

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

SPSP is a service organization, created for the benefit of its members and the global public. The leadership's job is to ask: How can we best serve our members and society at large? Many of the ideas I share below are policies I have proposed and/or implemented in leadership roles I have held in other organizations.

Representation.

When they look at SPSP, the people we serve should be able to see themselves, their voices, and their concerns reflected in our organization. The public would likely be shocked by the homogeneity of our membership on dimensions such as race and ethnicity, social class, geography, and language, among others. We cannot address the concerns of the global public if we do not connect with and bring in diverse voices to our organization. To do this, we can partner with organizations throughout the world to offer joint virtual events (e.g., visiting each other's classrooms), foster bidirectional exchanges of research and teaching materials, and develop collaborative projects. SPSP can also use the income from journal subscriptions to provide English writing support to submitting authors. In addition, our 2,800 graduate student members should get to vote in elections, considering that they pay dues, they are our partners in research and teaching, and they are vital to a thriving SPSP. In addition, graduate student members are, as a group, more diverse and representative of society at large on many dimensions than are the rest of SPSP's membership.

Excellence.

SPSP seeks to provide rigorous, high quality evidence to the world. Improving our representation will further this aim by ensuring that we minimize biases and blind spots in the questions we ask and the methods we use to answer them. In addition, we can promote excellence by rewarding a broader range of contributions to teaching and research. Too often, the people recognized with awards, invited speaking roles, or grants are those that are already very visible. However, the contributions made by less visible scholars are vital to achieving the scientific rigor we strive for. We should redirect some of our attention and rewards away from already prestigious people, labs, and institutions and towards a broader range of typically undervalued, but nevertheless vital, contributions. This will help create more incentives for this important work, accelerating the pace of discovery.

Transparency and accountability.

What we say carries a lot of weight with the public and with decision-makers. We have a mandate to share the knowledge we produce, and to do so responsibly. This is why we ask researchers to be transparent, and SPSP as an organization has the same responsibility to be transparent and accountable. For example, SPSP journals could be more transparent about the peer review process through policies such as naming handling editors on published papers and giving authors the option to publish the peer review history with their published articles. In addition, SPSP can increase transparency in our public outreach by adding simple labels to press releases to communicate important limitations and uncertainty. By striving to be well-calibrated in the claims we promote and share, we can help prevent the misuse of our findings and demonstrate our commitment to transparency and accuracy.