

Board of Educational Affairs 2023 Annual Report

Board/Committee Members: Susan Opotow, PhD (Chair); Karen Naufel, PhD (Chair-Elect); Hideko Sera, PsyD; Beth Doll, PhD; Tim A. Cavell, PhD; Melanie M. Wilcox, PhD; Jessica Kendorski, PhD; Peggy Brady-Amoon, PhD; Laura K. Bryan, PhD; Sam McQuillin, PhD; and Emily Musser, PhD.

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The Board of Educational Affairs (BEA) addresses issues encompassing all levels of education, from PreK to continuing education and life-long learning. This report provides information on some of BEA's significant activities for 2023.

Demographic Cliff

In alignment with the American Psychological Association's (APA) strategic goal to prepare the discipline and profession of psychology for the future, BEA began implementation of this initiative to educate psychologists on the psychology-specific threats to prepare for the expected dramatic decline in higher education enrollment (known as the great cliff or demographic cliff). BEA members contributed actionable ideas to an article slated for publication in a 2024 digital edition of the *APA Monitor on Psychology*.

BEA Workgroup on Equitable Admissions for Psychology Graduate Programs

Formed in 2021 with representation from the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students (APAGS), the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI), the BEA, the Board of Scientific Affairs (BSA), the Committee for Associate and Baccalaureate Education (CABE), and the Policy and Planning Board (P&P), the workgroup is drafting educative guidelines on equitable admissions processes for psychology graduate programs based on the psychological science and evidence regarding disparate effects of current graduate school admissions processes.

BEA/BPA Board of Educational Affairs Task Force on Doctoral Competencies in Health Service Psychology

This task force, convened by BEA and BPA in 2021, is charged to revise and update the competencies expected from graduates of doctoral programs in health service areas of psychology. The Task Force will also propose other actions APA may need to take to adequately distinguish doctoral-level training in HSP from master's-level training in HSP beyond the ongoing efforts by BEA, BPA, and the APA Commission on Accreditation. The Task Force developed a draft of the competencies and expects to circulate the document for public comment in 2024.

APA BEA Racial Disparities Task Force

In June 2020, BEA convened the Task Force to update the recommendations from the 2012 Ethnic and Racial Disparities in Education report. The report features updated research and provides recommendations for practice, advocacy, research, and educator preparation. The Task Force's report and recommendations, [*Racism and Bias: Their Role in Maintaining Racial Disparities in Education*](#), were received by the Council of Representatives in August 2023.

APA Policy, Principles, and Guidelines

The APA Council of Representatives adopted the following BEA-recommended and approved items as APA policy in 2023.

1. [*Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in Quality Continuing Education and Professional Development Resolution*](#) (February 2023)
2. [*APA Principles for Quality Undergraduate Education in Psychology*](#) (February 2023)

3. [*Educational Guidelines for the Equitable and Respectful Treatment of Students in Graduate Psychology Programs*](#) (February 2023)
4. [*APA Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major: Version 3.0*](#) (August 2023)

APA Council Policy Manual 5-Year Review

Per APA Rule 30-9.2, BEA reviewed eighteen education-related policies as part of the 5-year APA Council Policy Manual review. The council will vote on the policies in February 2024.