

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues



Strategic Goals

(adopted by Council, February 2019)

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) is a professional association that promotes research and education on psychological aspects of critical social issues. SPSSI brings science and evidence to human problems of the group, the community, the nation, and the increasingly important problems that have no national boundaries. SPSSI was founded in 1936, and welcomes membership to psychologists, social scientists, scholars and policy professionals who can address social issues with scientific psychology. SPSSI is also an accredited NGO and has maintained active participation at the United Nations since 1991.

The 2019 strategic plan sets out SPSSI's primary goals for the next 3-5 years. The accompanying implementation plan provides general timetables and guidelines to build on our science and foster its application—by providing services to members, by enhancing our journals, and by increasing our policy activities at the local, national, and international levels. A primary goal of this plan is to infuse diversity and inclusion throughout the organization. Diversity and inclusion goals are broadly construed, made explicit, and serve as one indicator of success of the strategic plan. The health of the organization depends upon how it serves its membership's needs and goals; the strategic plan specifies how well SPSSI meets those goals, identifies areas for evaluation and improvement, helps determine current and future program needs, and identifies ways to strengthen our infrastructure and staff capacity.

Goal 1: Develop the explicit practice of consciously working toward diversity and inclusion in every aspect of the organization and its work.

Goal 2: Improve the visibility, impact, and timeliness of our journals while enhancing their financial soundness and accessibility to scientists, students, scholars, and policy professionals.

Goal 3: Continue to be a source of non-partisan psychological science, encouraging evidence-based policy-making and advocacy, building capacity among its members to promote its policy priorities, and using collaborations to amplify its voice and impact, in an effort to promote a more socially just world through its programs.

Goal 4: Conduct process, outcome, and cost/benefit analyses of existing SPSSI functions as well as assess future SPSSI needs.

Goal 5: Use program evaluation to meet the needs of SPSSI membership with conference programming, grants & programs, communications, & outreach.

Goal 6: SPSSI will continue to build capacity related to SPSSI staff, technology, and infrastructure.