

AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose.
(See the [AAIDD Interest Networks Leadership Manual](#) for the purpose of the Interest Networks.

Interest Network:		Psychology
Lead Contact Person(s):		
Jenny Phan. jphan25@gmu.edu , 504-914-5662		Dee Adedipe, adedipe.6@osu.edu , 443-768-7091
Next Scheduled Election & Leadership Position(s) that will be Open for Nomination:		
We announced open positions on social media and at the annual conference, offering a QR code and survey link to self-nominate or nominate others for the following open positions: Vice Chair and Social Media Director.		
2025-2026 Report		
For the year that just ended (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used.		
Goals from 2025-2026, with updates:		
• Host at least one webinar on a topic selected by the PIN executive committee. If possible, we would like for this to be on a topic related to diversity/equity. ○ Co-sponsored a webinar panel hosted by the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy (ABCT) Autism Special Interest Group titled “The Intersection of Autism and Immigration: Clinical Guidance for Supporting Individuals and Families.” • Continue to increase engagement on LinkedIn (primarily), as well as continue use of Facebook. Explore use of other social media platforms. ○ Our social media manager continued to post to all social media platforms and created a new Bluesky account. • Use at least one of the following strategies to increase engagement with membership: newsletters, surveys, social media posts about members’ activities, consultation or discussion groups, or meetups at other conferences. ○ We continued to host meetings open to all members, rather than just the executive committee. This has been a great way to allow more engagement by members. ○ We distributed multiple surveys to PIN members throughout the year to learn about projects they are working on and conferences they are attending. We highlighted PIN members’ publications and conference presentations on our social media channels as we were made aware of them. ○ We have planned to start advertising a monthly discussion topic for each of our meetings and will create time in each meeting for members to come, share expertise, and discuss the selected topic. • Select Wolf Wolfensberger Valor Award and SECP Award winners for next year’s AAIDD conference. ○ The Wolf Wolfensberger Award was given to Mark Salzer, PhD, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to psychological research and policy translation in the field of IDD. ○ We awarded 2 student scholarships to Rylee Duncan, MA (“The Effects of Stressful Life Events on Health Status in Adults with Intellectual Disability”) and Yfat Ben Refael, MS (“An Ecological Task for Assessing Executive Functions Skills at work in Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities”).		

Due July 31, 2026

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- Plan next year's AAIDD PIN luncheon/dinner or another social event for PIN members at the conference.
 - Due to the generous donations to PIN, we were able to use our funds to award 2 student scholarships. We awarded the student awardees at an award dinner ceremony held at 7:30 pm on Monday at a nearby restaurant near the conference, and it was attended by about 15 people.
- Host a pre-conference session at next year's AAIDD conference.
 - A pre-conference session on prescribing psychologists was planned, but had to be cancelled at the last minute due to conflicts on the part of the speaker. We have plans to host this as a webinar instead in the coming months.

2026-2027 Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies

For the **coming year** (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds.

- Host a webinar in October 2026 co-sponsored by Catalight Classroom "Mental Health Self-Reports for Individuals with Intellectual and Cognitive Disabilities" by Dr. Joan Beasley, Ph.D., which highlights a new assessment tool for those with intellectual and cognitive disabilities to self-report on their mental health symptoms. Free CEs will be available to all attendees through Catalight Classroom.
- Continue to increase engagement on LinkedIn (primarily), as well as continue use of Facebook. Explore use of other social media platforms.
- Use at least one of the following strategies to increase engagement with membership: newsletters, surveys, social media posts about members' activities, consultation or discussion groups, or meetups at other conferences.
- Select Wolf Wolfensberger Valor Award and SECP Scholarship winners for next year's AAIDD conference.
- Plan next year's business meeting and/or another social event for PIN members at the conference.
- Host a pre-conference session at next year's AAIDD conference.