As President of the Candidates’ Council (CC) it is my great pleasure to welcome you to New York for APsaA’s 2018 National Meeting. In addition to the extensive programming and events specifically geared to Candidates, please note that there is now a section of the APsaA meetings page devoted to those parts of the meeting that are of special interest to Candidates. Click here to access the page.

This issue of the Candidate Connection is about developing cohesion during times of change, which is of special relevance to Candidates. By virtue of being Candidates in analytic training, we undergo major personal and professional changes, including changes in our identities as we build our practices, theoretical foundations, analytic skill sets, relationships with colleagues, and more. While we navigate these challenges with optimism and excitement for the future, we also experience considerable stress and the attendant need for an integrated and supportive community.

A cohesive community is characterized by a respect for diversity, a common identity, shared values, and a sense of belonging. APsaA Candidates are just such a community. The bonds that have been forged among Candidates nationwide, often through involvement in the Candidates’ Council, are an example of what cohesion can mean within a professional community, not only in building a practice, but also in sustaining us as analysts. My highest priority as CC President is to advance our Candidate-specific interests and to build an integrated community of Candidates within APsaA.

I invite you to get involved in the Candidates’ Council and to make it your “home” within APsaA. We are a supportive community of Candidates, eager to network with peers nationwide and internationally, to make friends and meet colleagues, to learn how things are done at other institutes, to enlarge our referral networks, to discuss issues unique to candidacy, to suggest programming for future meetings, to foster our personal and professional development, to engage in all that APsaA offers, to position ourselves for future leadership if desired and to make our candidacy as rich and transformational as possible—all by creating and being part of this cohesive Candidates’ community.

I hope to see many of you at the Candidates’ Council meeting on Thursday morning, February 15th, at our joint Candidates’ Council-IPSO winter party on Thursday evening, at the many vibrant scientific sessions, sightseeing around New York City and elsewhere. Please introduce yourself if we haven’t met, or say hello if we have. Candidacy is an exciting time of change and possibility. APsaA itself is likewise evolving, and there is great reason to be hopeful and excited. We have a very full list of offerings, and I hope you enjoy this 2018 National Meeting to the fullest. In the interim, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, by email: drgolden@minneapolispsychology.com, or by phone: 612-559-5222.

Valerie Golden, J.D., Ph.D.
President, APsaA Candidates’ Council
In choosing the topic of cohesiveness during times of change, I admit that I was hoping for a bit of a roadmap to circumvent the emotional roller coaster that accompanies analytic training. I recognize the old pattern of peacemaking emerged and realize that old patterns cannot be avoided, but will be reworked during training. As Himanshu and I were coordinating this newsletter, I was contemplating my contribution to the editor’s note and reading “Unraveling Whiteness” by Melanie Suchet (2007). She states that unraveling whiteness “is not a process with closure, but an ongoing and open relationship between parts of the self, between subject and object and between past and present, to be continually reworked, reviewed, and reconciled.” The parallels and universality of the statement jumped out at me. To be continually reworked, reviewed, and reconciled is what I love about our work and, as Elise Sanders highlights, what makes learning exhausting. As each article came to our inbox, I found myself relaxing even though there was no advice on how to navigate the waters. They simply reminded me that I have been in this emotional space before and will be here again. In sharing their collective wisdom, they provided containment and a reminder that unraveling is not only inevitable, but a necessary part in the process of intrapsychic and interpersonal reconciliation. In this issue Elise Sanders reflects on emotional turbulence as a part of our journey, APsaA’s President-elect, Lee Jaffe, shares his vision for the future, and leaders of the Department of Psychoanalytic Education, Al Sugarman and Britt-Marie Schiller, share their vision for the future of APsaA. We would like to congratulate the Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis on their recent merger. Thank you to everyone who took the time to contribute articles, committee reports, and Institute reports. It is inspiring to read about all the work that goes into making our organization a place of meaningful change.

Elise Sanders, M.S.W., L.I.C.S.W.
Minnesota Psychoanalytic Institute Faculty

To be a candidate is to invite change. Anyone who engages in analytic training is already comfortable with the routine micro-injuries of learning, but there are periods when the transference in analysis is causing regression in service of the ego, a text triggers such powerful issues that the urge to sleep is overwhelming, and the seminars begin to feel like conflict laden family gatherings. Clinical work and supervision tend to amplify the emotional labor of being a candidate. Wrap all this up in layers of external stressors, and the cauldron of training may feel, at times, more like an open ocean with no bottom and no land in sight.

In the Case Seminar at MPI we were examining a chapter from Neville Symington’s The Analytic Experience (St. Martin’s Press, 1986), entitled “Insight and Emotion in Psychoanalysis” and “emotional turbulence” became our focus as we thought together about what happens when there is emotional contact in a session. This idea (which Symington pulls from Bion’s “emotional storm” in Making The Best of A Bad Job, 1979) is both a challenge and a comfort. The ability to withstand and make use of emotional turbulence is a challenge because it is inherently disruptive to both the analyst and the analyst. Comfort comes through knowing that this is an essential part of the work; as candidates expand their tolerance of emotional turbulence, allowing it to take shape, acquire meaning, come into the symbolic realm, and distill into understanding, they will be able to engage with the work more deeply.

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and facilitate greater transformation. We experience this most clearly when we are working with an individual who has suffered trauma and must walk through it with us, tolerating all the pain that arises, in search of inner transformation.

Even as analytic treatment is at the service of the analysand, it fosters our own development, because we must continually renew our personal creative capacity to meet the ever-changing demands of our work. So, as we study the literature, engage in clinical work, and develop through personal analysis, we are in a unique position to reflect on emotional turbulence as a factor in how we meet change in general and throughout our lives. It is the way in which we deal with the discomfort of emotional turbulence that matters. If we are avoidant, controlling, or manage it with defensive action we lose the capacity for expansion and transformation. Emotional turbulence is a signal that something is happening, a sign of potential change, or a portal to something new. When we are able to reckon with the storms of change with tolerance, reflection, and discernment, then we allow new growth within ourselves, and if action is required it is more likely to come out of wisdom and understanding. As we apply this to our own inner lives engaging with the inevitable emotional turbulence of existence nested in families, organizations, and cultures, then it actually can be at the core of our most productive work with ourselves as well as others.

Lee Jaffe, Ph.D.  
APsaA President-elect

As your incoming President of APsaA, I am grateful for this opportunity to write you at this time of significant change for us all, both nationally and locally. We now have a united national system of governance that will promote more cooperation, with our Executive Council (the APsaA Board of Directors) having the final authority for decision-making. To promote even more cohesion, it is critical that all members respect the spirit of parliamentary procedures, in particular the principle that the minority is heard for its wisdom and then the majority decides. At times, the wisdom of the minority may prevail when decisions come to a vote.

The same parliamentary spirit applies locally. Going forward more decisions about training standards and procedures and the appointment of training analysts will be made locally. It will be critical to look to the future with an open mind, basing decisions during these times of change on reason and evidence, not just tradition. We must manage disagreement without rancor. As Gandhi said, “friendship that insists on agreement on all things isn’t worth the name.” In a healthy organization there will and should be disagreement.

I believe there are some other principles that will help us proceed together as we work through these changes. We have to keep in mind that no one’s idea of what is right is likely to be everyone’s idea of what is right. We must also keep in mind that certainty is not wisdom, and belief is not evidence. We have to keep our eye on the important goals: training competent child and adult psychoanalysts, establishing welcoming analytic communities, spreading analytic wisdom and practice wherever it can improve quality of life and society.

There is much more I could say, but instead I invite you to get involved in APsaA, learn about all we are planning, and know that your participation is needed. For several years I will be APsaA’s guardian, and you will always be welcomed, as I know is true of my predecessors and will be true of my successors.

I want to be sure to share with you, as we join together in New York, APsaA’s new Community Vision unanimously approved by our Executive Council. This vision, which you will hear formally introduced throughout our 2018 National Meeting, provides guidance for how we support one another in our association and field.

“Friendship that insists on agreement on all things isn’t worth the name.”  
—Gandhi
Reflections on Developing Cohesiveness During Times of Change  

Alan Sugarman, Ph.D.  
Head, APsaA Department of Psychoanalytic Education  

Britt-Marie Schiller, Ph.D.  
Associate Head, APsaA Department of Psychoanalytic Education  

We believe that the Department of Psychoanalytic Education’s philosophy about how best to promote cohesiveness during times of change is apparent in who we are as leaders of this newly educational department within APsaA. One of us is a child psychoanalyst and the other is a full-time academic and has been a chair of a university department of philosophy. These particular credentials are a significant reason for our having been chosen to establish and lead the DPE. That is, we and the leadership of APsaA believe that bringing a developmental and scholarly/academic emphasis to education and to understanding, and dealing with the myriad of emotions, conflicts, fantasies, and beliefs that inevitably accompany change, offer the most promising avenues to cohesiveness.

One has only to look at the relatively brief history of our discipline and profession to see that organized psychoanalysis, as well as individual psychoanalysts, has traditionally handled change through acrimony and divisiveness. Freud’s intolerance of differing perspectives and quickness to excommunicate those who espoused them are well known. We are still dealing with the aftermath of such schisms today as Jungian and Adlerian analysts retain their own institutes, journals, literature and so on. APsaA has begun to bridge some of these theoretical divisions by welcoming the William Alanson White Institute and the American Institute of Psychoanalysis (Karen Horney) into our association. More recently, the schisms have revolved around governance issues more than theoretical differences. In particular, the conflict over how independent the Board on Professional Standards should be to decide training and educational standards has been a major area of contention within APsaA for the past decade or two. The development of the six point plan led to a reorganization of the Association that we anticipate will lead to integration and growth.

But this reorganization involves change. APsaA now consists of eight departments and the DPE is one of them. The fundamental vision of the DPE is to operate in a fashion that we expect will bring cohesiveness to our organization. A child psychoanalytic understanding of development is an implicit underpinning of our vision. In essence, we believe that psychoanalysis—its theory, its technique, and its organizational structure—must continue to develop and evolve. And this evolution will include both advances from within, based on new clinical experience, research, and ideas, as well as from without, via challenges to adapt our theory, practice, and organizational structure to a changing professional and scientific environment. That is, our profession and organization will develop in ways quite similar to the way children do. New integrations will emerge in a transformational way as our members and our organizational entities give up previous ways of understanding and functioning that no longer are adaptive. These new integrations should help our candidates adapt to changing social realities and help all of us make psychoanalysis, once again, respectable in academia and our broader society. But they should also promote cohesiveness in the same way that new integrations and transformations strengthen the individual’s sense of self throughout the developmental process. So long as we embrace the idea of development and evolution as inevitable for a healthy discipline and organization, the better we will become at working together. We plan to promote an organizational synthetic function.

Another concept in development is applicable to our vision. That is the finding that no one line of development explains everything. Our current non-linear, dynamic, systems model emphasizes that development and pathogenesis are best understood as integrations of various developmental dimensions such as constitution, familial context, drives, object relations, and so on. This realization of the importance of not being reductionistic and prioritizing just one dimension is something we will adopt in our educational structures. That is, there is no one correct way of approaching psychoanalytic education. Instead we are committed to considering and implementing all the different approaches to education that seem useful and adaptive.

“Rather than legislating ideas and techniques or encouraging identifications with idealized teachers and supervisors, we intend to promote and role model the value of critical thinking in psychoanalytic education.”

—Alan Sugarman & Britt-Marie Schiller
This multivariable approach bears on the other underpinning of our approach. We believe that psychoanalytic education and organizational structures are best served by an academic/scholarly approach. Rather than legislating ideas and techniques or encouraging identifications with idealized teachers and supervisors, we intend to promote and role model the value of critical thinking in psychoanalytic education. Our profession engenders many opinions about how best to educate candidates, how best to treat patients, and how best to understand mental functioning. Often these opinions can be quite divergent from each other, if not completely contradictory. The DPE believes that respectful and disciplined study and debate offer the most useful avenues to expanding and evolving our field. They should also promote cohesiveness within developing candidates’ minds, as well as among different colleagues and their disparate understanding of our discipline. Most university academic departments employ faculty with different areas of expertise, different models of their discipline, and different approaches to studying their interests. But they are usually seen as complementary, not as dangerous or incorrect approaches. When disagreements occur, they are handled through scholarly study and debates.

This approach is one we will implement via the DPE. It should already be apparent in our various postings on APsaA listserves. Such respectful but disciplined debate and study will characterize all meetings and functions of the DPE. As the leadership of the DPE, we both believe that our field is far too new and complex to think in terms of self-evident truths. Psychoanalysis and psychoanalysts must become comfortable with serious consideration and critical thinking about well-established, as well as, new ideas and practices. Change or even just consideration of change should not be experienced as challenges to our individual or collective identity. Instead such openness to innovation will promote cohesiveness by eliminating the acrimonious bickering over barely noticeable differences that has characterized our past. ✴

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**Candidates’ Council Committee on the Psychoanalyst in the Community**

Jany Keat, Psy.D., Chair

The Candidates’ Committee on the Psychoanalyst in the Community corresponds to the DPE Section of the same name. We are a newly forming group of candidates working to support more integration of community work into psychoanalytic training.

We had our first conference call in October and plan to meet every other month. We identified some possible areas of focus, such as: lack of knowledge about the benefits of psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic therapies in the community, including in the mental health field; individual and organizational financial barriers to treatment; limited understanding of class and race in our institutes; limited diversity in the field; and a lack of support for community-based work. We developed the following preliminary goals:

- Raise the profile of community-based work by writing and presenting about this work.
- Increase channels of communication among candidates about community work and social issues.
- Ensure candidate involvement in the Psychoanalyst in the Community Section’s activities (and other DPE activities).
- Advocate for more support of community-based work from our institutes.

The Psychoanalyst in the Community Section of the DPE has also put out a call for applications to candidates engaged in community-based work of any kind for the Candidate in the Community Mentoring Program. Each award recipient will be paired with a senior analyst with relevant expertise for mentoring and receive a small honorarium.

**Candidates’ Social Issues Committee**

Alexandra H. Sawicki, M.D., Chair

I continue in my role as liaison between the Social Issues Department, Candidates’ Council, and the candidates. The Social Issues Department, along with the Advocacy Department, has been working hard to contribute a strong psychoanalytic voice to events in the US and world. In July there was (and continues to be) a lot of discussion of the Goldwater Rule as it pertains to mental health professionals commenting on public figures. APsaA submitted a press release regarding this issue and there followed in the media some distortions of our position.

APsaA’s August press releases addressed the need for leaders to speak out strongly against hate groups and the lasting mental health effects of Hurricane Harvey.

APsaA has formed a rapid-response committee that is working to respond quickly to social issues and news with strong organizational statements that contribute a psychoanalytic perspective. I am not on the rapid-response committee, but am in touch with their activities. In September I, with other members of the Social Issues Department, contributed to a press release about the since failed ACA repeal. The text of that press release, “APsaA Opposes Latest Attempt to Repeal the Affordable Care Act” can be found [here](#).

With the shootings in Las Vegas and now in Texas, Wylie Tene, APsaA’s Director of Public Affairs, Harriet Wolfe, APsaA President, and others are making sure that our 2013 position statement on gun violence (a response to Sandy Hook) is brought to media attention. There was a panel discussion on gun violence at APsaA’s 106th Annual Meeting this past June in Austin, TX, and continued discussion of gun violence in the US is a high priority for the Social Issues and Advocacy Departments going forward.
Committee Updates continued from page 5

Candidates’ Council Psychoanalytic Paper Prize

Holly Crisp, M.D.

The Candidates’ Council Psychoanalytic Paper Prize is awarded annually based on a competition among candidate members who submit papers to be considered. The award-winning papers, a winner and a semifinalist winner, are chosen based on a peer review process with candidate colleagues serving as readers.

The 2018 prize winner is Frank Tisano, LSW, a candidate at the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia. He will present his paper, “Excluding the Excluders, Excluding Ourselves: The College Campus ‘Today,’” in which he considers issues of discrimination and micro aggression from a psychoanalytic perspective. Donald Moss, MD, an analyst on the faculty of the Institute for Psychoanalytic Education affiliated with NYU School of Medicine, will serve as the discussant and will lead a conversation regarding the themes of the paper, as well as a broader discussion about psychoanalytic writing.

This year’s semifinalist winner is Mead Goedert, PhD, LMSW, a candidate at the Michigan Psychoanalytic Institute for his paper, “Shamed if You Do, Shamed if You Don’t: Clinical Encounters with Social Class.” He will be presenting his paper at APsaA’s 107th Annual Meeting in Chicago (June 22-24, 2018). The discussant is to be determined.

We have continued to receive numerous strong submissions for the prize and encourage candidates to submit their writing to the prize. In addition, candidates are welcome to volunteer to serve as readers for the prize, and we thank those candidates who served as readers and provided thoughtful reviews. We congratulate all of the candidate writers who developed their writing and submitted their work to the competition!

We look forward to the prize-winning presentations at the meetings in 2018. Please plan to come and join us for the discussions. We will welcome submissions to the next round of the paper prize. Submissions for the upcoming award will be due in the summer of 2018. Stay tuned for further details.

We are pleased to announce that after the meeting in February, Sumru Tufekcioglu will be transitioning into the role of the Chair of the Paper Prize. Please be in touch with her in the future for questions and information regarding submissions for the prize.

Candidates’ Research Committee

Sumru Tufekcioglu, Ph.D., Chair

The Fund for Psychoanalytic Research, which was established in 1976, is dedicated to the support of psychoanalytic research and scholarship while nurturing the development of psychoanalytic investigators. The Fund conceives of psychoanalytic research along the broadest lines, including: scholarly and empirical investigative contributions that can advance knowledge of psychoanalytic theory, practice, and links between psychoanalysis and neighboring disciplines such as developmental psychology or neuroscience.

The Committee awarded $20,000 in grants. In June in Austin, the Committee reviewed and discussed in detail 11 grant proposals. The topics of study in the 11 proposed research projects consisted of: psychoanalytic processes, affect attunement as potential mechanism of change, affect processing in psychotherapy for panic disorder, psychoanalytic treatment of neurological patients, transference-focused therapy in the treatment of borderline personality disorder, personality and social cognition, construction and validation or a revised personality inventory. APsaA’s Fund for Psychoanalytic Research is currently accepting applications for research grants through December 31, 2017. Information about the application process and scope of research can be found here.

Report from the Secretary of the Candidates’ Council and Chair of the Child and Adolescent Psychoanalysis Committee

Sandra Landen, Ph.D.

As Chair of the Child and Adolescent Psychoanalysis Committee on the Candidates’ Council, I have been actively involved in learning about the developments of the new Department of Psychoanalytic Education (DPE) Child Section headed by Karen Gilmore. At the 106th Annual Meeting this past June in Austin, TX, planning for the subcommittees of the DPE Child Section began and the subcommittees have been in the process of forming and making preliminary plans for the upcoming 2018 National Meeting. There are currently 14 subcommittees within the DPE Child Section that interested child candidates can join. Additionally, there are plans in process for another Child and Adolescent Congress for the New York National Meeting in either February 2019 or 2020!

As the Candidates’ Council Secretary, I welcome questions from candidates and CG delegates attending the meeting for the first time or for the 25th time. APsaA provides a Travel Scholarship for candidate members attending the meeting for the first time. Click here to learn about the program and to register by the January 9th deadline. I look forward to seeing you at the Candidates’ Council meeting on February 15th.

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Candidates’ Program Committee
Sarah L. Lusk, Ph.D., Chair

The 2018 National Meeting offers many sessions geared for candidates. Below are two programs offered:

- Candidate at Work Discussion Group (#37) is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, from 4:30 to 6:30 PM: “Walking the Tightrope between Absence and Overstimulation.” Alistair McKnight will present and Peter Goldberg will be the discussant.

- The Candidates’ Forum titled “He loves me he loves me not: Working with Negative Transference” is scheduled for Thursday, February 15, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Sarah Lusk will Chair and Jesus Gonzalez-Monreal will present. Glen Gabbard and Adrienne Harris will be the discussants.

I am working on ideas for the 107th Annual Meeting (June 22-24, 2018) in Chicago and welcome any suggestions.

Treasurer’s Report
Alex Barends, Ph.D., Treasurer

With the fiscal year (2017-2018) the Executive Council of APsaA provided about $44,000 in support of candidate activities. These include the Master-Teacher Award, Newsletter, Candidates’ activities. These include the Master-Teacher Award, Newsletter, Candidates’ breakfast at the 2018 National Meeting, the first and second place Candidates’ Psychoanalytic Paper Prize awards, and financial support for the officers attending meetings. The travel scholarships are administered through the Executive Council’s budget, given that the Executive Council sees these popular grants as vital to the health of APsaA’s present and future membership.

The American Psychoanalytic Foundation has given approximately 75% of its monies to various organizations this past year, thus supporting communities who advance psychoanalysis in the applied analytic world: education, arts and sciences, and archiving. The Foundation continues to support half of the prize monies awarded for the Candidates’ Psychoanalytic Paper Prize.

Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis (WBCP)
David German, D.O., former Washington Center for Psychoanalysis (WCP)
Candidate Council Delegate

The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis (WBCP) was officially formed on July 1, 2017 through the merger of the Washington Center for Psychoanalysis (WCP) and the Baltimore Washington Center for Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis (BWCPP). The merger of the two institutes and centers overcame a history of polarization between the two groups following their split from each other more than 50 years ago. Members gathered on October 13, 2017 for a celebratory dinner of the merger and heard from speakers, David Joseph, M.D., former president of The Washington Center for Psychoanalysis, and Kathleen Miller, Ph.D., former president of the Baltimore Washington Center for Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis. Dr. Joseph reviewed the history of psychoanalysis in the Baltimore and Washington, D.C. areas, and Dr. Miller took the members through the discussions of exploring the possibility of merging the two institutes and then described the actual merger process, recognizing the commitment and hard work of the individual Boards in making the merger a reality.

The Washington Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis is very excited about the combined membership, faculty, finances, conferences, training and community programming, and for the added creative energy and ideas. The popular Psychoanalytic Studies Program (PSP) is a two year program that is open to clinicians, scholars, and others to introduce psychoanalytic thinking in an exciting and engaging format with the goals of enriching clinical work and stimulating further interest in psychoanalysis. The PSP also serves as the first two years of psychoanalytic training. This allows PSP students, during the two years of PSP education, to apply to the WBCP Institute if they decide to pursue psychoanalytic training. Other programs include New Directions, a three year psychoanalytic writing program, and training in couples and family therapy. Community programs applying psychoanalytic perspectives include a series on creativity and the arts and a film series, along with affiliations with GWU psychiatry department and with Jubilee JumpStart, an early childhood program. There are ongoing case conferences throughout the year. Weekend symposiums on Cultural Competency and Ethics address social, political and clinical issues. The WBCP clinic provides reduced fee psychotherapy and psychoanalysis to the community, as well as generating training cases for analytic candidates and psychotherapy students.

St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute
Sundeep Jayaprabhu, M.D.

The St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute has been using information obtained by an outside agency to get feedback from its students to inform decisions about the future. There is a healthy number of students and candidates, in addition to numerous ongoing community education programs. Several of the faculty members are taking part in leading discussions during the Winter meetings. Overall, things are going well.
JOINT CANDIDATES’ COUNCIL/IPSO

WINTER PARTY
Featuring Live Music By The Shrinks

Date: Thursday, February 15

Time: Doors open at 7:30; concert begins at 8 p.m.

Location:
Drom (Live Music Venue) 85 Avenue A, New York, NY 10009

Cost:
$50 (includes live entertainment, drinks, appetizers, and camaraderie)

Questions? Contact:
Valerie Golden, J.D., Ph.D., President of the Candidates’ Council

Purchase tickets: apsa.org/product/candidateparty

APsaA’s Candidates’ Council and the International Psychoanalytical Studies Organization (IPSO) are happy to invite you to this inaugural event. Featuring live music by THE SHRINKS, a jazz quintet of practicing psychiatrists who’ve played to the delight of fans all over New York City, for over 10 years. Catch their APsaA debut at DROM, NYC’s premier venue for showcasing music from around the world, ranging from jazz and funk to hip-hop. Join your fellow candidates, APsaA fellows, graduate students, and other trainees for this one-of-a-kind concert and party, with drinks, appetizers and the chance to see friends, old and new, from across the country and around the world.

Event is open to all.
Tickets must be purchased in advance.

To purchase tickets please visit: apsa.org/product/candidateparty