

**Professional Geropsychology Specialty
Council**

**Bylaws of the Specialty
Council**

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of the specialty council shall be the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council.

ARTICLE II

Mission

The purpose of this Specialty Council is:

1. To actively promote, support, and implement policies and procedures that further the development, education, training, credentialing, and practice of professional geropsychology.
2. To represent all major stakeholders of the specialty of professional geropsychology and facilitate communication with the Council of Specialties in Professional Psychology (CoS), APA-Commission on Accreditation, other professional organizations, and the general public.
3. To promote quality of education, training, credentialing, and practice in professional geropsychology through the maintenance of education and training guidelines.
4. To ensure that professional geropsychology specialty recognition is maintained through in-person meetings, outreach, and educational events.
5. To provide annual reports to CoS about activities of the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council.

ARTICLE III

Membership

1. The member organizations of the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council shall consist of the following: Society of Clinical Geropsychology (SCG), Division 20 of the American Psychological Association (Adult Development and Aging), Psychologists in Long Term Care (PLTC), Council of Professional Geropsychology Training Programs (CoPGTP), the American Psychological Association Committee on Aging (CONA), and the American Board of Geropsychology (ABGERO). Other organizations may request membership on the specialty council and can become members of the Specialty Council after approval by a 2/3 majority vote of the representatives serving on the specialty council.
2. A representative to the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council is an individual selected by one of the above member organizations to be the representative. Each representative is typically appointed for a three-year term and may serve a maximum of two consecutive three-year terms.
3. Terms of representatives to the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council shall begin January 1. Representatives shall commit to attendance at the annual meeting of the Specialty Council (associated with the APA annual convention) and teleconference meetings as required. In case of insufficient participation by a representative, appointment of a new representative may be required by the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council. A replacement representative will be requested from a member organization only upon a unanimous vote of the remaining representatives.

4. The officer of the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council is the Chair. The representatives serving on the Specialty Council shall elect a Chair by simple majority vote at the time of the annual meeting associated with the APA annual convention. The Chair will serve a three-year term and may be re-elected for a second three-year term.
 - a) The Chair will preside at meetings of the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council, lead the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council, and represent the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council on the Council of Specialties (CoS). The Chair will ensure that minutes of the Specialty Council are recorded and distributed to representatives of member organizations on the Specialty Council.
 - b) The Chair gets one vote on matters before the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council just as the other representatives of the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council. If the Chair is absent for a meeting, another representative will be designated by the Chair to preside in her/his absence and given the Chair's proxy vote.

ARTICLE IV

Meetings

1. Meetings of the Specialty Council shall be held at least once a year either in-person commonly in association with the APA annual convention, online, or via conference call.
2. Meetings may be attended by liaisons, specialty experts, and observers by invitation or permission of the Chair.

3. The Specialty Council may address business matters outside of the regularly scheduled meetings. Votes may be conducted in-person, by mail, or by e-mail.
4. A Quorum shall be defined as a majority of the representatives.

ARTICLE V

Dues

1. The CoPGTP and ABGERO currently pay the membership fee to the Council of Specialties. In the future other member organizations may need to pay annual membership dues to the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council to cover the Specialty Council's expenses, including but not limited to the costs associated with representation on the CoS and sending a representative to its annual meeting. Dues payment by any or all member organizations of the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council will be required as a criteria for continued membership only if there is a unanimous vote by all the member organizations.

ARTICLE VI

Member Disaffiliation

Members of the Specialty Council may be disaffiliated from the Specialty Council only by unanimous approval by representatives of all other existing members and only under the following circumstances:

1. One or more policies and/or actions of a member organization have been determined by the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council to be substantially detrimental to the collective interests of the specialty and repeated efforts by the Specialty Council to address these issues with the member organization have been unsuccessful; or
2. The member organization has failed to discharge its obligations and responsibilities and repeated efforts to negotiate a resolution acceptable to both the Professional

Geropsychology Specialty Council and the member organization have been unsuccessful.

ARTICLE VII

Rules of Order

The Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council shall conduct its meetings in accordance with the latest version of Keesey's *Modern Parliamentary Procedures*.

ARTICLE

VIII

Amendments

Amendments to these Bylaws may be made by a majority vote of the Specialty Council representatives.

Draft bylaws August, 2017

Final

ARTICLE IX

Signatories of Initially Eligible Co-Sponsoring Member Organizations

The eligible co-sponsoring member organizations referenced in Article III, Paragraph 2 agree to accept the privileges and obligations of membership and representation on the Professional Geropsychology Specialty Council, as evidenced below by the signature of their respective organization's executive officer. Any eligible co-sponsoring member organization that has not authorized membership and representation to the Specialty Council on or before December 31, 2017 must meet the requirement of Article III, Paragraph 3 if it subsequently seeks membership.

Division 20, American Psychological Association

Date

Elis M. Smith, PhD, ABPP
Council of Professional Geropsychology Training Programs (CoPGTP)

11/7/17
10/27/2017
Date

Committee on Aging, American Psychological Association (CONA)

Date

Margaret P. Norris, PhD

Society of Clinical Geropsychology (APA Division 12, Section 2)

Date

Psychologist in Long Term Care (PLTC)

Date

American Board of Professional Geropsychology (ABGERO)

Date

S. Bush, Ph.D.

11-13-17
11/1/17
10/31/17