

NYSPA RULES OF COUNCIL

October, 1986 - Approved
June, 1989 - Amended
November, 1995 - Amended

I. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE RULES OF COUNCIL TO BYLAWS

- A. In the event of any inconsistencies between the RULES OF COUNCIL and the BYLAWS, the BYLAWS shall take precedence.
- B. If the BYLAWS are silent and the RULES OF COUNCIL provide regulation, the RULES OF COUNCIL shall take precedence.
- C. If both the BYLAWS and the RULES OF COUNCIL are silent the procedure or policy to follow shall be determined by a majority vote of Council.
- D. The decision of the parliamentarian, as to whether the provisions of A, B or C shall prevail, shall be binding.

II. STRUCTURE OF COUNCIL AND MEETINGS

- A. The composition of Council shall be:
 1. The officers of the Association
 2. Representatives to the APA Council
 3. Divisional Representatives as designated in BYLAWS, ARTICLE II, Section 2.
 4. Regional Representatives as designated in BYLAWS, ARTICLE II, Section 2.
- B. The number of regular Council meetings and functions of the Council are designated in BYLAWS, ARTICLE II, Sections 3 and 4.

III. CONDITIONS OF COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

- A. Terms and Conditions of Membership
 1. Council representatives from divisions and regions are elected for not more than two consecutive terms of three years each. They assume office at the beginning of the NYSPA new year following their election. The secretary of each division and region shall within 30 days following the elections inform the NYSPA central office of the names of their representatives and their terms of office.
 2. If the membership of a division or region falls below the required minimum for two consecutive years, Council may determine whether the division or region must recall its Council representatives. (See BYLAWS, ARTICLE VII, Section 4).
 3. If a Council member with an unexpired term is elected as an Officer of the Association,
 - a. The Council member shall resign the seat, and the division or region, in keeping with their Bylaws, shall appoint or elect another representative from its body to complete the unexpired term.
 - b. A representative who is serving such an unexpired term, may, at the expiration of the designated term, serve for two full terms if elected.
 4. The same arrangement will be in effect if a Council member resigns or vacates a seat as a representative from Division or Region.
- B. Orientation of New Council Members.
 1. Each new member will be sent a copy of the NYSPA Rules of Council and the BYLAWS and a request that they purchase a copy of Kessey's *Modern Parliamentary Procedure, American Psychological Association, 1994*.
 2. The Secretary shall introduce each new Council member at the first Council meeting of the year.
- C. Attendance and alternates.
 1. If a member fails to attend a Council meeting and does not arrange for an alternate, the NYSPA secretary is requested to inform the president of that voting unit of his/her failure to attend.
 2. If a Council member cannot attend a meeting, the Council shall seat one NYSPA member as an alternate representative for that one meeting provided that the NYSPA member is a divisional or regional officer or has been designated in advance by the division or region to which the regular

representative belongs. Every effort should be made to be sure that this is arranged as far in advance as possible.

3. If a representative to Council fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings or to send an alternate for such meetings, the secretary shall, in writing, so inform the representative's voting unit, and request a written reply that shall designate a new representative and his/her address and phone numbers.

D. Responsibilities of Council Members.

1. Council representatives are expected to attend promptly all Council meetings. If a Council representative cannot attend a meeting, his/her division or region and the NYSPA office should be notified as soon as possible as to who is being designated as an alternate.
2. Council members undertake the personal responsibility of absenting themselves from voting on issues where they might be in a "conflict of interest" position. Such a decision may be made by the Council member(s) themselves and/or by the Council.
3. Council members are expected to conduct themselves with the decorum required of any legislative body.
4. Members may not smoke during Council meetings.
5. Council members are expected to submit written reports (December, March, June) concerning the activities of the unit which they represent.
6. Council representatives are expected to assume responsibilities and assignments as requested by the president and/or the Executive Committee. This may include liaison service on at least one NYSPA committee, which service would help establish liaisons between Council and the NYSPA Committees; attend selected meetings of outside groups; write articles, etc...
7. The application of a Regional Association for affiliation with the Association and for representation to the Council of Representatives shall be reviewed initially by the Executive Committee, which shall submit its recommendations to the Council of Representatives for approval or rejection. Following approval of such application by the Council of Representatives, the representation of a regional association to the Council of Representatives shall commence at the discretion of Council.
8. The president shall appoint a representative from among NYSPA representatives to the APA Council to act as the official liaison with APA.
9. The president shall appoint a senior Association member to act as parliamentarian for his/her term of office.
10. The Council shall adopt Kessey's *Modern Parliamentary Procedure* as its official rule book for all meetings.

IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. The Executive Committee, as provided by the BYLAWS, SECTION IV, A., shall function, between meetings of Council, as the governing body of the Association.

1. It shall convene or teleconference as required and/or at the request of the president.
2. Act on all housekeeping/administrative matters as required.

B. Officers' Tasks.

1. The Secretary, in conjunction with the administrative and office staff, shall take and preserve the minutes and records of the Association, disseminate information about actions taken at Council and Executive Committee meetings, ensure actions taken at Council are executed expeditiously, receive committees' reports of their meetings, activities and recommendations in advance of their presentation to Council, and work with the president and the executive director to facilitate the smooth running of the organization.

As part of such duties, the Secretary shall rely upon central office to:

- a. Keep up to date rosters of divisional and regional officers and Association Committees;
- b. Coordinate the nominations of candidates for NYSPA committee membership and the election of nominated candidates by the Council;
- c. Send a copy of the BYLAWS and the RULES OF COUNCIL and any revisions of either document to each new president of a division or region or new committee chair.
- d. Within a week of a Council or Executive Committee meeting, inform necessary parties of any decision requiring their action.
- e. Take whatever additional actions are necessary to implement the above.

2. The treasurer shall function as the Association's chief financial officer and as part of such duties shall
 - a. Present to Council quarterly budget reports and any other budget reports if needed.
 - b. Send notification for all budget requests for the following year. This notice shall be mailed to divisional presidents, committee chairs and vendors at least six weeks before the date of the Finance Committee meeting.
 - c. The treasurer shall sign checks and drafts on behalf of the Association for the disbursement of funds for purposes duly authorized by Council. The treasurer shall also have the authority to sign checks and drafts on behalf of and from the funds of the respective divisions, task forces or committees on presentation of proper vouchers from the authorized division officer.
 - d. At such times as Council shall direct, the treasurer shall submit an itemized financial record of the receipts and expenditures of the Association for a relevant designation period.

V. REIMBURSEMENT

- A. Reimbursements, in keeping with the limitations that follow, will be made for all official NYSPA activities of officially designated members and staff. This includes officers, members of NYSPA's Council of Representatives, members of NYSPA-wide task forces, BYLAWS, appointive and ad hoc committees, the executive director and central office staff.
 1. Reimbursement from NYSPA will be made only upon the submission of a completed NYSPA travel voucher to the NYSPA office within 30 days of the claimed expenses. Receipts for each expenditure must be submitted with the voucher. Explanations are required for all expenditures of an unusual nature. Vouchers are obtainable from the NYSPA office on request. Reimbursements for approved expenses will be made as quickly as possible.
 2. NYSPA will reimburse round trip costs of Council representatives and committee members for regularly scheduled meetings and officially approved activity, in accordance with current reimbursement policy.
- B. NYSPA Volunteer Representation to APA And Other Activities.
 1. NYSPA Representatives to the APA Council.
 - a. NYSPA will reimburse each representative for travel and lodging for meetings of the APA Council for any amount not covered by the APA.
 2. Representatives to APA Leadership Conference
 - a. NYSPA may send
 - the president
 - the president-elect
 - the secretary
 - the treasurer
 NYSPA APA Council of Representative(s) chair(s) of a major NYSPA committee may attend if their budget allows.
 - b. NYSPA will reimburse travel and room expenses of all so designated representatives unless reimbursed by APA.
 3. Representatives to other approved organizations and activities.
 NYSPA will reimburse for attendance at such activities with pre-approval of division/task force/committee chairs and the NYSPA treasurer.

VI. AFFILIATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- A. The Council of Representatives shall vote upon NYSPA's membership in or affiliation with any organization, the fees, dues or contributions and representation.
 1. The American Psychological Association (APA) and its related internal organizations.
 - a. The Council of Representatives, (See BYLAWS, IV, Section 1 and RULES OF COUNCIL, III, B, 1.)
 - b. The Women's Caucus of the APA Council of Representatives.
 - c. Division 31, Division of State Associations.
 - d. NYSPA Council shall elect the NYSPA representative to Division 31's Board for a term of only 3 years and a representative may not serve a second consecutive term.

2. NYSPA and Related Organizations.
 - a. The NYSPA Council of Representatives shall also serve as the Board of Directors of the Foundation of the New York State Psychological Association. They shall act on behalf of the Foundation in accordance with the NYSPA and Foundation BYLAWS.
3. Organizations with whom NYSPA has Affiliation or Membership.
 - a. Council shall elect representatives to these organizations which representatives shall serve as long as they are on Council but for no more than two full consecutive terms of three years each. A minimum of one year shall lapse between the end of second term and the election to a new term.

VII. DIVISIONS

- A. Council, in keeping with the BYLAWS shall accept or terminate a division's representation to Council.
- B. Divisions represented on Council are listed in Appendix A.

VIII. APPOINTIVE COMMITTEES, AD HOC COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

- A. Council shall approve the formation or dissolution of all appointive committees.
- B. The function and composition of appointive committees shall be governed by the RULES OF COUNCIL.
- C. Council shall approve the appointment of all members to the appointive committees.
- D. Appointive committee members will serve one term of 3 years and may be reappointed.
- E. Selection for membership on an appointive committee is the responsibility of that appointive committee.
 1. Each appointive committee shall notify the central office three months before new NYSPA officers assume their positions of the number of committee vacancies to be filled.
 2. NYSPA members who wish to be appointed to a committee should send to the Chair of that Committee:
 - a. A letter indicating his/her commitment to serve if appointed by Council;
 - b. A statement of experience pertinent to the committee function;
 - c. And whatever material the committee chair suggests.
 3. The secretary shall submit to Council a slate consisting of candidates for each open position on the committee.
 4. The Council shall appoint the committee chair who will serve for a renewable one-year term.
 5. The President shall appoint all ad hoc committees and task forces.
- F. The appointive committees and their charge are listed in the Appendix.

IX. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS (N & E)

It shall be the responsibility of the Council of Representatives to oversee all elections and to ensure that the conditions set forth in BYLAWS, IX are observed.

- A. Nominations and Election Committee
 1. The N & E Committee of NYSPA shall consist of the past-president of NYSPA as chair, and past-presidents of divisions of NYSPA.
 2. It shall be the responsibility of the chair of the NYSPA N & E Committee to call all N & E meetings.
 3. The chair of the N & E Committee will compile a list of all vacancies with the help of central office and solicit all nominations by December 15.
- B. Nominations.
 1. Members who wish to be nominated for an office must submit to the appropriate N & E chair, a statement signed by December 15 indicating the member's willingness to serve if nominated and elected to that office.
 2. Other members may also nominate candidates by December 15 for an office in a division in which the individuals hold membership or for a NYSPA wide-office. These nominations must have signed statements from such proposed candidates by December 15 which indicates their willingness to serve if nominated & elected to the office.
 3. The ballot shall contain the names submitted and will be mailed by March 15 to all voting members.
- C. Establishment of Slates.
 1. In constructing a slate of officers, the N & E Committee shall keep in mind factors such as service to the Association, division or a region, interests of the candidate which reflect the all purpose nature of

the association and the value of diversity such as geography, specialty area, gender and ethnic minority status.

2. Only the regular members of the N & E Committee, guided by the responses, shall propose the slate of Candidates. Each slate will be composed of at least 2 candidates -- the mandated candidates (those who have received the percentage of votes required for nomination for division offices) and whatever additions, if any, the N & E Committee chooses to make.

D. Election Procedures.

1. The N & E Committee shall
 - a. Notify the candidates who have been nominated for office.
 - b. Send each nominee
 - 1) a statement for the candidate which will acknowledge his/her agreement to run for office.
 - 2) the material required from the nominee for the election ballots.
 - c. Establish a deadline of four weeks after such notification by which time all required materials must be received in the NYSPA Office.
2. There will be only one general forum for electioneering for NYSPA-wide offices and it will be financed by NYSPA.
 - a. For the office of president-elect of NYSPA, this forum will consist of the following material for each candidate and will be mailed along with the election ballots.
 - 1) A picture - glossy finish size 2 x 2 (optional)
 - 2) A biographical sketch
 - 3) A personal statement (of no more than 300 words).
 - 4) One letter of support signed by NYSPA members. Signatures on the support letter must be by name only without any identity titles or indications of past or present offices.
 - b. Neither NYSPA officers nor the members of the N & E Committee may sign letters of support or publicly endorse a candidate.
 - c. N & E Committee members may not run for office during their tenure on the committee.
3. Appropriate electioneering actions that may be taken.
 - a. The candidate may send personal letters or make telephone calls to friends and colleagues. Such letters or calls should be individual, involve minimal expense, all of which should be borne by the candidate, and be done entirely by the candidate.
 - b. Divisions and regions may support a candidate who is a member of such division or region for a NYSPA wide position through such established channels as an article in the *NYSPA Notebook*.
4. Violations of the spirit in NYSPA elections:
 - a. The use of NYSPA mailing labels on behalf of a candidate for a NYSPA office: NYSPA will not sell or permit use of its mailing lists or labels for campaign purposes.
 - b. "Dear Colleague" or other form letters sent by an individual or group of individuals or to some group of persons on some list, many of whom may not know the individuals writing to them.
 - c. Mass mailings of any sort except as approved above. Expenditure of such funds for such purposes, either by the candidates or their supporters is expressly disapproved.
 - d. Mailings to the membership or sub-groups of the membership on behalf of a candidate are disapproved even if information about the other candidate is included.
 - e. While it is permissible, as noted above, for an established group of NYSPA to call the attention of its members to a particular candidate or candidates through established mechanisms, it is not appropriate for the group also to distribute this material to other groups of members of other groups -- except to its usual mailing list.
 - f. It is not permissible for a candidate, associated with a group that is not affiliated with or part of NYSPA, to use the mailing lists of that outside organization to reach that organization's members who are also NYSPA members.
5. Procedures for Investigating Possible Irregularities.
 - a. In the event of allegations or charges of violations of the regulations, the N & E Committee will conduct an appropriate inquiry in consultation with NYSPA's legal counsel.
 - b. Following such an inquiry, the N & E Committee will report its findings with appropriate recommendations to the Council.
 - c. The Council may elect to conduct its own hearing.
 - d. The Council has the following options:

- 1) Dismiss the charges.
- 2) Nullify the candidacy of the candidate and notify the membership of its decision.

6. The Election Results.

- a. To be counted, ballots must be received in the Association's office by the stated deadline.
- b. Central office shall check all names and signatures on the ballot envelopes and verify the membership of the voters.
- c. Ballots are to be counted within one week of the deadline for their return.
- d. Only central office staff and members of the N & E Committee may handle the ballots. Candidates and other members may be present for the ballot-counting.
 - 1) All ballots will be opened by members of the N & E Committee and central office staff.
 - 2) Ballots will be sorted according to the offices to be elected.
 - 3) The chairs of the NYSPA N & E committee along with central office staff shall immediately telephone all elected candidates and inform them of the election results.
 - 4) All ballots and results are to be held in tight security for 90 days after the date of the ballot count.
 - 5) The chair of the NYSPA N & E Committee will inform the Council of the election results.

X. DISCIPLINING OF MEMBERS

The following are procedures to be used in dropping a member from membership in the Association:

- A. Procedures for dropping a members from membership shall be initiated within one year of the date that the occurrence of one or more of the bases for dropping membership is discovered by NYSPA.
- B. Appropriate matters raising a question as to whether or not a members should be dropped will be referred to the Council by the Executive Director.
- C. The Council shall refer the matter to the membership chair which shall obtain available information and determine whether the matter warrants further review. If such review is warranted, the chair shall promptly advise the member in writing of the reason(s) for the possible dropping from membership. The member will then have thirty days in which to submit in writing any information he/she desires, or to request to resign from NYSPA. If the member chooses resignation from NYSPA, his/her offer of resignation must be accompanied by an affidavit acknowledging the occurrence of one of the bases for dropping from membership. Any other resignation will not be accepted. If the member does not respond within thirty days, the chair shall refer the matter to Council for decision. A responding member shall authorize NYSPA and the chair to obtain information concerning the matter from all appropriate persons and agencies. Failure to authorize release of such information may be considered as one factor in determining the appropriateness of dropping the member from membership. The member does not have the right to a hearing, to appear personally before the chair or the Council, or to call witnesses. The chair shall consider only information which has been submitted in writing. After reviewing the available information, the chair shall refer the matter to the Council which shall be provided with the available information. The Council, in consultation with the executive director and ethics legal counsel, shall then decide whether the member should be dropped from membership, permitted to resign or otherwise. Resignation by a member when accompanied by an affidavit as described above will be permitted by the Council except where doing so would not be in the best interests of the Association. The chair shall advise the member of the decision of the Council and the basis for the decision. The Council shall keep appropriate minutes or other records of its decisions. The member shall have no right to appeal the Council's decision.
- D. All information concerning dropping from membership shall be confidential, except that such information may be disclosed: when compelled by a valid subpoena or otherwise required by law; to ethical legal counsel of the Association; to staff of the Association and to other duly appointed persons authorized by NYSPA to assist in carrying out its functions; to the American Psychological Association, the Canadian Psychological Association, and any affiliated state, regional, provincial or territorial association; to any state, provincial, or territorial licensing and certification board; to the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards; to any party that initially informed NYSPA of the occurrence of one of bases for dropping of the member; to the membership of NYSPA; and to

other appropriate parties. The above requirement of confidentiality shall not prevent NYSPA from responding to any inquiry regarding the membership status of a member who has been dropped from membership.

- E. Records regarding dropping from membership and resignation following the occurrence of one of the bases for dropping membership shall be maintained indefinitely.
- F. If a member who has resigned from membership as described in Section X, C or been dropped from membership reapplies for membership in NYSPA, then any decision regarding such reapplication shall be at the sole discretion of the Council.

XI. SPECIAL COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

- A. Committee on Membership.
 - 1. Approval of new members by Council will be conducted by periodically circulating lists of potential members. Council will be given two weeks to reply as to whether there is objection to any of the potential members. No reply would constitute approval of the potential member (Amended 6/16/89).

XII. EFFECTIVE DATE OF ADOPTION

These Rules of Council shall take effect five business days after their approval.

XIII. AMENDMENTS

- A. Proposed amendment(s) to the Rules of Council must be presented to all members of Council in writing at least 4 weeks or 30 days prior to the date of the Council meeting at which the proposed amendment(s) will be discussed and/or voted on.
- B. Amendments to the Rules of Council must be approved by a vote of the majority of representatives present at the Council meeting.
- C. Approved amendments shall take effect five business days after their approval by Council.

APPENDIX A: DIVISIONS

I. RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. Obligations of Divisions and Divisional Leadership
 - 1. Divisions are integral components of the Association. Their actions, for legal purposes, are actions of NYSPA. For that reason, any legal liability generated by a division might be imputed for legal purposes to the Association as a whole. It is therefore critically important to NYSPA that division leadership and staff become familiar with the principles discussed below, and that whenever questions concerning current or proposed courses of division action arise, division leadership contact the executive director. Divisions and their leadership owe NYSPA legal duty to conform their actions to

the law, the BYLAWS and the Rules of Council and to act consistently with NYSPA's best interests at all times.

2. No member, regional representative, officer of a division, chair of a committee, or individual Council member may take any action to bind the Association except pursuant to the approval of the Association's treasurer, Executive Committee or executive director. Any contract, lease, purchase, rental, pledging, or other obligation must have prior approval of the Executive Committee of the Council or Representatives or of the executive director. Only the president or the executive director may sign any form of agreement or obligation.
 3. Equipment is defined as assets used in a division, committee or task force operations that have an estimated useful life of one year or longer, or a value of \$250 or more. All equipment requests shall be approved and purchased by the central office (which has a tax exempt IRS number). All equipment so purchased shall belong to NYSPA for use of the Association.
 4. The Executive Committee may approve recurring and regular expenditures in excess of the above amounts. Such standing approval shall be documented in the minutes of the divisional or committee meetings and reflected in the annual budget of the Association.
- B. Use of the NYSPA Name or Name of any Division, Committee or Task Force, Acronym or Logo.
1. Because the name of the Association, its acronym and logo, represent the full membership of the Association, and because the use of these symbols may imply an approval and endorsement by the full Association, and because only the president, elected by a majority of the voting members, and the full body of the Council of Representatives do so represent the full membership; only the president, Council or executive director shall have the authority to designate use of the name, acronym and logo of the Association.
 2. No member, regional representative, officer of a division, chair of a committee, task force, or individual member of Council or Representatives may independently use the name of the Association, the acronym "NYSPA" or logo of the Association without prior approval of the president or the Council of Representatives which may act through its Executive Committee.
 3. This rule shall also apply to any use of letterhead in any form, the production of books, materials, psychological testing materials, radio or television productions, video taping, audio taping, etc.
 4. This rule shall not be interpreted to prevent individual members of NYSPA from identifying their membership in the Association or their holding office or position in the Association as part of their personal credits. This rule does not prevent members representing a group within NYSPA, a region, committee, task force, etc. from identifying or representing their constituencies. But such representation shall make clear that representation is of a group within the Association, and not the full Association unless prior approval is received.

II. DIVISIONAL NAME AND SPECIALTY INTERESTS

A. **Division of Academic Psychology**

This division consists of psychologists teaching and conducting research in academic settings throughout the state. The division conducts seminars and workshops and is a frequent co-sponsor of workshops with other divisions. It is particularly interested in activities involving graduate students in psychology, and hopes to evolve as a clearinghouse for student-professor interaction. The division is active in determining appropriate criteria for use in evaluating acceptable training in psychology, and organizing high school teachers of psychology in New York State.

B. **Division on Addictions**

This division was created in response to the dramatic rise in substance abuse problems in recent years and the corresponding need for psychologists to help combat this enormous problem. The Division on Addictions is dedicated to promoting the greater involvement and proficiency of psychologists in treatment, research, and social policy of alcoholism, drug abuse, and other addictions. It also addresses the problem of psychologists who are impaired by addiction. The division holds regular meetings throughout the year, and is very active in creating professional training opportunities through workshops, seminars, and conferences. Membership is open to psychologists interested in addictions whether or not they are actively working in the field.

C. **Division of Adult Development & Aging**

This division has as its goals: to educate professionals and the public about normal development in later life and aging, to increase professional and public awareness about clinical psychological services, to train practitioners in clinical psychological services for older adults and the aging, to participate in the development of service and advocacy systems for older persons and their families, to provide professional forums for professionals, students and the public to share information, and to support research in areas of adult development and aging.

D. Division of Clinical Psychology

A New York State license as a psychologist and two years of supervised clinical experience is required to join this division as a full member. Members work in settings ranging from state psychiatric facilities to private, independent, or clinical practice. The division has several committees actively involved in various professional issues: insurance reimbursement for private practice, managed care, status and rights of psychologists in institutions, professional training and standards, and continuing education.

E. Division of Group Psychology and Psychotherapy

The Division of Group Psychology and Psychotherapy promotes scientific, clinical and practice goals for group psychology and group psychotherapy. The division works toward enhancing the efficacy and creativity in group psychotherapy to meet the needs for quality treatment of mental and emotional disorders in a humanistic way.

F. Division of Independent Practice

The Division of Independent Practice (formerly the New York Society of Clinical Psychologists) is a division centered around advancing the interests of psychologists in independent practice. The division holds conferences and workshops throughout the year, and encourages active participation.

G. Division of Neuropsychology

Neuropsychologists come from a variety of clinical and experimental specializations in psychology. They often work with psychiatrists, neurologists, rehabilitation or special education personnel in universities, hospitals and independent practice. The work of clinical neuropsychologists often emphasizes cognitive evaluation and remediation using techniques derived from research. The Neuropsychology Division will work to advance the interests of neuropsychologists around issues of education, training and practice in New York State. A specific aim will be to educate the public, the health care community and insurers about the services provided by neuropsychologists.

H. Division of Personnel, Industrial & Organizational Psychology

The Personnel, Industrial & Organizational Division has member psychologists working in assessment, selection and placement, employee training and development, employee teaching, personnel research, product evaluation, and the design of work environments. Members are employed in business, industry, consulting firms, government agencies, universities and non-profit organizations. Many members hold memberships in other local and national organizations in the P/I/O arena, providing an efficient network for the exchange of information.

I. Division of Psychologists in the Public Sector

Recognizing the need for professional advocacy for psychologists practicing or teaching in the public sector, this division addresses issues encountered in federal, state, county or municipal agencies or other public, educational, social service or health care institutions. The division is interested in activities that promote better appreciation and recognition of psychological services at all levels of general and mental health care through the highest standards of ethical, scientific and professional practice.

J. Division of School Psychology

The senior organization of school psychologists in the state, the Division of School Psychology has led organized application of state education policy regarding out-of-school psychology services and lobbies to maintain school psychology's place in special education evaluation and placement. Doctoral and/or diplomate training is encouraged.

K. Division of Social Issues and Cross-Cultural Psychology

This division focuses on all areas of social psychology and is concerned with social, cross-cultural research, multi-ethnic interactions and belief systems, social influence and attitudes. Among this division's activities are those of promoting and encouraging research, organizing and holding lectures, symposia and conferences, as well as co-sponsoring meetings with other divisions on topics pertinent to the focus of this division.

L. Division of Women's Issues

The Division of Women's Issues responds to the need for a forum addressing the professional, social, and personal interests of women. It is a diverse and open group, representing all the specialties of psychology. Women of different ethnicities, lifestyles, and theoretical orientations are represented in our membership and enhance the stimulating and creative group spirit. This division holds regular, informal meetings on the psychology of women, or on social issues that are relevant to women.

APPENDIX B: COMMITTEES/TASK FORCES

Committee members serve for three years and are elected or approved by Council. Chairs serve for one-year; terms are renewable by the president. A list of committee/task force members are maintained in the NYSPA central office. It is the duty of the chair to regularly report changes/vacancies to the central office.

Please call the NYSPA central office (800-732-3933) for an updated list of Committee and Task Forces.