

American Psychology-Law Society
Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 21, 2024 | 8am Pacific

Voting Members – All 11 voting members were present.

<u>P</u>	Dan Murrie, President	<u>P</u>	Virginia Barber Rioja, Member at Large
<u>P</u>	Christian Meissner, President-Elect	<u>P</u>	Natalie Anumba, Member at Large
<u>P</u>	Barry Rosenfeld, Past President	<u>P</u>	Jessica Salerno, Member at Large
<u>P</u>	Lindsay Malloy, Secretary	<u>P</u>	Jen Groscup, APA Council Representative
<u>P</u>	Jennifer Perillo, Treasurer	<u>P</u>	Margaret Bull Kovera, APA Council Representative
<u> </u>		<u>P</u>	Cecilia Allan, Student Committee Chair

P Present **A** Absent

Quorum = 6 of 11 (more than 50% of voting members of the EC, per the by laws)

Guests/Non-Voting Members

- James Andretta
- Cassandra Bailey
- Ashley Batastini
- Ana Belmonte
- Christopher Bishop
- Eve Brank
- Andrew Bustos
- Cait Cavanagh
- Tiffany Clomax
- Jennifer Cox
- Dave DeMatteo
- Amanda Fanniff
- Melodie Foellmi
- Elizabeth Foster
- Karen Grabowski
- Emily Haney-Caron
- Lori Hoetger
- Lara Guzman-Hosta
- Jennifer Hunt – for a portion of the meeting
- Megan Irgens
- Lisa Kan
- Andre Kehn
- Megan Kienzle
- Lauren Kois
- Jason Lawrence
- Maribel Leon
- Brad McAuliff
- Monica Miller
- Marina Mukhin
- Alicia Nijdam-Jones
- Ayamana Payne
- Anthony Perillo
- Krystia Reed
- Tara Ryan
- Danielle Rynczak
- Kaitlin Sheerin
- Cortney Simmons
- Meg Ternes
- Lindsey Wylie
- Ahmar Zaman
- Samantha Zottola

Guests/Non-Voting Members from Synergos:

- Joy DesMarais-Lanz
- Emma Paskoff

No members or guests were present via the Zoom link.

*Indicates that a motion was made.

I. Call to Order – Welcome and Introductions

President Murrie called the meeting to order at 8:10am and invited everyone to introduce themselves briefly.

II. Approval of Agenda

*President Murrie made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed.

III. AP-LS Conference Co-Chair Update

Cait Cavanaugh and Sam Zottola informed everyone that they are open to feedback on this year's conference and that it would be useful as they will soon be updating the manual for next year's co-chairs.

They said that they had had a positive experience with Synergos (formerly Mattison) in the 2024 conference planning and that they anticipate it will be even better next year as Synergos learned the process this past year.

IV. Motion to Approve the Previous (November) EC Meeting Minutes

*President Murrie made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous EC meeting in November, 2023. There were no objections or corrections. This motion passed.

V. Motion to Approve a Correction to the August EC Meeting Minutes

Secretary Malloy explained that there was one minor correction to the August EC meeting minutes – Samantha Zottola had not been listed as in attendance.

*President Murrie made a motion to approve this correction, and the motion passed.

VI. Announcements

1. Margaret Kovera, APA Council Rep:

APA Council Rep. Kovera announced that APA Council had met a few weeks ago and that they had finished up some things that former Council Rep. Jason Cantone had been working on. They had a resolution concerning involuntary/solitary confinement of juveniles that passed with overwhelming support, APA support for parental rights of those with disabilities that passed under Cantone's leadership, and a gender-affirming care item that passed. The gender-affirming care item is in relation to the state of Missouri target psychologists who provide care to trans youth. This passed and helped with those going before the board in MO.

The Council Reps. are working on a resolution concerning combatting misinformation; Kovera helped get that on agenda before the new US election cycle.

2. Andre Kehn, APA Conference Co-Chair

Kehn gave an update regarding the APA 2024 conference in Seattle, August 8-10. He stated that notifications have gone out regarding submissions. More information will be forthcoming about the program. He thanked both of his co-chairs (Tara Ryan and Krystia Reed).

3. Barry Rosenfeld, Awards

Past President Rosenfeld announced that every 4 years the Lynn Stewart Weiss award is rotated between 4 APA divisions, with AP-LS being one of them. It involves giving an address at the APA conference. This year Craig Haney from UC Santa Cruz will receive the award. Dr. Haney does outstanding work on topics like the effects of incarceration and solitary confinement. Rosenfeld does not know the date of the talk yet but encourages people who will be at the conference to attend. SPSSI puts out a solicitation for this award every 4 years when it is their turn.

Rosenfeld indicated that AP-LS should put out a solicitation for it when it's our turn next (2028) so he wants us to have it on our radar.

VII. Synergos Reports

1. Strategic Planning Process

Joy DesMarais-Lanz (Synergos) provided an overview of strategic planning and the “why” concerning such a plan being warranted for AP-LS. She noted that the goals and boundaries that come with a strategic plan would help AP-LS and that all of her clients set 3-year strategic plans. She indicated that if we go forward with the idea of a strategic plan, then DesMarais-Lanz would send out an RFP in a month for a consultant/skilled facilitator. The decision making body for this RFP/consultant would be the Presidential trio, and they would bring it forward to the August 2024 EC meeting. It would be a budget item for 2025.

President Elect Meissner noted that the last strategic plan that AP-LS did was in 2013 under Brian Cutler's leadership. Doing such a plan is important for our organization to be able to evaluate and innovate.

One member asked what a consultant would do to help us formulate a strategic plan. DesMarais-Lanz indicated that a consultant would advise us on best practices and would have relevant expertise as well as be an external/neutral person to AP-LS. She further noted that adding the task of creating a strategic plan to any of our current EC members would be an enormous task.

One member asked if we would have a chance to weigh in on the RFP. DesMarais-Lanz stated that we would – competitive proposals would be viewed and voted on at our August meeting.

*President Murrie made a motion to approve creating an RFP and seeking proposals. The motion passed.

2. AP-LS Volunteer Process

DesMarais-Lanz indicated that Synergos has heard us loud and clear about the need for better Volunteer Resources for AP-LS members who serve the organization. They are working toward a page on the website where resources could be posted for guidance, including a calendar of key dates, what is due to whom and when. This portion of the AP-LS website would be for members only. Joy DesMarais-Lanz recognizes that we all have jobs and are volunteering for AP-LS.

Web Editor Lindsey Wylie noted that there is a lot of confusion about technology – committee members don't know where to put or send things (e.g., to the web editor vs. social media chair) and what resources are available to everyone (e.g., Google Enterprise). Wylie would like to see technology and communication guidance being part of the onboarding and something that Synergos works on in relation to Volunteer Resources.

3. AP-LS 2026 Annual Conference Proposal

Emma Paskoff (Synergos) joined the meeting for the discussion of the 2026 conference RFPs.

Discussion began with the EC being informed that the choices had been narrowed down to 3 cities: Dallas (Gaylord), Reno, Las Vegas with 5 proposals in those 3 cities. Other cities were explored but AP-LS can be a tough conference to place because we don't have a large food and beverage spend. One member noted that historically we have had the state of CA's restrictions that limited where we could have the conference. CA repealed the law that had that list. She wanted to make sure that this fact is part of the picture because Texas was once on that list.

President Murrie noted that we try to prioritize places the conference hasn't been before, or at least not as often.

Paskoff noted that of the 5 proposals, Gaylord, TX was the most pricey with a \$250,000 food and beverage (F and B) minimum. Las Vegas would be Paris and Horseshoe hotels. Paris is a little nicer and Horseshoe is cheaper with a 5 min walk between. Their minimum F and B was \$195,000. For context, our F and B in LA is \$100,000 and we are currently \$11,000 below meeting that (but note that we have cash bar at several different receptions). The Vegas hotels would pay for our whole welcome reception (\$21,000) if we sign by tomorrow.

Paskoff noted that the Reno properties are great, and then a lengthy discussion ensued regarding Reno, which is summarized below:

- The three Reno properties are Atlantis, Peppermill, and Grand Sierra Resort (GSR).
- Atlantis has the cheapest F and B – we would definitely hit and go over their \$40,000 minimum.
- Peppermill has the cheapest room rates.
- At all of the Reno properties, we would get a \$5,000 stipend which is a great incentive.
- Monica Miller (Book Series Editor) has lived in Reno for more than 20 years and provided some great insights. She noted that none of those 3 properties are on the main strip. GSR is relatively isolated with not a whole lot to do out there. Atlantis and Peppermill are nice properties, and both are 5 min Uber rides to the strip. Miller's recommendation would be not to do GSR with Atlantis as her highest recommendation and Peppermill as a close second.
- One member noted that only the Peppermill is the week that we usually use for the conference. All the other options are the week of March 23-29.
- When choosing dates, one member reminded the EC to check religious calendars.
- One member noted that Atlantis is currently renovating rooms but that they would be ready for our conference in 2026.
- Atlantis waives resort fees, 20% discounted AV pricing, and 2 free drink tickets per person. Peppermill has a \$40 per room resort fee.
- A member noted that the national judicial college is in Reno and might be good to integrate it with our conference if held there.

Discussion returned to Las Vegas versus Reno as potential location options:

- One member noted that Las Vegas may have cheaper flight options and more direct flight options for attendees.
- Another member mentioned that a big complaint from previous conferences was members having to move far distances between rooms within the conference space.
- One member noted reminded the EC that Las Vegas had gotten bumped as a conference location in the past due to professional climate concerns and the PDW survey.
- Treasurer Perillo reminded everyone that we simply cannot afford the \$195,000 F and B minimum for Las Vegas and that we would have to double what we are currently spending in LA. She noted that we are already losing money on the conference and would have to significantly raise conference registration rates if we go this route. DesMarais-Lanz said that she might be able to negotiate a *bit* on the F and B but it wouldn't change much.

*President Murrie made a motion to hold the AP-LS 2026 conference in Reno. The motion passed.

DesMarais-Lanz suggested visiting Peppermill and Atlantis in Reno soon with Emma Paskoff and perhaps President Elect Meissner.

*President Murrie made a motion to rapidly send representatives to the Peppermill and Atlantis in Reno to investigate and push for a good deal (e.g., waiver of resort fees). The motion passed.

VIII. AP-LS Partnership with SPA

Lara Guzman-Hosta (Chair of the Practice Committee) noted that a lot of AP-LS members attend SPA (Society for Personality Assessment) and that the two organizations have a partnership (e.g., reciprocal booths at each other's conferences, volunteers at the booths getting their registration fees waived). SPA is asking if AP-LS is willing to do reciprocal discounts for members.

A few members expressed that there does not seem to be a strong need to change anything from what we are currently doing.

There was no motion made. President Murrie noted that if the Practice Committee has strong opinions on next steps, then the EC would consider a motion in the future.

IX. Review and Voting on Scientific Review Paper Committee Terms of Reference and Procedures

Secretary Malloy explained that the Terms of References and Procedures for the Scientific Review Paper Committee had been formalized and revised slightly since the last time they were presented in 2023. There were no objections or comments on the document that will serve as guidance for future Scientific Review Papers submitted to the committee.

*Secretary Malloy made a motion to approve the terms of reference and procedures for Scientific Review Papers. The motion passed.

X. Proposal to Revive and Revise Corrections Committee Awards

Ashley Batastini (Chair of the Corrections Committee) proposed to bring back the Corrections Committee's outstanding career achievement award which was given when Jen Skeem was Chair of the committee. The award, which would not be given every year, would hopefully come with \$1000 and giving a conference talk. She also proposed adding a Corrections Committee early career award.

The proposal was opened up to discussion, and the following points were made:

- One member explained that part of the reason that the former award went dormant was because at the time there was a proliferation of groups within AP-LS that wanted to offer awards, and finding time slots for the awards was tough.
- Several members expressed that, in general, recognition and awards is something that is positive and that we should be encouraging more of in AP-LS. However, several members expressed concern about awards that privilege certain areas.
- A few members expressed concern with yoking conference awards to conference time (e.g., giving talks) in part because other submitted talks get bumped as a result and because awards can be so important for people's careers; if awards are tied to conference time, then AP-LS may not give out as many.
- Another member expressed concern that there was not parity among the awards (e.g., in the amounts received) and that we should be thinking about parity among the committees and awards.
- Batastini expressed that Corrections Committee awards were warranted in part because Corrections is a grossly underrepresented area in the division and that work in this area is very difficult. She stated that the Corrections Committee would like to recognize that as a committee and fear that other awards given by AP-LS may not be given to those who do corrections work compared to other types of work represented by the division. Batastini noted that the committee would be okay to relinquish the conference time (talks) but would still like to give the Corrections Committee awards.

President Murrie suggested that this proposal is directly relevant to the next agenda item and that we should continue this discussion more broadly by moving on to that agenda item.

XI. Proposal to Increase the Number of Divisional Awards

Past President Rosenfeld spoke as Chair of the Nominations and Awards committee. He proposed up to two Distinguished Service awards and up to three Mid Career awards for AP-LS members. None of these awards would involve giving a keynote address at the conference. Recipients would receive plaques, \$1000 travel reimbursement, and it would cost the organization an extra few minutes to give out the awards at the welcome ceremony.

President Elect Meissner spoke about the importance of early career awards and mentioned that perhaps the nominations and awards committee could work with the corrections/practice committee to come up with more general awards.

Several points were made during the discussion concerning awards:

- One member said that they still wanted to see corrections-specific awards.
- Other members expressed concern about awards for particular groups and suggested that this could end up risking that those who do corrections work are excluded from other awards.
- Some members pushed for better representation on the nominations and awards committee of different areas of research/practice and that putting a range of things that would be valued into the award criteria would help with the challenge of comparing CVs across all of the different areas of research and practice that AP-LS members engage in. Expanding the awards more generally should reflect the diversity of our membership and of the different awards as well as help underrepresented areas in the division receive more awards.

- Another member mentioned that advertising for the awards is an issue and that committees could benefit from support in outreach to individuals who may be eligible for awards – that we should better advertise them to cast a wider net.
- Another member mentioned that we should standardize who is speaking at the conference and how much we are providing everyone for awards.
- President Elect Meissner noted that we should also structure the date by which awards are made because conference organizers need this information for the program, checks, etc.

*Past President Rosenfeld made a motion to approve the new Mid Career and Distinguished Service awards. This motion passed with a friendly amendment from Treasurer Perillo to make sure that the definitions of “mid career” match the APA definition.

*Past President Rosenfeld made a second motion that between now and our May EC meeting, the nominations and awards committee puts together a proposal for processes concerning committee-based awards. However, it was determined that a motion was not necessary for this to proceed.

XII. Break

President Murrie called for a 10 minute break at 10:05am. He called the meeting back to order at 10:21am.

XIII. Shadow Chair Proposal

Emily Haney-Caron made a proposal for a shadow chair to begin with the 2026 co-chair selections. The shadow chair would be copied on emails, attend meetings, etc. the year before their co-chair year. There would be a budgetary addition because the shadow would attend the site visit as this provides continuity and helps with ideas. She noted that the budgetary extra would be at most \$1000-\$2000 and would potentially make a big difference in finding good co-chairs and helping them do their jobs.

One member noted that the site visit for the shadow chair may not be necessary given that Synergos will have institutional knowledge. Former/current conference co-chairs said that site visits help enormously with understanding space considerations for programming and making the grid.

DesMarais-Lanz and Treasure Perillo expressed concerns about adding budgetary items when the conference is considerably over budget and that we will have to make decisions in line with that fact because it is not sustainable.

Haney-Caron noted that the free labor provided by the co-chairs is monumental and that the amount of money requested is small when considered in the context of how much they do and what they would gain by having this shadow chair year.

*President Murrie made a motion to accept the shadow chair proposal as it was written in the document provided in the agenda. The motion passed.

XIV. APA Council Update

APA Council Rep. Kovera had already given a few relevant announcements earlier in the meeting (see item VI). There were two additional points:

1. One is that the Council reps. are putting together an item for APA that is trying to codify the 2020 eyewitness scientific review paper so that it would be APA policy instead of just the SRP publication.

2. There is an amicus expert panel luncheon on Saturday with someone from APA and it is not invitation only as stated in the program. Anyone interested can attend.

XV. Governance Committee Report / Code of Conduct Updates

Member at Large Natalie Anumba spoke as Chair of the Governance Committee. There was an ad hoc task force to create the Community Standards document which was approved by the EC last August. The committee has been looking into how to ensure that members adhere to the Community Standards. The more feasible option is an ombuds person who will provide guidance and mediation more informally. An ombuds person who has previously assisted APA has been identified. Currently there is a presidential budget for this person but ongoing financial support would be needed.

There was discussion of using “designated responders” who would be AP-LS members who could provide onsite support during conference hours and during evening events. It was noted that designated responders should receive training in fulfilling this role.

DesMarais-Lanz received a proposal from Navacs that involved just a hotline that members could call if they had issues. Sentiono’s proposal involved a hotline and training and a mobile app – their proposal was cheaper with the training included.

Jenn Hunt noted the training and procedural components were modeled after student conduct boards. If anyone is on student conduct boards and is willing to share their materials, it would be helpful. She has asked other groups who have implemented community standards how often they receive complaints. She said there’s an average of about 2-3 formal complaints per year in those organizations.

One member suggested that at the Community Standards session tomorrow, there should be a discussion regarding whether the EC will appoint members to serve on the board that hears and adjudicates complaints or whether members should be voted on.

One member asked about the timeline, and Member at Large Anumba indicated that they are still nailing down training issues.

XVI. Law and Human Behavior Update

Dave DeMatteo (LHB Editor) took over LHB editorship in January 2024. There are 2 experimental and 4 clinical associate editors. Two of Brad McAuliff’s associate editors are staying on.

LHB has received 50 manuscripts so far under DeMatteo’s leadership.

LHB will continue with initiatives focused on open science, transparency, and diversity in terms of both subject area and personal diversity.

The LHB special issue on bias in the justice system will be a double issue – August and October of this year.

DeMatteo wanted to let the EC know that APA has pulled back our free manuscripts that were open access. He requested that the EC remind APA of their commitment to open science when we can and hold them to it.

XV. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Perillo announced that APA forgot to send over half of the checks that we were supposed to give out at the conference. She has a list of who is missing checks and is trying to get APA to find them and overnight them.

We had approved taking 3% from our investments, and there was an additional transfer of \$450,000 from investments for a total transfer of approximately \$559,000 from our 3.6 million in investments. Thus, we are currently at \$3.18 million in our investment accounts.

Perillo noted that within 7 years, AP-LS will be in dire straits if we keep doing transfers like these. She noted that each committee needs to take a careful look at their programming and ask, "Where can we trim in the organization?" Every committee should carefully think about this before our next budget run in August. June is when committees will make budget requests.

One member noted that we have difficult decisions to make and that we should make them in line with our organization's priorities and values. Another member commented that this is where having our new strategic plan will be important (see item VII).

Treasurer Perillo commented that we did increase conference registration fees and approved a membership dues increase for 2025 so these should help with the deficit.

There was a problem with approximately \$17,000 in graduate grants in aid that did not go out and came out of the 2024 budget instead.

*Past President Rosenfeld made a motion to increase the graduate committee grant in aid budget by \$17,086.17 as a result of this timing issue. The motion passed.

XVI. Meeting Adjourned

President Murrie adjourned the meeting at 11:16am Pacific.