



Over the last year, the AAPC Board of Directors has been working diligently to help us find a way forward. As you know, we have been in active conversation with the ACPE about joining them in the coming months. We have now reached the time where we **need your voice and vote** to determine next steps.

Some of you have asked **how it will benefit AAPC as an organization and as individual members** to join with ACPE. As many of you know, we share a history that dates back decades, grounded in a commitment to professional spiritual care of individuals and communities. In becoming members of ACPE, AAPC will have the organizational infrastructure that a volunteer-based association simply cannot manage. In addition, every member of AAPC will receive an ACPE account, granting them access to a free online Office 365 suite and cloud storage.

ACPE, understanding some of the needs of AAPC members are different from those of chaplains, is also working to establish a program that will offer all ACPE/AAPC members access to liability insurance. Additionally, ACPE will maintain a database that will keep CEUs updated for all members, and ACPE is working to contract with an official agency to allow ACPE to grant CEUs recognized by licensing bureaus across the US. Again, a new undertaking for ACPE, meeting the needs of AAPC members. In short, an organization with a well-designed professional staff can do many things that a volunteer group simply can't.

Those members of AAPC who had achieved Fellow and Diplomate status previously will, by providing documentation, be eligible to become ACPE Psychotherapists at a membership fee of \$200 annually. All (other) members no matter their previous status, including students, will be eligible to become members at \$100 annually. Those who eventually become trainers of the soon-to-be-released Spiritually-Integrated Psychotherapy curriculum will be eligible, in the future, to become ACPE SIP Trainers and will have a \$300 annual membership fee. Fees for each category have been determined by starting with the membership fee for ACPE Certified Educators (\$500) and granting a credit for the cost of licensing (an average of \$300), thus the fee of \$200 for former Fellows and Diplomates. Should ACPE Psychotherapists determine that they want to have their center accredited, they would move to the ACPE Certified Educator and Center schedule of fees. **PLEASE NOTE: A COMMISSION WILL BE ESTABLISHED to evaluate all membership nuances** including, but not limited to, those who were in process for different categories when credentialing stopped and those who will be trained to train in new programs such as Spiritual Care Specialist. The Commission will be comprised of both current AAPC members and ACPE representatives.

In preparation for the member vote, the **AAPC Executive Committee will host three virtual town hall meetings** to hear your questions and provide further clarification. The times of the town hall meetings are: Saturday, January 19, 3:00-4:30pm, Eastern; Friday, January 25, 12:30-2:00pm, Eastern; and Tuesday, January 29, 7:00-8:30pm, Eastern.

Please register for the Town Hall you plan to attend by clicking the link below for the corresponding date and time and follow the onscreen instructions:

- **Saturday, January 19, 3:00-4:30, Eastern:**
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7445893139308600077>
- **Friday, January 25, 12:30-2:00pm, Eastern:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3865738143735212557>
- **Tuesday, January 29, 7:00-8:30pm, Eastern:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8095685819626686477>

Over the next three weeks, we will remind you about the upcoming vote. Immediately following the vote, the executive committees of the two boards will meet to discuss next steps.

On Wednesday, **January 30, 7:00am eastern, AAPC members with voting rights (current regular and retired members in good standing as of January 23, 2019) will receive a ballot from a secure online election service called Simply Voting.** The election will remain open for ten days, closing Friday, February 9, 7:00am eastern. AAPC is incorporated in Missouri, so the process and wording for the vote and subsequent actions are guided by Missouri Nonprofit codes. AAPC executive leadership have been in consultation with legal counsel in preparing this vote. The ballot will read as follows:

Proposed Consolidation with ACPE

To authorize the AAPC Board of Directors and Officers to carry out the consolidation of AAPC into ACPE, the Board of Directors recommends member adoption of the following resolution, the effect of which will be to approve the transfer of AAPC assets to ACPE and the dissolution of AAPC, and to authorize the AAPC officers to take all steps necessary to effectuate the consolidation:

[Resolution]

APPROVE NOT APPROVE

A vote to APPROVE signifies approval of the resolution set forth above. A vote to NOT APPROVE signifies non-approval of the resolution set forth above. At least five percent (5%) of the voting members of AAPC must cast a ballot for the quorum requirement to be satisfied for this action. Two-thirds (2/3rds) of the members voting, or a majority of the AAPC voting membership, must vote to approve the resolution in order for the resolution to be adopted.

At the same time, ACPE members will vote on a referendum on inviting AAPC members to become a part of the ACPE. The ACPE Board of Directors is planning to meet the week of February 11, 2019 to take the steps necessary to respond to the results of the vote. Should all measures be approved, AAPC members will receive invitations to join ACPE no later than the first week of March 2019.

Please let us know if you have questions or need clarification. Thank you for your service with AAPC.

Best regards,

Tere Tyner Canzoneri, M.Div., LSCW

AAPC President

The Rev. Dr. Claire W. Bamberg, LMHC, LMFT

AAPC Vice President

Florence De Witt

AAPC Secretary

Rev. Elizabeth Denham Thompson

AAPC Treasurer

American Association of Pastoral Counselors | P.O. Box 3030 | Oakton, VA 22124

www.aapc.org | info@aapc.org | +1 (703) 385-6967 | Fax: +1 (703) 884-9165