



**ASSOCIATION OF COUNSELING SEXOLOGY
AND SEXUAL WELLNESS**

STRATEGIC PLAN



DECEMBER 2018 – DECEMBER 2019

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Executive Summary

The Association of Counseling Sexology and Sexual Wellness “ACSSW” is an organization comprised of professional counselors, counselor students and educators committed to the promotion of sexuality competency and sexual wellness in the counseling profession and wider community. It is a new organization which was established in 2017 with the first official introductory meeting hosted at the American Counseling Association Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. At that meeting the executive board presenting an overview of the organization; the mission and goals for the future. The strategic plan presented in this document includes a description of the organization along with the mission statement and vision. Specific goals and strategies are listed as well as the time line for the upcoming year. Additionally, the five committees are described along with targeted goals consistent with the organizations mission and goals.

Organizational Description

The Association of Counseling Sexology and Sexual Wellness is an organization with a membership of professional counselors, counselor students and educators with the primary mission of providing education and research related to sexuality and sexual wellness and promotion of increased competency in the counseling field to improve standards and delivery of sexuality counseling services provided to clients and communities with a goal of enhancing overall wellness. Included in the commitment to the understanding of sexuality is recognition of the complexity of sexuality as it relates to all aspects of an individual inclusive of age, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender and gender expression, socioeconomic status, physical and mental health and abilities, and how the intersection of those varying identities impacts sexuality.

Mission Statement/What We Do

The mission of ACSSW is to promote recognition of sexuality as a central aspect of being human that includes the intersection of intrapersonal and interpersonal influences on sexual expression and experiences. ACSSW asserts that sexuality is a necessary component of every person’s overall wellness to be supported and included in the counseling process in order to:

- promote greater awareness and understanding of sexuality, defined by the World Health Organization as:
 - “...a central aspect of being human throughout life encompasses sex, gender identities and roles, sexual orientation, eroticism, pleasure, intimacy and reproduction. Sexuality is experienced and expressed in thoughts, fantasies, desires, beliefs, attitudes, values, behaviours, practices, roles and relationships.

While sexuality can include all of these dimensions, not all of them are always experienced or expressed. Sexuality is influenced by the interaction of biological, psychological, social, economic, political, cultural, legal, historical, religious and spiritual factors.” (WHO, 2006a)

- promote greater awareness and understanding of sexual wellness, while respecting diversity in sexual expression as well as the taking into consideration of the intersection of age, race, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status, sex, gender and gender expression, mental and physical health and abilities, defined as:
 - The unique, subjective experience of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being in relation to sexuality essential to overall wellness. While sexual wellness can include the absence of disease, dysfunction, or infirmity, the holistic and subjective nature of sexual wellness extends beyond one’s physical health status to include a positive and respectful approach to sexuality and sexual relationships, as well as the possibility of having pleasurable and safe sensual experiences, free of coercion, discrimination, and violation. Sexual wellness encompasses diversity in both expression and influences, respecting, protecting, and fulfilling the sexual rights of all persons.
- improve standards and delivery of sexuality counseling services provided to clients and communities with a goal of enhancing overall wellness.
- produce scientific, educational, and professional materials with the purpose of raising the standards of practice for all who address sexuality in the counseling process.
- develop, implement, and foster interest in counseling-related social justice, scientific, and educational programs designed to contribute to awareness and advocacy for all persons’ rights to sexual wellness.

Vision Statement/Our Impact

Professional counselors and other mental health professionals will be trained to respond to clients’ needs related to their sexuality and promote greater awareness and understanding of sexual wellness, while respecting diversity in sexual expression while taking into consideration each individual’s intersecting identities, through research, education, and training.

Values Statement

ACSSW is a professional association that empowers diverse individuals, families, and groups to access wellness, education, and research related to sexuality. ACSSW is an educational, scientific, and professional association whose members are counseling students, professional counselors, and counselor educators. The values that ACSSW hold are consistent with the values of ACA which include: diversity, equity, and inclusion; integrity; proactive leadership;

professional community and relationships; scientific practice and knowledge; social justice and empowerment.

Association of Counseling Sexology and Sexual Wellness (ACSSW)

By-Laws

ARTICLE I: NAME, AFFILIATION, AND MISSION

SECTION 1: NAME

The name of the Association shall be the Association of Counseling Sexology and Sexual Wellness, hereinafter referred to as ACSSW.

SECTION 2: AFFILIATION

ACSSW is an independent organization with membership comprised of counselors, counselor students and educators, therefore, adheres to professional code of ethics as it relates to the counseling profession.

SECTION 3: MISSION

The mission of ACSSW is to promote sexuality as a central aspect of being human that includes the intersection of intrapersonal and interpersonal influences, such as age, race, ethnicity, sex, gender and gender expression, religion, mental and physical health and abilities, and socioeconomic status on sexual expression and experiences. ACSSW asserts that sexuality is a necessary component of every person's overall wellness to be supported and included in the counseling process in order to:

- promote greater awareness and understanding of sexuality, defined by the World Health Organization as:
 - "...a central aspect of being human throughout life encompasses sex, gender identities and roles, sexual orientation, eroticism, pleasure, intimacy and reproduction. Sexuality is experienced and expressed in thoughts, fantasies, desires, beliefs, attitudes, values, behaviours, practices, roles and relationships. While sexuality can include all of these dimensions, not all of them are always experienced or expressed. Sexuality is influenced by the interaction of biological, psychological, social, economic, political, cultural, legal, historical, religious and spiritual factors." (*WHO, 2006a*)
- promote greater awareness and understanding of sexual wellness, while respecting diversity in sexual expression, defined as:
 - The unique, subjective experience of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being in relation to sexuality essential to overall wellness. While sexual wellness

can include the absence of disease, dysfunction, or infirmity, the holistic and subjective nature of sexual wellness extends beyond one's physical health status to include a positive and respectful approach to sexuality and sexual relationships, as well as the possibility of having pleasurable and safe sensual experiences, free of coercion, discrimination, and violation. Sexual wellness encompasses diversity in both expression and influences, respecting, protecting, and fulfilling the sexual rights of all persons.

- The intersection of all aspects of each individual's identities inclusive of age, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender and gender expression, physical and mental health and abilities, and socioeconomic status and the influence those identities has on sexual expression and understanding.
- improve standards and delivery of sexuality counseling services provided to clients and communities with a goal of enhancing overall wellness.
- produce scientific, educational, and professional materials with the purpose of raising the standards of practice for all who address sexuality in the counseling process.
- develop, implement, and foster interest in counseling-related social justice, scientific, and educational programs designed to contribute to awareness and advocacy for all persons' rights to sexual wellness.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

- Membership in ACSSW will include counseling graduate students, counselors, and counseling educators.
- Membership shall be individual.
- There shall be five classes of voting membership: Professional, Regular, New Professional, Student, and Retired.
- Professional members shall hold a master's degree or higher in counseling or a closely related field from a college or university that was accredited when the degree was awarded by one of the regional accrediting bodies recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. Professional members must present proof of academic credentials upon request.
- Regular members shall include persons whose interests and activities are consistent with those of ACSSW, but who are not qualified for Professional membership.
- New Professional members shall include individuals who have graduated in the past 12 months. This status can be held for only one year.
- Student members shall include persons who are enrolled at least half-time in a college or university program.
- Retired members shall include current Professional or Regular members who are retired from the counseling profession and have been active ACSSW members for the past 5 consecutive years.
- All ACSSW members must agree to abide by the ACA Code of Ethics.

SECTION 2: DUES

- Annual ACSSW dues for members shall be established by action of the ACSSW Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the Board.
- The Board may authorize reduced dues or dues waivers for special categories of members in accordance with policies and procedures established by the Board.

SECTION 3: SEVERANCE OF MEMBERSHIP

- A member may be dropped from membership for any conduct that tends to injure ACSSW or to affect adversely its reputation, or that is contrary to or destructive of its mission according to the ACSSW Bylaws and the ACA Code of Ethics. A member shall be dropped from membership for the nonpayment of dues.

ARTICLE III: MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

- ACSSW shall hold annual national meetings. Written notice as to the specific time and place will be provided to the membership in writing. ACSSW may hold other meetings at a time and place fixed by the Board which shall give reasonable notice to the membership.

ARTICLE IV: BRANCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

SECTION 1: ORGANIZATION OF THE BRANCHES

- ACSSW shall include one or more branches, each of which shall consist of a minimum number, established by the branch, of ACSSW members in good standing and each of whom are residents of such geopolitical subdivision. For the purposes of these Bylaws, any state in the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, U.S. Territories, Foreign Countries, and such other geopolitical subdivisions, when chartered by the Board, shall be considered to be Branches.
- No Branch shall be organized or operated except in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of ACSSW.
- The purposes of a Branch shall be in accordance with those of ACSSW.

SECTION 2: FORMATION OF THE BRANCHES

The Board shall have the power to charter Branches, but only one Branch may be chartered in any state in the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the U. S. Virgin Islands. Two-thirds of the votes cast by members of the Board shall be necessary to grant a charter to a new Branch.

SECTION 3: AUTONOMY OF THE BRANCHES

- A Branch of ACSSW shall be free to conduct its affairs at the Branch level but shall do so only in compliance with the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws of ACSSW.
- All elected officers of a Branch shall be members of ACSSW.

- The name of a Branch shall be the [list our name here] with the state or branch designation listed before or after ACSSW.

SECTION 4: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BASIC DOCUMENTS

Proposed amendments to the Articles of Incorporation or the Bylaws of any Branch shall be reported in writing to the ACSSW President no later than six weeks prior to the Board meeting at which the change may be considered. The ACSSW President shall transmit the written proposed amendments to the Board and such proposed amendments with or without a recommendation regarding each proposed change at least four weeks before the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board. Any such proposed amendment cannot take effect until approved by the ACSSW Board.

SECTION 5: REPORTS

Each Branch shall transmit to the ACSSW President the names of its directors and officers promptly following their election or appointment. Each Branch shall transmit a written annual report to the ACSSW President who shall distribute the report to the Board.

SECTION 6: INVOLUNTARY REVOCATION OF A BRANCH

The Board shall have the power to revoke the charter of a Branch when it is deemed in the best interests of ACSSW to do so.

- Before final action may be taken with respect to the revocation of the charter of a Branch, a notice of intent to revoke must first be passed by a majority of the members of the Board present and voting and the Branch in question advised in writing of the reasons for the proposed action. The Branch shall have until the next national meeting of the ACSSW membership (but in no case less than nine months) to effect remedial measures or otherwise bring itself into compliance with the ACSSW Bylaws.
- Two-thirds of the votes cast by the members of the Board shall be necessary to revoke the charter of a Branch.

SECTION 7: VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL OF A BRANCH

An organization's status as a Branch of ACSSW may be voluntarily withdrawn only in compliance with ACSSW Bylaws, policies, and procedures adopted by the ACSSW Board.

SECTION 8. INACTIVE STATE BRANCHES.

If a state branch of ACSSW becomes inactive for a period of 3 consecutive years, as demonstrated by failure to submit annual reports to the ACSSW board, the ACSSW board shall formally vote to list a state branch as Inactive. Members desiring to reactivate a former state branch would seek ACSSW board approval to reactivate a state branch.

SECTION 9. ACSSW INTEREST NETWORK.

In the event a state or locality does not have a state branch of ACSSW, an Interest Network can be created.

ARTICLE V: BUSINESS AFFAIRS OF THE ASSOCIATION

SECTION 1. SEVERABLE OR TRANSFERABLE INTEREST

No member shall have any severable or transferable interest in the property of ACSSW.

SECTION 2: CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

All property of ACSSW shall be subject to the control and management of the Board. Any accumulation or disposal of real property, except upon dissolution of ACSSW, must be approved in advance by the Board.

SECTION 3: DISPOSAL UPON DISSOLUTION

On dissolution or final liquidation, the Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the lawful debts and liabilities of ACSSW, distribute all the assets of ACSSW to one or more of the following categories of recipients as the Board of ACSSW shall determine:

- A nonprofit organization or organizations which may have been created to succeed ACSSW, as long as such organization or each of such organizations shall then qualify as an organization exempt from federal income taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in sections 170(c)(2) and 501(c)(3) of such Code; and/or
- A nonprofit organization or organizations having similar purposes as ACSSW and which may be selected as an appropriate recipient of such assets, as long as such organization or each of such organizations shall then qualify as an organization exempt from federal income taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in sections 170(c)(2) and 501(c)(3) of such Code.

SECTION 4: APPROPRIATION OF ASSOCIATION FUNDS

- No appropriations of ACSSW funds shall be made except pursuant to the authority of the Board.
- The Board shall adopt an annual budget.

SECTION 5: ASSOCIATION YEAR

The fiscal year and the governance year of ACSSW shall be July 1-June 30.

SECTION 6: REPORTS

Members of the Board shall be sent quarterly income and expense reports from the ACSSW Treasurer showing the financial state of ACSSW.

SECTION 7: LIMITATIONS ON ACTIVITIES

ACSSW is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of sections 170(c)(2)(B), 501(c)(3), 2055(a)(2), and 2522(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code. No part of the net earnings of ACSSW shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to the members of its Board, officers, members of its committees, other private individuals, or organizations organized and operated for a profit (except that ACSSW shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes as herein above stated). No substantial part of the activities of ACSSW shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and ACSSW shall be empowered to make the election authorized under section 501(h) of the Internal Revenue Code. ACSSW shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, ACSSW shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on:

- by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of such Code; and/or
- by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under sections 170(c)(2), 2055(a)(2), or 2522(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.

SECTION 8: INTERNAL REVENUE CODE

References herein to sections of the Internal Revenue Code are to provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, as those provisions are now enacted or to corresponding provisions of any future United States in

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

SECTION 1: OFFICERS AND TERMS OF SERVICE

- The officers of ACSSW shall be the President, the President-Elect, the immediate Past President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.
- All officers of ACSSW, except the Treasurer, shall be elected at large from among the members of ACSSW.
- The President, the President-Elect, and the immediate Past President shall serve for one year terms, from July 1 to June 30, or until their successors are elected.
- The Secretary shall be elected to serve for a two-year term, from July 1 to June 30, or until a successor is elected.
- The Treasurer shall be appointed by the Board upon recommendation of the President to serve for a three-year term, from July 1 to June 30, or until a successor is appointed.

SECTION 2: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- The President shall preside at all meetings of ACSSW. The President shall chair and preside at meetings of the Board. The President shall be an ex officio member without vote on all committees with the exception of the Nominations for Awards and Elections Committee. The President shall perform the duties customary to that office and such additional duties as directed by the Board.
- In the event of an officer or board member mid-term vacancy due to resignation, removal, or by vacancy by other circumstances, the President, in consultation with the ACSSW executive board, may appoint an individual to replace the vacated officer/board member to fulfill the remainder of the vacated board member's term.
- The President-Elect shall perform the duties of the President in the absence or incapacity of the President as determined by the Board. The President-Elect shall assume the Presidency of ACSSW upon the death or resignation of the President.
- The President-elect shall coordinate the nominations process for division elections.
- The President-Elect, subject to confirmation by the Board, shall appoint members of committees and the Treasurer, in accordance with and except as otherwise specified in ACSSW Bylaws, policies and procedures. The President-Elect shall serve as Chairperson of the Conference Committee, and shall perform such additional duties as directed by the Board. If the President-Elect becomes incapacitated, the term is to be completed by the candidate with the next highest vote on the same slate of candidates.
- The immediate Past President shall assist in the coordination of the nominations for Awards, coordinate bylaws changes to be approved by the Board, and shall perform such additional duties as directed by the Board.
- The Secretary shall keep record of the proceedings of the Board. The Secretary shall perform the duties customary to that office and such additional duties as directed by the Board.
- The Treasurer shall represent ACSSW in assuring the receipt and expenditures of funds in accordance with the directives established by the Board, and shall be under such bond as may be determined by the Board. The Treasurer shall perform the duties customary to that office and such additional duties as directed by the Board.

SECTION 3: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- The ACSSW Board shall seek and select more than one nominee for each position (when feasible) to be elected for the next term, and submit a slate of candidates/nominees for approval by the Board at its annual meeting.
- ACSSW shall conduct the election of officers by ballot.
- In the event of a tie on the official ballot, a run-off election shall be held to break the tie.

SECTION 4: COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES OF OFFICERS

- None of the elected officers of ACSSW shall receive any compensation for their services as such to ACSSW, with the exception that the Board can approve compensation for the President, President-Elect, and Past President.
- The Treasurer may be paid such compensation from the funds of ACSSW as may be fixed from time to time by the Board.

ARTIVLE VII: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1: COMPOSITION

- The officers of ACSSW (the President, the President-Elect, the immediate Past President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer).
- Three trustees, nominated and elected (in accordance with Article VI, Section 3) at large from among the members of ACSSW, for alternating and overlapping three year terms.
- One graduate student trustee member (voting member), nominated and elected (in accordance with Article VI, Section 3) at large from among the members of ACSSW, for a one-year term (with no more than two consecutive terms served).
- The ACSSW Representative to the ACA Governing Council, nominated and elected (in accordance with Article VI, Section 3) at large from among the members of ACSSW, for a three-year term.

SECTION 2: POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

The Board shall:

- establish policies to govern the affairs of ACSSW.
- formulate operational policies appropriate for executive action and direct the execution thereof.
- grant and revoke Branch charters.
- act on the reports of Branches, Standing Committees, and such Special Committees and Task Forces
- adopt and amend Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.
- exercise such other powers and functions as may be necessary or desirable in the best interests of ACSSW, not in conflict with the Bylaws.
- establish the strategic plan of ACSSW.
- establish broad, long-term professional directions for ACSSW.

SECTIONS 3: MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

- The Board shall meet a minimum of once per year. A meeting will be held before, during, or after the ACA Annual Conference.
- The President of ACSSW shall preside at meetings of the Board and, in the President's absence, the President-Elect shall preside.
- A majority of the voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.
- At each annual meeting, and at any other time when so requested in writing, each Branch, officer of ACSSW, and each Standing and Special Committee and Task Force as specified in the Bylaws of ACSSW shall submit a written report to the ACSSW President who shall transmit the report to the Board.

SECTIONS 4: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, President-Elect, immediate Past President, and Treasurer. The Treasurer shall serve ex officio, without vote.

- The Executive Committee shall act for the Board within policies as may be established by the Board. The Executive Committee shall function primarily to address those issues which are necessary for the efficient operation of ACSSW where the time requirements necessitate immediate action. All actions and activities of the Executive Committee shall be communicated to the Board through minutes which are sent within ten working days of an Executive Committee conference or meeting. The actions taken by the Executive Committee must be submitted for ratification by the Board at the next Board meeting. Any subsequent decision by the Board that is contrary to an action taken by the Executive Committee shall (to the extent permitted by law) be given only prospective effect.
- The Executive Committee shall confer or meet at least once per year in addition to the Board meetings. Other conferences or meetings may be called only in an emergency which is determined by the President or the Board.

ARTICLE VIII: PUBLICATIONS

SECTION 1: PUBLICATIONS POLICY

- The Board, shall determine and direct the basic publications policy and program of ACSSW, and shall have the authority to hire, discharge and fix the compensation of the persons serving as editors of the publications and other media of ACSSW.

SECTION 2: JOURNAL AFFILIATION

- ACSSW shall, by Memorandum of Affiliation, endorse and recognize the *Journal of Counseling Sexology and Sexual Wellness: Research, Practice, and Education* as the official journal of ACSSW.

SECTION 3: NEWSLETTER

- ACSSW shall provide a quarterly newsletter for its membership, discussing current issues and needs of the affiliation. Editor and Associate Editor of the ACSSW Newsletter shall be appointed by the President.

SECTION 4: COPYRIGHT

- ACSSW shall own the copyright for the original and any renewal term for any writing that is published by ACSSW. The author of any such writing shall have the right to make a non-profit or non-commercial use of the work provided that there be affixed to each copy the copyright notice used by ACSSW when the writing was first published. The author shall have the right to make or authorize the profit or commercial use of any such writing only after first obtaining the written consent of ACSSW.

SECTION 5: DIVISION AND BRANCH PUBLICATIONS

- Nothing in this Article shall be interpreted as limiting the freedom of any Branch to produce, select and copyright publications of its choice.

ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: STANDING COMMITTEES

The Standing Committees of ACSSW shall be:

- the Education & Training Committee
- the Promotion & Membership Committee
- the Research & Scholarship Committee
- Social Justice & Advocacy Committee

SECTION 2: REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Each Standing Committee shall submit an annual written report to the ACSSW President who shall transmit the report to the Board.

SECTION 3: SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The President, subject to confirmation by the Board, may establish a time-limited Special Committee or Task Force for a specific temporary purpose or assigned task which is beyond Standing Committees' scope of responsibilities as indicated in policies adopted by the Board. Any such Special Committee or Task Force shall be responsible to the Chair of the Standing Committee with the most closely related scope of responsibility.

SECTION 4: REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Each Special Committee and Task Force shall complete the specific purpose or the assigned task by a date specified by the Board and submit a written report to the ACSSW President by or before a date set by the Board. The ACSSW President shall transmit the reports to the Board.

ARTICLE X: INDEMNIFICATION

SECTION 1: PROVISION

ACSSW shall indemnify each member of its Board of Directors, as described in Article VII, and each of its officers, as described in Article VI, and each member of its committees, as described in Article IX for the defense of civil or criminal actions or proceedings as hereinafter provided and, notwithstanding any provision in these Bylaws, in a manner and to the extent permitted by applicable law.

SECTION 2: IMPLEMENTATION

ACSSW shall indemnify each of its Board members and officers and committee members, as aforesaid, from and against any and all judgments, fines, amounts paid in settlement, and reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, actually and necessarily incurred or imposed as a result of such action or proceedings, or any appeal therein, imposed upon or asserted against him or her by reason of being or having been such a Board member or officer or committee member

and acting within the scope of his or her official duties, but only when the determination shall have been made judicially or in the manner hereinafter provided that he or she acted in good faith or for the purpose which he or she reasonably believed to be in the best interests of ACSSW and, in the case of a criminal action or proceeding, in addition had no reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful. This indemnification shall be made only if ACSSW shall be advised by its Board acting (1) by quorum consisting of Board members who are not parties to such action or proceedings upon a finding that, or (2) if a quorum under (1) is not obtainable with due diligence, upon the opinion in writing of independent legal counsel that, the Board member or officer or committee member has met the foregoing applicable standard of conduct. If the foregoing determination is to be made by the Board, it may rely, as to all questions of law, on the advice of independent legal counsel.

SECTION 3: INCLUSION

Every reference herein to a member of the Board of Directors or officer or committee member of ACSSW shall include every Board member and officer and committee member thereof or former Board member and officer and committee member thereof.

This indemnification shall apply to all the judgments, fines, amounts in settlement, and reasonable expenses described above whenever arising allowable as above-stated. The right of indemnification herein provided shall be in addition to any and all rights to which any Board member or officer or committee member of ACSSW might otherwise be entitled and the provisions hereby shall neither impair nor adversely affect such rights.

ARTICLE XI: NONDISCRIMINATION

There shall be no discrimination against any individual on the basis of race, ethnicity, class, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, age, ability/disability, spiritual or religious belief system, or indigenous heritage.

ARTICLE XII: BYLAWS

SECTION 1: AMENDMENT AND REVISION

These Bylaws may be amended, revised, or both by a two-thirds majority of the Board members voting.

- Proposed amendments and revisions may be originated by the Board or presented to the Board by a Branch, an ACSSW Standing Committee (provided that the submitting entity is in compliance), or by an individual member, provided that in the case of an individual member the proposed amendment shall be presented over the signatures of at least fifty members in good standing.
- All such proposed amendments and revisions must be submitted in writing to the Bylaws Committee no later than twelve weeks prior to the Board meeting at which the change may be considered.

- The ACSSW Board will review such proposed amendments with or without a recommendation regarding each proposed change at least six weeks before the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

SECTION 2: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Supplementary policies and implementation guidelines for these Bylaws are to be found in the ACSSW Policies and Procedures Manual.

ARTICLE XIII: RULES OF ORDER

The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, (edited by Henry M. Robert III and William J. Evans, and published by Perseus-HarperCollins) shall govern the proceedings of all bodies of ACSSW except where otherwise specified in these Bylaws.

ACSSW Goals and Strategies

Goal #1:

Continue to promote ACSSW in the counseling and other mental health professional community with ongoing refinement of mission and vision of the association and to develop, implement, and foster interest in contributing to awareness and advocacy for all persons' rights to sexual wellness.

| Strategies | Responsible Party or Committee | Timeline |
|---|--|-----------------|
| 1. Fill vacancies in leadership positions | Promotion and Membership Committee (Melissa Vandenburg) | Spring 2019 |
| 2. Build ACSSW membership | Promotion and Membership Committee (Melissa Vandenburg) | Ongoing |
| 3. Develop ACSSW 5-year plan | Executive Leadership (Angela Schubert) | Spring 2019 |
| 4. Establish Committees with identified goals and strategies for 2018/2019. | Promotion and Membership (Melissa Vandenburg) Education and Training (Angela Schubert) Research and Scholarship (Robert Zeglin) Social Justice and Advocacy (Frances McClain) | Spring 2019 |

Goal #2:

Establish a community committed to:

- **promoting greater awareness and understanding of sexuality, respecting diversity in sexual expression as well as how the intersection of each individual’s identities inclusive of age, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender and gender expression, physical and mental health and abilities, socioeconomic status impacts their sexuality.**
- **improving standards and delivery of sexuality counseling services,**
- **produce scientific, educational, and professional materials, with the purpose of raising the standards of practice for all who address sexuality in the counseling process,**
- **develop, implement, and foster interest in counseling-related programs designed to contribute to awareness and advocacy for all persons’ rights to sexual wellness.**

| Strategies | Responsible Party or Committee | Timeline |
|---|--|-----------------|
| 1. Develop webinars/training for counseling professionals around addressing sexual issues in treatment to promote greater awareness and understanding in the counseling profession. | Education and Training Committee (Angela Schubert) | Ongoing |
| 2. Sub-Committee working on counselor sexuality competencies to improve standards and delivery of sexuality counseling services. | Counselor Competencies Sub-Committee (Robert Zeglin) | Summer 2019 |
| 3. Publication of the first issue of <i>The Journal of Counseling Sexology & Sexual Wellness: Research, Practice, and Education</i> | JCSSW Sub-Committee (Robert Zeglin) | Spring 2019 |
| 4. Identify and prioritize current issues related to sexual rights with an action plan for ACSSW. | Social Justice and Advocacy Committee (Frances McClain) | Spring 2019 |

APPENDIX A



| Date | Event |
|----------------------|--|
| 2012 | Sexual Wellness in Counseling Network established. |
| Spring 2017 | ACES conference Robert Zeglin & Frances McClain gather names of people interested in developing a counseling organization addressing sexuality. |
| Spring 2017 | Frances contacts Angela Schubert (SWIC Moderator) to ask about joining in developing a counseling sexuality organization. |
| December 2017 | Planning committee convenes to develop strategic plan for development of a counseling organization addressing issues of sexuality. |
| February 2018 | Submission of application for ACSSW to become affiliate of ACA. |
| March 2018 | First annual ACSSW meeting at ACA conference in Atlanta, GA |
| Summer 2018 | Executive Leadership Committee established with Committee chairs. President – Angela Schubert President Elect – Frances McClain Treasurer – Melissa Vandenburg Committee Leadership: Membership & Promotion: Melissa Vandenburg Education & Training: Angela Schubert Research & Scholarship: Robert Zeglin Social Justice & Advocacy: Frances McClain |
| December 2018 | Open meeting of ACSSW with presentation of Strategic Plan and standing committees. Goals to increase membership and establish working committees to advance mission and vision for ACSSW. |
| January 2019 | Monthly open meeting of ACSSW |
| March 2019 | Second annual ACSSW meeting at ACA conference in New Orleans, LA |

Appendix B

ASSOCIATION OF COUNSELING SEXOLOGY AND SEXUAL WELLNESS COMMITTEES

Members of the committees serve a maximum of a two-year term; the chairs and vice-chairs serve one year in each leadership position.

Role of committee members:

- Learn committee objectives and goals.
- Attend and actively participate in all scheduled committee meetings and conference calls.
- Offer unbiased recommendations and work for the good of the organization and membership.
- Respond to communications from chair in a timely manner.
- Provide input to ACSSW committee leadership upon request.
- Review supplied materials for discussion (if any) prior to meetings or conference calls.
- Seek guidance and direction from committee chair.
- Report to committee chair.
- Responsible for expenses to attend meetings.
- Participate in committee meetings

Vice-chair responsibilities:

- Takes notes during meetings and conference calls.
- Provides final notes to staff for distribution to the committee members.
- Serves as chair when the chair is absent.

Chair responsibilities:

- Determine meeting dates at the beginning of the year.
- Identifies agenda items for each meeting or conference call.
- Leads discussion during committee meetings and conference calls.

PROMOTION & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Promotion & Membership Committee is responsible for membership-related issues or special projects that requires discussion, research, and recommendations for association membership business which includes building ACSSW membership, membership dues, and the promotion of ACSSW in the counseling field and larger mental health profession.

The committee:

- Promotes the benefits of ACSSW membership.
- Identifies issues important to members.
- Evaluates current and potential products and services.
- Works to enhance the value of ACSSW membership.
- Investigates equitable dues structures.

EDUCATION & TRAINING COMMITTEE

The Education & Training Committee is a committee which shall develop, implement, and report on educational programs for ACSSW which include webinars, seminars, basic, intermediate, and advanced sessions, or special projects.

The committee:

- Supports the ACSSW mission of providing educational programming for professional counselors and mental health professionals related to sexuality and sexual wellness.
- Ensures educational programming sponsored by ACSSW adheres to the mission and vision of the association.
- Develops clinical certifications for licensed counselors, potentially to include, Counseling Sexologist, Sexual Wellness Counselor, and Sexual Wellness Educator

RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Research & Scholarship Committee shall set overall policy, provide guidance, plan development, and encourage excellence of research and scholarship in sexuality as it relates to the counseling profession.

The committee:

- Supports and promotes research and scholarship on issues related to sexuality and sexual wellness.
- Shall oversee the Journal of Counseling Sexology and Sexual Wellness.
- Develop and promote sexuality competencies for the counseling profession.

SOCIAL JUSTICE & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The Social Justice & Advocacy Committee is responsible for providing organizational leadership related to issues of social justice as it pertains to sexuality and sexual wellness. This committee is responsible for providing leadership in ACSSW related to advocating for issues of sexuality both within the counseling profession and the wider communities. Sexual rights include the right of all persons, free of coercion, discrimination and violence, to:

- the highest attainable standard of sexual health, including access to sexual and reproductive health care services;
- seek, receive and impart information related to sexuality;
- sexuality education;
- respect for bodily integrity;
- choose their partner;
- decide to be sexually active or not;
- consensual sexual relations;
- consensual marriage;
- decide whether or not, and when, to have children; and
- pursue a satisfying, safe and pleasurable sexual life.

The committee:

- Shall monitor current and upcoming social justice issues related to concerns of discrimination based on sexuality.
- Shall initiate action providing support for sexually minoritized groups who experience discrimination.

APPENDIX C

Operating Budget and Financial Reports

ACSSW 2018 Financial Statement

Treasurer: Melissa Vandenburg
Time Period: 2018

| Revenue | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Membership Dues | [] |
| Donations | \$200.00 |
| Net Sales | \$200.00 |
| Expenses | |
| Advertising | [] |
| Bank Charges | [] |
| Insurance | [] |
| Interest | [] |
| Legal and Professional Fees | [] |
| Licenses and Fees | [] |
| Miscellaneous | \$175.00 (Newsletter) |
| Office Expense | [] |
| Postage | [] |
| Supplies | [] |
| Telephone | [] |
| Travel | [] |
| Utilities | [] |
| Vehicle Expenses | [] |
| Total Expenses | 0 |
| Net Operating Income | \$25.00 |
| Grants & Scholarships | |
| Grants Received | 0 |
| Scholarship Donations | 0 |
| Total Other Income | 0 |
| Net Income (Loss) | [] |

APPENDIX D

| Leadership Positions in ACSSW 2018 | | | |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Position | Length of Term | Assignment Date | Candidate(s) |
| <i>Officers</i> | | | |
| President | 1 year | September 2018 | Angela Schubert |
| President-Elect | 1 year | September 2018 | Frances McClain |
| Past President | 1 year | n/a | n/a |
| Secretary | 1 year | TBD | TBD |
| Treasurer | 3 years | July 2018 | Melissa Vandenburg |
| <i>Board of Directors</i> | | | |
| 4 Trustees | 3 years | TBD | To be filled in the spring 2019 |
| 1 Grad Student Trustee | 1 year | TBD | To be filled in the spring 2019 |
| 1 ACA Governing Council Member | 3 years | TBD | To be filled in the spring 2019 |
| SWIC Moderator Non-voting member | 2 years | December 2018 | Cheryl Walker |
| <i>Journal</i> | | | |
| Editor | 3 years | July 2018 | Robert Zeglin |
| Associate Editor | 3 years | July 2018 | Jayce Patton |
| Reviewers | | July 2018 | To be filled in February |
| <i>Newsletter</i> | | | |
| Editor | 1 year | March 2018 | Tonya Epps |
| Associate Editor | 1 year | March 2018 | Melissa |
| <i>Standing Committees</i> | | | |
| Membership & Promotion | | December 2018 | Melissa Vandenburg |
| Research & Scholarship | | December 2018 | Robert Zeglin |
| Education & Training | | December 2018 | Angie Schubert |
| Social Justice & Advocacy | | December 2018 | Frances McClain |