Fall 2018 Meeting Summary (Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 2018)

The ECTF formed three subgroups and each of the subgroups meet virtually throughout 2018: Introduction, Preamble and Principles, Definitions and Format. At the Fall 2018 meeting of the ECTF, each of the subgroups made presentations to the full group. Additional topics particularly those not represented in the current code were also discussed:

- An additional level of overarching foundations of the profession, in addition to the current principles, would be included in the revised Code such that there would generally be a three (3) tiered level format for the revised Code. There was discussion as to the titles of the tiers and the need to further define the concepts represented by the first two (2) tiers (i.e. values and principles).
- There is a need to more closely connect the concepts of principles and standards (as written within the current code).
- There is a need for the addition of and/or need for clarification of the different types of settings in which psychologists' work: institutional settings, organizational, communities.
- The Task Force members discussed the addition and development of a decision-making model within the revised code.
- The Task Force members discussed the concept of the code as a "living document." As one example, the code of the American Medical Association was referenced, which includes a "permanent" code with the inclusion of opinions: opinions reflect the interpretation of the code by the Ethics body which manages the code and are enforceable.
- The Task Force members discussed the importance of a decision-making model in the revised code.
- The Task Force members agreed that the APA mission should be reflected within the code.

Spring 2018 Meeting Summary (May 4-6, 2018)

- The first ECTF in-person meeting was held the weekend of May 4-6, 2018. During the meeting, the ECTF reviewed the Ethics Committee's Environmental Scan determining future trends in psychology. Included in the scan were all APA boards and committees, state psychological associations, APA Divisions and external entities such as the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards. Major insights provided by the scan related to the Code included the following: a) respondents like that the standards are broad and apply to all areas of psychology; and, b) a wish to retain and expand the principles. Areas of possible changes suggested included the following: a) prominence of human rights; b) greater presence of culturally based perspectives; c) specific section related to ethical decision making; d) clearer guidance related to conflict of interest; and, e) more emphasis on education and training, rural practice and organizational psychology. In addition, boards and committees and others noted the need to

address the following trends: a) demographic shifts; b) changing workplaces; c) impact created by technology; d) changing healthcare marketplace; e) social justice and multicultural issues; and, f) changes in education and training.

- The ECTF has developed three workgroups as initial priorities and is continuing its work virtually between the meetings. The workgroups are focused on (a) The Introduction and Preamble, (b) Structure and Format, and (c) Definitions. As the ECTF's work moves forward, there will be opportunities for comment including requests for public comment.