



American
Psychological
Association of
Graduate
Students

To: Council of Chairs of Training Councils
Date: March 28, 2016
From: Eddy Ameen, PhD, Asst. Dir, APAGS
CC: Blaire C. Schembari, MA, APAGS Liaison to CCTC; Christine Jehu, PhD, APAGS Chair; Nabil El-Ghoroury, PhD, Assoc. Exec. Dir., APAGS
Re: APAGS March 2016 Report to CCTC

APAGS appreciates its strong relationship with CCTC. As you know, APAGS represents over 20,000 students in psychology. Of these members, approximately 80% are studying areas of psychology in the health service professions (including clinical, counseling, school, combined/integrated psychology), based on membership reports from March 2014. APAGS is very concerned about the internship crisis, and is continuing to work on efforts to reduce the crisis. The following key actions have been taken since our last liaison report:

1. *Family Leave Working Group* – Members/staff of APAGS, CDIP, CECP, CWP, and Divisions 31 and 35 worked together on a memo that it presented in late September 2015 to the APA Commission on Accreditation concerning requested changes to the Standards of Accreditation and Implementing Regulations around family, medicals, disability and other types of leave. This cross-sectional coalition is advocating that CoA require doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral sites to develop policies around leave and to publicly disclose those policies to all applicants and enrolled trainees. See the memo at www.tinyurl.com/coaleaveletter.
2. *Medicaid reimbursement for interns' services* –
 - Our collaboration with the APA Board of Educational Affairs and the APAPO helped support an 18-month law fellow to work full time at APA to address this issue.
 - We developed a survey about trainee mobility, to understand the prevalence of ECPs remaining in the same geographic area and/or employment setting where they interned. We received more than 2,000 responses. See a summary of responses at <http://tinyurl.com/apagsmobility>.
 - APAGS and the Education Directorate have collaborated on a toolkit for members to use to advocate for Medicaid reimbursement for interns' services, which is here: <http://www.apa.org/ed/graduate/about/reimbursement/index.aspx>. The toolkit includes Q&A's and videos from psychologists who have successfully advocated for Medicaid reimbursement in their states as well as other relevant information.
 - APAGS has presented or worked on presentation materials on Medicaid reimbursement for meetings with Division 31 and CESPPA, and presentations at State Leadership Conference, Education Leadership Conference, and at the upcoming APPIC conference.
3. *Internship development* – APAGS has reached out to more training councils in the past year, including ACCTA and APTC. We have also been working with the Council of Directors of School Psychology Programs (CDSPP) to discuss how to create school psychology internships that could meet APA-accreditation requirements.

Following the 2016 Match, we were pleased to see a marked increase in the overall match rates. However, we continue to observe a large number of students from APA accredited programs failing to match. According to data we've requested from CoA:

Internship year	Match rate of students from APA accredited doc programs to any internship	Match rate of students from APA-accredited doc programs to APA accredited internships
2011-2012	83.1%	51.9%
2012-2013	88.8%	54.6
2013-2014	90.1%	57.7%
2014-2015	93.0%	60.1%
2015-2016	95.3%	68.4%

According to 2016 APPIC Match Statistics, in Phase I, 419 (11.5%) students from accredited doctoral programs did not match. 3,725 applicants participated in the match (i.e., submitted final rankings). 3,648 of these students were from accredited doctoral programs. At the end of Phase I, 490 applicants remained unmatched, 565 internship positions remain unfilled, and 263 of those are accredited. The reported Match Statistics for Phase II yielded an overall 19% increase in number of applicants matched compared to last year: 487 applicants participated in the match (i.e., submitted final rankings), 361 applicants matched in Phase II; a 74% overall match rate, and 45.8% of positions were accredited in Phase II; an overall 15.7% increase from last year. Despite these advances, we continue to observe a significant portion of students (219) remaining unmatched during both Phase I and Phase II.

APAGS will continue to focus its efforts on addressing the internship crisis by advocating for the development of more internship positions.

4. *Informing HSP students* – An article on the APPIC Match was in the April 2015 *gradPSYCH Magazine*. Another article about changes to the Match for students from accredited programs was mentioned on the cover of this September’s magazine. Our chair wrote a blog post at gradpsychblog.org on the internship crisis on Match Day this year. Videos by Mitch Prinstein and Greg Keilin about preparing for internship are (<http://www.apa.org/apags/resources/internship-webisodes.aspx>) have received hundreds of views. Also, at Convention we continue to host a 2-hour session on applying to internship, a meet-and-greet with internship training directors, and a conversation hour with the APPIC Chair and ED.
5. *Assessing LGBT climate and training opportunities for trainees* – Students leaders from the APAGS Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and APA Division 44 sent a survey to all APPIC-registered internship and postdoc training directors this summer to assess their LGBT climate as well as LGBT-specific training opportunities. The published results allow applicants to find sites that best meet their needs. See <http://www.gradpsychblog.org/internship-and-postdoc-sites-share-lgbtq-climate-and-training-data/>.
6. *Educating prospective doctoral applicants* – APAGS continues to provide information to applicants to graduate school on how to find a program that best meets their needs (www.apa.org/apags/resources). APAGS continues to reach out to students at different conferences (SPSP, MPA, RMPA) and through periodic APAGS *on the Road* events.
7. *Advocacy related to student debt* – We remain very concerned about the issue of student loans and impact of debt on students and ECPs. APAGS staff regularly meet with Education Government Relations Office to address issues related to student loans. APAGS conducted a study on debt with over 1200 students and ECPs in December 2014; the data was published in the February 2016 issue of TEPP and debt also took

the cover story of the April 2016 Monitor on Psychology. Some of the information from the debt study is provided in an infographic available at www.apa.org/apags/resources/debt.pdf.

8. *Translational Issues in Psychological Science* – APAGS is proud of this first journal of its kind published by APA that involves students in reviewing *and* editorial processes. 2015 was the journal’s inaugural year. As of this year, all APAGS members receive print copies.

APAGS continues to have a positive relationship with CCTC. We look forward to our future work together to promote high quality graduate training experiences and ending the internship crisis! Have a great meeting.