Advocacy Coordinating Committee
JANUARY 27, 2021

Committee Members Present: Kathleen Brown, PhD (chair); Sharon Berry, PhD (chair-elect); Eugene Borgida, PhD; Amanda Dettmer, PhD; April Harris-Britt, PhD; Chuck Hollister, PhD; Steven Kozlowski, PhD; Debra Major, PhD; Karen Postal, PhD; Nadika Paranamana, MA; William Stoops, PhD

Committee Members Absent: Ayli Carrero Pinedo, MA; Robert Frank, PhD

Board of Directors Liaison Present: Sandra Shullman, PhD (Past-President)

APA Staff Present: Andrew Ferreira (Staff Liaison); Katherine McGuire, MS; (Chief Advocacy Officer), Karen Studwell, JD (Deputy Chief Advocacy Officer)

The meeting is called to order at 11:00am Eastern

The Chair’s Report
The Chair’s vision for 2021 is to align the work of the Advocacy Coordinating Committee (ACC) with the APA Advocacy Office. To increase visibility and education of the advocacy priorities, the chair will report regularly at both semi-annual 2021 APA Council of Representatives meetings. In the formulation of the 2022 priorities, the ACC needs to “connect the dots” with Psychology PAC while also being mindful of the national political landscape. The overall goals of the ACC are to recommend the annual Advocacy priorities to the Board and to inform and educate members of the importance of advocacy and how they can incorporate it into their daily professional activities.

The Chief Advocacy Officer’s (CAO) Report
The CAO provided an overview to the ACC on the newly elected Biden Administration’s executive priorities and how APA is working to inform those policies. President Biden is making good on his campaign promises by issuing a record setting 34 executive orders in his first week. CAO encouraged the ACC to review the White House’s priorities website, https://www.whitehouse.gov/priorities/. CAO also discussed the implications of the national political landscape: 24 state governments have Republican trifectas; 147 House members voted to not to certify the Nov. 3 electoral results; some House Democrats are now unwilling to co-sponsor legislation
with the 147 House Republican members. The Advocacy Office is also planning to host four advocacy summits (one per quarter) in 2021 and encourages participation from the ACC.

**ACC Operational Procedures**
ACC members reviewed the drafted operational procedures for the committee’s governance moving forward. An amendment was offered and approved to revise one of the subcommittee’s name to the Advocacy Goals and Needs Assessment Subcommittee. The ACC approved the Operational Procedures by a unanimous voice vote.

**ACC Subcommittees**
The Chair has appointed William Stoops to lead the Advocacy Goals and Needs Assessment Subcommittee and Chuck Hollister to lead the Member Engagement Subcommittee respectively. Each new lead discussed their visions and look forward to working with their colleagues. Further workplans will be developed and discussed in each subcommittees’ inaugural meeting. Vision is for both Subcommittees to work collaboratively throughout the year and position the ACC for the upcoming 2022 priorities assessment.

**The 2021 Calendar of events**
The ACC is invited to attend both the Spring (3/19-3/21) and Fall Consolidated meetings (TBA). The Practice Leadership Conference (3/5-3/7) and APA Advocacy Summit on Telehealth and Health Equity (3/14-3/15) are scheduled for March 2021. There is a Psychology PAC event Celebrating Civility scheduled for Sun. March 7.

*The Committee adjourned until Wed. February 10, 2021*

*AJF*