

Yuma Tomes, Ph.D.

Candidate for Eastern Regional Representative



Name of Candidate & Years of affiliation with the ABPsi:

Yuma I. Tomes, PhD, ABA, NCSP; 8 years

Position seeking:

Eastern Regional Representative

Work Title and Name of Employer:

Full Professor & Director of School Psychology; Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Education:

BA – Developmental Psychology – University of North Carolina MA/CAS –

Child/School Psychology – Appalachian State University

PhD – Educational Psychology (Neuroscience emphasis) – Virginia Commonwealth University/Medical College of Virginia

Certification and Licensure Information:

Nationally Certified School Psychologist

Washington State Certification – Educational Specialist Associate Washington State

Licensed Psychologist

Applied Behavior Analyst

Recent Professional Experience:

Director & Full Professor, PsyD Program in School Psychology (PCOM) Director & Assistant Professor, MS Program in School Psychology (PCOM) Psychologist, Mednet Healthcare Systems

Assistant Professor, Human Development & Learning (EWU)

Additional Experience and/or Activities involving the ABPsi governance:

- Current Eastern Region Representative
- Immediate Past President of Delaware Valley Association of Black Psychologists (DVABPsi) (President for a two year tenure)
- General Assembly (former member)
- National Convention presenter

Other Related Memberships:

- National Association of School Psychologist (NASP)
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP – Board of Reviewers)
- American Counseling Association (ACA)
- Psi Chi (National Psychology Honors Fraternity)
- Alpha Lambda (National Graduate Honors Fraternity)
- American Educational Research Association (AERA)

Awards and Honors:

- Student National Medical Association Faculty of the Year (2011)
- Junior Faculty of the Year (TSP Annual Conference, 2007)
- Who's Who Among College Professors (2005)

Publications and Presentations:

Recent Publications

Tomes, Y. (under submission). African American's family's influence on academic achievement of urban secondary students, *Journal of Black Psychology*

Tomes, Y. (under submission). Stress-related exposure of African American adolescents in school settings, *Journal of Black Psychology*

Tomes, Y.I. (2014). The untold diversity: The impact individual cognitive differences have on classroom instruction., *Learning Disabilities*, 20, 2-22.

Ortiz, S., Johnston, H., Wilcox, G., Franics, S. & Tomes, Y. (2014). The primacy of IQ subtest analysis to understand reading performance for culturally diverse groups, *Learning Disabilities: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 20(1), 45-54.

Tomes, Y. (2014). On the psychology of race relations. *Digest*, 2, 29.

Tomes, Y. (2011). An evaluation of professional students' acceptance and perceptions of mental illness in African Americans. *American Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*, 111, 694-697.

Recent Presentations

Tomes, Y. *The ABCs of BICS & CALP: A School Psychologist's Primer*, Delaware County Association of School Psychologists, Morton, PA (Fall 2014)

Tomes, Y. *Psychology as a Profession for African Americans: Experiences, Trends, and Considerations*, American Psychological Association, Washington, DC (Summer 2014)

Tomes, Y. *HIV/AIDS in the Black Community*. National Black Nurses Association, Philadelphia, PA (Summer 2014)

Tomes, Y. & Edwards, F. *The African American Family's Influence on Academic Achievement of Urban Secondary Students*. 46th ABPsi Annual International Convention, Indianapolis, IN (Summer 2014)

Tomes, Y., & James, S. *African-American Adolescents' Gender Differences in Coping Style When Exposed to Race-Related Stress*. 3rd Annual Diversity Conference, Philadelphia, PA (Spring, 2012)

Community Service:

CHARLES Foundation (Creating Healthy Alternative Results in Less Emotional Suffering) – Board Member

Thanksgiving Dinner & Program with the Elders Kwanzaa in the Schools

Increasing Self-Esteem in African American Parents and Children

Personal Candidate Statement:

I am humbled and privileged to have served as the Eastern Regional Representative in the National Association of Black Psychologists for the past two years. As I have been active on the national level for eight years, the past two years have been gratifying in serving the constituencies throughout the eastern region. While serving as the Eastern Region Representative, we have established a Facebook Page (for promotion of programs, referral assistance, etc.), bi-monthly chapter presidents' meetings, and working on an Eastern Region conference. Further, I have been an advocate for the association on the local level, most recently serving as President of the Delaware Valley Association of Black Psychologists (DVABPsi). Through my presidency, DVABPsi increased both in membership and local awareness as we endeavored as an Association to create a broader community presence. Additionally, we established several new initiatives including: scholarship brunch, soon-to-be-doctor research series, and community/school outreach.

Professionally, I am the Director and Professor of the PsyD Program in School Psychology at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Over the past 10 years, I have worked diligently to support students of color throughout the field of psychology, increase multicultural research opportunities that would inform culturally-appropriate practices, and infused curricula with multicultural concepts. Throughout my tenure, I have written several peer-reviewed articles accepted in a variety of journals and one textbook, *Cross-Cultural Interaction and Understanding: Theory, Practice, and Reality*. I chair and serve on numerous dissertation committees that focus on the disproportionality of African Americans and other persons of color in educational and healthcare settings.

As a champion for ABPsi, I would like to continue to utilize my skills and experiences to advance some new initiatives both within the Eastern Region as well as the national office. The first initiative is to increase membership, especially among college/university students and early-career professionals. In order to accomplish this goal, I would encourage each chapter in the region to “adopt” a college/university for the year and do partner programming with the school. Not only does it increase awareness about the respective associations, but it primes students of color to look more actively into the profession and associations. Also, this would indirectly create a small revenue stream for the associations. The second initiative would be to examine the disproportional representation of African American and other students of color in lower level educational programs further supporting the “school to prison pipeline,” especially in urban areas. In order to address these challenges I would encourage chapters to work with the national office in identifying extramural funding sources and combining resources to apply for a variety of grants. Finally, establishing an ejournal that promulgates the initiatives of the national office and supports multicultural evidence-based practices would be critical to advancing ABPsi initiatives.