for good and sufficient cause. Notification of such proposed expulsion must be sent to each active member and fellow of the Association at least five weeks before the annual meeting.

ARTICLE IX

Amendment of Constitution

Any proposed amendment to the Constitution must be submitted in writing to the Council, signed by five active members, at least eight weeks before the annual meeting. The Council shall then give notification to each active member of the proposed amendment which shall then be acted upon at the following meeting; a two-thirds majority of those present shall be necessary to carry an amendment.

Adopted 1915. Amended 1923, 1941, 1952, 1966, 1969, 1982, 1984, 1994, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2016.