



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

**The leading association of public opinion and
survey research professionals.**

Behind the Curtain: AAPOR Committees, Volunteering, and Leadership Opportunities

www.aapor.org

Why Volunteer with AAPOR?

- Supports our profession
 - Public opinion research facing multiple challenges
- Benefits your professional development
 - Opportunity to develop leadership skills and make a difference
 - Increases networking opportunities
 - Opportunity to be a “good citizen”



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AAPOR Committees

- Committees are the backbone of AAPOR's structure as an organization.
- Committees are charged with specific tasks that keep AAPOR running throughout the year.
 - The mandate for each committee comes from the Executive Council.

AAPOR Committees

- Committee Structure
 - Each committee is led by a chair and associate chair.
 - Most committees are made up of subcommittees, which are more focused on individual parts of the committees mandate.
 - Each subcommittee is led by a chair.
 - Each member of the committee serves a three year term, with the option to serve a second term.
- Time commitment for committee work varies by committee.

Subcommittees

- Subcommittees allow committee work to be divided and for interested members to work on a specific project
- Examples:
 - Social Media subcommittee of the Communications Committee
 - Student and Early Career Engagement Subcommittee of the Membership and Chapter Relations Committee

Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees

- Standing Committees
 - AAPOR History
 - Communications
 - Conference
 - Diversity Initiative Coordinating
 - Education
 - Finance
 - Membership and Chapter Relations
 - Nominations
 - Standard Definitions
 - Standards
 - Transparency Initiative Coordinating
- Ad-Hoc Committees and Task Forces
 - Sugging and Frugging
 - Sexual Harassment
 - Data Fabrication
 - False Accusations Against Surveys
 - Improving Survey Climate
 - Mixed Mode
 - Pre-election Polling



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Committee Appointment Process

- Committee members are nominated by committee chair
- Nominations vetted for:
 - Diversity
 - Other committee service
 - Service generally limited to 2 concurrent committee appointments
- Nominations approved by Council
 - Appointments are typically for 3 years
 - Limit of two 3-year terms



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Committee Service

- Committee meeting schedules vary
 - Typically meet monthly by conference phone
 - In-person meeting at annual conference
- Don't be passive!
 - Volunteer for assignments
 - Follow-through on assignments

Ad Hoc Committees and Task Forces

- Ad hoc committees
 - Shorter-term working groups intended to address specific issues and make recommendations to AAPOR's Council
- Task Forces
 - Longer-term working groups intended to address broad issues and make recommendations to AAPOR's Council

Ad Hoc Committees and Task Forces

- How are these different from standing committees & subcommittee?
- How & when these groups are formed
- How members are selected
- How long do these last?

AAPOR's Executive Council

- What does the Executive Council do?
- How often does it meet?
 - Monthly + annual business meeting
 - Why a business meeting?
- How is Executive Council selected?
 - Annual election

AAPOR's Executive Council (n=17 members)

- President
 - VP/President-elect
 - Past President
- Councilors-at-Large
- Secretary-Treasurer
 - Associate
- Standards Chair
 - Associate Chair
- Conference Chair
 - Associate Chair
- Membership/Chapter Relations Chair
 - Associate Chair
- Education Chair
 - Associate Chair
- Communications Chair
 - Associate Chair



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Kellen: AAPOR's Management Company

- Kellen is an accredited international association management company
 - AAPOR has contracted with Kellen since 2014
 - Kellen provides technical and management support to AAPOR's Council
 - Kellen services over 400 professional associations



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Membership Chapters

There are seven regional chapters affiliated with AAPOR:

- Midwest Chapter (MAPOR)
- New England Chapter (NEAAPOR)
- New York Chapter (NYAAPOR)
- Pacific Chapter (PAPOR)
- Pennsylvania/New Jersey Chapter (PANJAAPOR)
- Southern Chapter (SAPOR)
- Washington, DC Chapter (DCAAPOR)



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Membership Chapters

- The chapters are separate organizations, but they work with AAPOR to advance mutual goals
- Each chapter has its own members
 - Individuals do not need to be a member of AAPOR to join a chapter, and vice versa.
 - Individuals can join AAPOR and multiple chapters.
- Each chapter has its own elected leaders/officers
- Hold conferences, educational events, webinars, networking events, and student paper competitions



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Membership Chapters

- Midwest Chapter (MAPOR) www.mapor.org
 - Annual conference in Chicago weekend before Thanksgiving
- Southern Chapter (SAPOR) <http://www.sapor.us/>
 - Annual conference in Raleigh area in early October
- Pacific Chapter (PAPOR) www.papor.org
 - Annual conference in early December in San Francisco; mini-conference in June; short course in Los Angeles/online
- New England Chapter (NEAAPOR) <http://neaapor.org/>
 - Multiple educational and networking events in locations such as Boston and Connecticut



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Membership Chapters

- Pennsylvania/New Jersey Chapter (PANJAAPOR) <http://panjaapor.org/>
 - Usually fall/winter event at Princeton University and spring event at University of Pennsylvania
- New York Chapter (NYAAPOR) <https://www.nyaapor.org/>
 - Host wide variety of workshops, panels, presentations, and networking events throughout the year
- DC Chapter (DC-AAPOR) <https://dc-aapor.org/>
 - Summer Preview/Review Conference, *POQ* Special Issue Conference, holiday party, workshops, and short courses.



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Affinity Groups

- Voluntary associations of AAPOR members who want to share ideas, information, and experiences with other members with similar affinities or interests.
- There are two AAPOR affinity groups:
 - Cross-cultural and multilingual research affinity group
 - HISP-AAPOR

Cross Cultural & Multilingual Research

- Connect AAPOR researchers and leaders to facilitate a regular dialogue about improved methods, measurement, and research & publication opportunities
- Cultivate environment where cross-cultural & multilingual research is visible and important to all survey and public opinion researchers
- Annual meeting or meetup at AAPOR
- Motto: We can do it! We can do more! We can do more together!
- Website: <https://www.aapor.org/Membership/Affinity-Groups/Cross-cultural-and-multilingual-research-affinity.aspx>



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HISP-AAPOR

- For members who are of Hispanic-origin or are interested in Hispanic research topics
- Goal is to identify meaningful ways to increase Hispanic presence in survey research field and raise visibility of members
- Organize a meeting or meetup at AAPOR Annual Conference
- Welcomes all current AAPOR members, regardless of age, gender, race or ethnicity, research field, education, background
- Website: <https://www.aapor.org/Membership/Affinity-Groups/HISP-AAPOR.aspx>



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Affinity Groups

- AAPOR members can form Affinity Groups around topics related to professional interests or personal affinities.
- To create an affinity group, anyone can submit an application to council that includes:
 - Commitments from at least 10 AAPOR members who want to participate
 - The group's purpose and the fundamental principles of the group's identity and operation

How do I volunteer?

- Fill out the Volunteer Interest form on the AAPOR website:

<https://www.aapor.org/Membership/Volunteer.aspx>

- Be specific in the committee(s) you're interested in and what makes you a good fit for their work.
- Committees re-staff around the time of the conference, but you could get asked to join a committee at any time.



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Next Steps

- Reach out to your regional chapter
 - Visit their websites for contact/volunteer information
 - Midwest Chapter (MAPOR) www.mapor.org
 - New England Chapter (NEAAPOR) <http://neaapor.org/>
 - New York Chapter (NYAAPOR) <https://www.nyaapor.org/>
 - Pacific Chapter (PAPOR) www.papor.org
 - Pennsylvania/New Jersey Chapter (PANJAAPOR) <http://panjaapor.org/>
 - Southern Chapter (SAPOR) <http://www.sapor.us/>
 - Washington, DC Chapter (DCAAPOR) <https://dc-aapor.org/>
 - Join their mailing lists

Next Steps

- Seek out opportunities at AAPOR Annual Conference
 - Look for the badges of various committees and talk with those members about getting involved
 - Volunteer to help out as a moderator or at AAPOR booth
 - Attend the business meeting

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