Committee on the Status of Disabled People in the Profession

2021–2022 Membership

Adam Cureton, chair (2023)

Joe Stramondo (2022)

Maeve O'Donovan (2022)

Teresa Blankmeyer Burke (2023)

Kevin Timpe (2023)

Tiffany A. Campbell (2024)

Kim Hall (2024)

David T. Wasserman, SPD President, ex officio
APA Committee on the Status of Disabled People in the Profession

2021-2022 Report

The Committee on the Status of Disabled People in the Profession (CSDPP) was constituted on July 1, 2020. Here is a brief summary of our main activities and outcomes during our second year of operation (2021-2022):

• We began ongoing discussions about projects that our committee could pursue in the coming years.
• We developed accessibility guidelines for APA conferences that are now being implemented. We plan to continue updating and revising these guidelines.
• We helped to improve the accessibility of the APA website.
• We provided advice to APA leadership about the new APA meeting calendar, including suggestions on how to ensure the accessibility of online meetings.
• We provided feedback on Nicole Hassoun’s “Good Practices Document for Improving Representation in Philosophy Departments.”
• We provided feedback on the APA’s Diversity and Inclusiveness Syllabus Project.
• We provided feedback on the APA grant proposal language.
• We provided feedback on the language in APA group session requests.
• We organized several sessions at APA meetings.
• We have a representative on the APA Virtual Program Committee.
• We wrote blog posts for the APA blog.
• We participated in discussions about moving APA meetings online during the pandemic.
• We helped with several accommodation requests at APA meetings.

We are still finding our bearings as a committee. Our process for developing and pursuing our projects is primarily to have discussions over email, solicit one or two volunteers to take the lead on a project, and provide those people feedback and support as needed. Overall, our committee functioned well despite some periods of inactivity and COVID-related issues.

Our plans for the current year are to pursue the following projects in addition to our regular advisory roles:

• Start a disability section on the APA Blog with regular posts about disability issues.
• Develop guidelines for organizing accessible conferences in general.
• Produce a series of posts for the APA blog.
• Organize sessions on disability issues at APA Conferences.
• Organize a webinar on disability issues.
• Begin discussions about starting a mentoring program for graduate students and early-career faculty members with disabilities.
• Explore ways of establishing an APA award in honor of Anita Silvers.
• Explore ways of making search committees more accessible for disabled job applicants (perhaps an APA session).