

## Jeff Hayes Candidate Statement

Serving SPR as your president would be a gratifying culmination to more than 20 years of service to this wonderful organization that has been my professional home throughout my career. I have attended almost every international conference since Snowbird in 1998, along with North American chapter conferences and mid-Atlantic regional conferences in the U.S. More than anything, these conferences have impressed upon me the importance of high-quality scholarship and supportive, respectful relationships, both of which I believe are the hallmarks of SPR.

In my day-to-day life, I am a professor at Penn State University, where I have worked since 1993. I also conduct therapy with adult patients in my private practice, which I have done since 1995. Beginning in my doctoral program at the University of Maryland, under the mentorship of Charlie Gelso and later, Clara Hill, my research has focused primarily on the characteristics of therapists that affect process and outcome. Most of that research has been in the area of countertransference, which has led to highly rewarding collaborations with SPR members in Israel, Norway, New Zealand, Italy, Taiwan (where I was a visiting professor), and Australia. I have been blessed to work with and learn from exceptionally dedicated scholars and remarkable human beings from a variety of cultures. During the past decade, I have also conducted research on college student mental health, working (and laughing) with Louis Castonguay and other fantastic colleagues, including students and psychotherapists, at the Center for Collegiate Mental Health ([ccmh.psu.edu](http://ccmh.psu.edu)). CCMH is a research-practice network of more than 700 university counseling centers in the United State, Europe, Canada, the Caribbean, and the U.K. Data are gathered as part of routine clinical practice and sent to Penn State where they are analyzed for research, training, and policy purposes. To date we have gathered data from well over a million clients, making CCMH one of the largest psychotherapy data repositories in the world.

Based on my research, I have published more than 100 journal articles and book chapters, and I have co-authored and co-edited several books. My research has been funded by a variety of agencies, including the American Psychological Foundation and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. I have received early career awards from both the Society for Psychotherapy Research and the American Psychological Association, where I am a fellow in two divisions.

I have been fortunate to serve SPR in numerous capacities in my career. Each opportunity has brought me into contact with wonderfully diverse SPR members who make this organization so special. Early in my career, I helped plan six mid-Atlantic regional conferences from 2000 to 2009. These regional meetings were characterized by an especially vibrant exchange of ideas and provided a natural way to get to know local SPR luminaries. I also served on the SPR Membership Committee from 2000-2003, and from 2018 to 2020, I participated on the membership committee for the NA chapter. These experiences taught me the challenges and importance of not only growing our membership globally but also valuing and meeting the needs of our current members.

In addition to these activities, I organized the scientific program for the NA chapter conference at Burr Oak in 2006. I then served as president of the North American chapter from 2007-2009. During this time, I helped plan eight regional conferences in Mexico, Canada, Taiwan, Australia and the U.S. During my term as president of the NA chapter, I worked closely with SPR colleagues from each chapter and came to understand the many tasks and complex functioning of the SPR Executive Council. From 2010 to 2012, I was as a member of the SPR general vice-president nominating committee, and I served as local host for the 2012 international conference in Virginia Beach.

Most recently, I was honored to be a co-editor of our journal, *Psychotherapy Research*, serving in that capacity from 2016-2021; I had previously served as an associate editor for our journal from 2004-2009.

As co-editor, I worked with an incredibly talented team of associate editors from many different countries. I am proud that half of the associate editors with whom I worked were women, and that one of my former associate editors, Catherine Eubanks, is now the journal's co-editor. During the time that I served as co-editor, *Psychotherapy Research* fared quite well. For example, in 2016, the impact factor was 2.56, and the 2021 impact factor was 4.12. In 2016, 244 manuscripts were submitted to the journal; in 2021, there were 316 submissions. The success of the journal during the past six years was due to the joint efforts of hundreds of SPR members who contributed reviews, submitted manuscripts, and promoted the journal internationally (a special thank you to the Communications Committee). I am grateful for the strong relationships that I have formed these past six years with SPR members on almost every continent.

Consistent with the recent strategic plan for SPR, my vision as president would include improving financial and other support for student members, growing our membership in Asia and Africa, facilitating the dissemination of our research findings to psychotherapists, and being responsive to the evolving needs of our organization.

Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy, and I look forward to the possibility of serving SPR as your future president.