

Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology (CDIP)
2021 Annual Report
American Psychological Association

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Mission

The mission of the committee is to:

- Promote the psychological welfare of people with disabilities.
- Promote the development and implementation of psychological service delivery models responsive to the needs of people with disabilities.
- Promote the awareness of disability issues in psychological research as well as specific research activity in disability areas.
- Promote inclusion of knowledge about disabilities and disability issues in education, training programs and professional development of psychologists.

Meeting Dates

Recurring Meetings (All Virtual):

- January 27, 2021
- March 16, 2021
- May 18, 2021
- July 20, 2021
- September 17, 2021
- November 5, 2021

In addition to the recurring meetings, CDIP met on September 24, 2021 to work on their self-study report for the APA Policy and Planning Board.

Membership

Co-Chair: Kathleen Bogart, PhD (2020-2022)

Co-Chair: Susan D'Mello, PhD (2018-2021)

Kara B. Ayers, PhD (2019-2021)

Katie Wang, PhD (2020-2022)

Peter Blanck, PhD, JD (2021-2023)

Craig Kramer, PsyD (2021-2023)

Statement of Diversity Representation within the Committee

The current composition of CDIP consists of one Asian Indian female, one Chinese female, two White females, and two White males. Five of the members have disability identities and all members self-identify as heterosexual or straight. There are four early career members, one mid-career member, and one late career member.

Major Activities

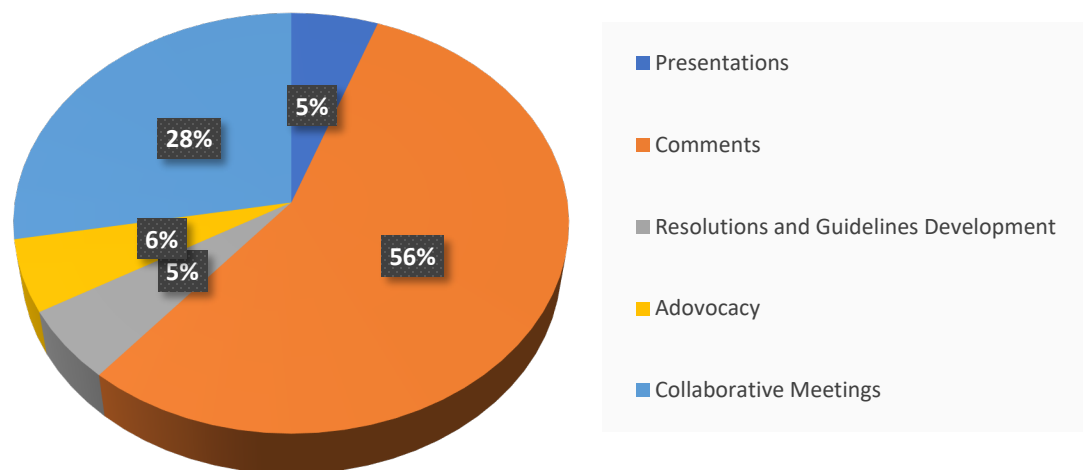
There was a total of 18 activities that CDIP participated or initiated in 2021.

Table 1

Type of Activities	# of Activities
Presentations	1
Comments	10
Publications	0
Recognitions	0
Resolutions and Guidelines Creation/Development	1
Advocacy	1
Collaborative Meetings	5

Figure 1. Pie chart demonstrating the percentage of each type of activity completed by CDIP in 2021: 5% for presentations, 56% for comments, 5% for resolutions and guidelines development, 6% for advocacy, and 28% for collaborative meetings.

Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology (CDIP) 2021 Activities



Presentations

Health and Psychosocial Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on People with Disabilities

On June 25, 2021, CDIP hosted a 60-minute webinar to raise awareness of the psychosocial and health equity issues that the disability community has faced during the COVID-19 pandemic. The webinar also aimed to increase the knowledge and recognition of strategies for addressing these issues in clinical work, research, and advocacy. There were 1,810 registrants from the U.S. and 79 other countries with a peak of 509 participants viewing live. Registrants were from all types of settings including universities, clinics, hospitals, school systems, and

various state government agencies (Dept. of Corrections, Dept. of Juvenile Justice, Dept. of Human Services, Dept. of Developmental Services, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, etc.). Visit this site to view the webinar: <https://www.apa.org/topics/covid-19/impact-disabilities>

Comments

CDIP monitors activities, projects, and policies as they are developed by other groups within the Association, with the goal of ensuring disability issues are fully and equitably represented. In addition to the comments listed below, CDIP reviewed 8 policies and endorsed 3 resolutions/new business items including the *APA Racism Apology Resolution*.

Comments #1

APA Diversity Matrix for the Executive Office and Governance (Note- CDIP commented on two different drafts of the matrix in 2021)

Comments #2

Congressional Social Determinants of Health Caucus- Request for Information

Comments #3

APA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Inclusive Language Guidelines

Comments #4

Proposed Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Women with Serious Mental Illness

Comments #5

Self-Study Report for APA's Policy and Planning Board

Comments #6

Initial Decisions in Developing an APA Clinical Practice Guideline for the Treatment of Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain

Comments #7

Revision of the Guidelines for Assessment and Intervention with Persons with Disabilities

Comments #8

Addressing Bias, Stigma, and Discrimination in a Virtual Work Environment Resource

Comments #9

Reviewed draft of APA Disability Inclusion Survey

Comments #10

Call for Questions to the 2021 President-elect Candidates

Recognitions

In 2021, CDIP did not have a recipient for their Distinguished Contributions to the Advancement of Disability Issues in Psychology Award.

Resolutions and Guidelines Creation/Development***Guidelines for the Assessment and Intervention with Persons with Disabilities***

CDIP continued their sponsorship of the revision of the 2011 Guidelines for the Assessment and Intervention with Persons with Disabilities. The Guidelines are due to go before the Council of Representatives in February 2022 for approval of adoption as APA policy.

Advocacy***Letter from CDIP to APA's Chief Diversity Officer***

In February 2021, CDIP sent a formal letter to the Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Maysa Akbar, welcoming her to APA and inviting her to meet with the Committee. While gender, race and ethnicity are frequently highlighted as diversity issues, CDIP pointed out that the consideration of disability is relatively less common in discussions of diversity. CDIP also took this opportunity to share additional information about the *2019 APA Resolution on Support of Universal Design and Accessibility in Education, Training and Practice* which they sponsored.

Letter from CDIP to the Committee on Early Career Psychologists (CECP)

In response to CECP's announcement of their Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) priority for 2022, CDIP composed a letter to CECP's Chair asking that CECP include psychologists with disability identities in their future work surrounding EDI. Additionally, one of CDIP's members, Dr. Kramer, attended CECP's September meeting.

Please see the descriptions of collaborative meetings for further examples of CDIP's advocacy efforts.

Collaborative Meetings***CM#1***

During their July 2021 recurring meeting, CDIP met with Amy Pearson, Manager of UX Optimization and Compliance at APA. Ms. Pearson gave a brief presentation about current efforts to improve the accessibility of APA's digital content including mobile/online apps, websites, webinars, virtual conferences, emails, newsletters, and electronic documents/products. Then, there was a discussion about how CDIP can support these efforts.

Later in this meeting, CDIP also met with Dr. Maysa Akbar, APA Chief Diversity Officer, and Triven Parker, Senior Director of EDI Planning and Integration, to discuss the upcoming EDI work from the Executive Office including the development of an inclusive accessibility infrastructure at APA.

CM#2: CDIP APA 2021 Social Hour

On August 11, 2021, CDIP hosted an APA 2021 Social Hour where they welcomed psychologists and trainees of all career stages, especially those who have a disability, and/or whose clinical work, research, or teaching focuses on disability. During the social hour, CDIP shared updates on their previous and current work, lead a networking activity, and learned about the different interests of the attendees surrounding disability issues in psychology. The information gained during this social hour informed CDIP as they developed their work plan for 2022.

CM#3 & 4

The chairs and chair-elects of CDIP, the Committee on Aging (CONA), and the Committee on Children, Youth and Families (CYF) met on September 14, 2021 and October 14, 2021 to discuss potential opportunities for collaboration in 2022.

CM#5

During their November 2021 recurring meeting, CDIP met with Dr. Jacks Cheng, a member from CECP to discuss the possibility of a collaboration on a presentation for APA 2022.

CDIP also met with Dr. Merry Bullock, liaison from the Membership Board. CDIP shared their feedback on accessibility and disability inclusion within APA membership. CDIP suggested different ways APA can encourage disabled psychologists at any career state to become members and show disabled psychologists that they are valued by APA.

Additional information

APA's Legislative and Regulatory Officer, Dr. Andrew Strickland, joined CDIP's recurring bi-monthly meetings to provide the Committee with updates on APA's state and federal advocacy work relevant to disability issues.