



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL HYPNOSIS

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

December 9, 2021



Hello to all my colleagues,

In the spirit of continuing to reorganize ASCH to provide a stronger, more robust society for you, I would like to bring you all up to date with the events in the last few months. Your ASCH Executive Committee and Board of Governors have been working diligently to create a plan of reorganization that will benefit us all and help us maintain our clinical hypnosis education leadership with streamlining of processes. To do this we had to modernize our structure and create new bylaws to support this.

Current bylaws and organizational structure we are operating under:

1. The ASCH Executive Committee (EC), which is made of elected members, meets monthly to discuss all ASCH business and strategies for growth and development. The EC presents their recommendations to the ASCH Board of Governors (BG) once a year to be voted on to move forward or be declined and reshaped in the next year.
2. The BG is comprised of the ASCH Executive Committee, representatives from each component society based on the size of their membership, and all the past presidents who are current members of ASCH. A moderator is elected from the component section representatives and presides over the BG and represents the BG on the EC, relaying information back to the BG for their yearly meeting/vote on EC recommendations.
3. There is no representative from any of ASCH's education-related committees on the EC or reporting to the BG. Education is the single most important mission of ASCH and is largely responsible for ASCH's fiscal solvency.
4. The Component Societies, part of the heartbeat of ASCH, were unable to share their needs and ideas directly to the EC except annually at the BG meeting which slowed both communication and action.
5. Other important committees of ASCH had no voice on the EC such as those that had to do with membership and certification.
6. Ethics and bylaws are currently committees of the BG which only meet once each year.

The reorganization recommendations (we ask you please peruse the chart and new bylaws via the links below):

1. **The EC and the BG would dissolve themselves into one functional ASCH Board of Directors (BOD), meeting monthly and being able to vote on business needs or other strategic items.**
2. **The BOD would contain divisions** that represent all aspects of ASCH at the monthly meetings including: education, ethics, bylaws, Component Society, membership, nominations and elections, finance, certification approval, and a section representing ASCH's journal. The members-at-large you

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE →



elect yearly also are present and giving their input into policy and procedure, as well as strategy. While this may seem large for a BOD, it represents the whole. In one year's time, the BOD will re-evaluate the structure to see if further revisions need to be made for streamlining. Currently the new divisions have been set up, are functioning well on the EC as nonvoting guests, as this structural change has to be passed by the BG. The EC called the BG into discussion to make recommendations to the reorganization and bylaws which are now presented to you in final format by both.

CLICK FOR CHART
**PROPOSED BOARD
OF DIRECTORS AND
COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

CLICK FOR
**PROPOSED ASCH
BYLAWS**

3. ASCH Educational Research Foundation continues to be a separate structure from the BOD.

4. Each division has its own chairperson. Several chairpersons had retired leaving a gap in leadership; however, we were blessed that several people stepped up to assume this role (please note that all of us are volunteers). In the future each division will elect its own chair, so to build up leadership in each division rather than rely on appointments.

5. We sincerely wish you will sign up and join the divisions to become part of our leadership— mentoring and contributing to the future of the society.

The Future

- 1. The EC and BG voted with a large majority to accept and present these recommendations to you—our members—for ratification.**
- Any of us on the current EC would be happy to discuss your ideas, thoughts, and concerns prior to the membership vote being sent electronically to you all.
- We ask for all feedback to be presented by Thursday, December 23, exactly two weeks from today.** We will present the membership after this period with a link to vote to approve or not approve ASCH's new organizational structure and bylaws.
- We truly believe this new structure and bylaws will help us keep ASCH on course as a leader in clinical hypnosis and providing the solid educational foundations to make you successful in your practice.

Much Aloha,

Bridget S. Bongaard, MD, FACP, HCMD
ASCH President 2020–2021

CLICK FOR **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
AND CONTACT INFO**