AAPL EXAMINER
American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law

AAPL's 57th Annual Meeting

Viviana Alvarez-Toro, MD, and Margarita Abi Zeid Daou, MD

AAPL's 57th Annual Meeting will take place at the Tampa Marriott Water Street – Tampa, Florida from October 26 – November 1, 2026. Known for its academic forensic settings (think the University of South Florida), Riverwalk, parks, aquarium, and its rich Cuban-Spanish culture, Tampa provides a stimulating backdrop for this year's event.

President Philip Candilis' theme for the year is **"Advancing Our Ethics and Research,"** an emphasis of the pillars of scholarship that uphold the profession. The focus will be on the tools and frameworks that strengthen the field's evidence base while meeting its evolving ethics standards.

The conference's distinguished speakers will emphasize this theme, offering the perspectives of social justice and ethical research:



Leigh Gilmore is a pioneering professor, feminist theorist, and writer on justice, narrative, and law. Her ground-breaking books *Tainted Witness: Why We Doubt What Women Say About Their Lives*, and *The #MeToo Effect: What Happens When We Believe Women* set standards for the national discussion of sexual violence and the legal system's response to it. She will speak on how the law falls short and how experts and communities can use narrative and writing to understand and address that failure.



Amandine Catala is a luminary of the epistemic injustice movement. As The Canada Research Chair on Epistemic Injustice and Agency at the University of Quebec in Montreal, Professor Catala writes on the influences on individuals in their capacities as witnesses and "knowers." Epistemic injustice arises when one is either not adequately believed or consulted, or not adequately understood or represented because of biases against group membership or social identity. Her address will

describe how epistemic injustice and its credibility and intelligibility deficits play a problematic role in law and psychiatry, including the conceptualizations of a typical patient, victim, or perpetrator.



Randy Borum is Professor and Director of Intelligence and National Security Studies, Senior Faculty Fellow, Global and National Security Institute, at the University of South Florida. Dr. Borum has supported three Directors of National Intelligence (DNI) on the Intelligence Science Board (ISB) and served on the Defense Science Board Task Force on Understanding Human Dynamics. He has taught or advised a number of national security agencies, and serves as advisor to the FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit-1 (Threat Assessment & National Security). He will highlight his team's recent innovative efforts in assessing the risks of violent extremism.

In addition to these distinguished speakers, and in keeping with AAPL's tradition of comprehensive meetings, the conference will feature a diverse lineup of panel discussions, workshops, and poster sessions—many reinforcing the central theme. AAPL will once again use an application-based program to track sessions and CMEs, rather than a paper-based one. We are grateful to our AAPL Office, the Program Committee, and feedback from previous attendees that continue improving the conference experience, from scheduling to networking.

Once again, in the spirit of the holiday, there will be a Halloween AAPL Reception, so feel free to bring a costume.

We look forward to seeing you again this year!