

**Declaration of Candidacy for the Presidency of the Interamerican Society of Psychology
North America Region [2023-2025]**

Dr. Viviane de Castro Peçanha



Dear SIP family, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for being nominated to the President position. I appreciate your trust in my ability to work collaboratively with you contributing with the development of psychology across our nations.

For the past 26 years, I have been working in the field of psychology as a clinical and research psychologist. I was part of an interprofessional team establishing the first research and treatment center in South America dedicated to Impulse Control Disorders. I also co-founded a non-profit organization offering pro bono training in mental health. Almost at the same time I immigrated to the USA in 2005, I earned my doctorate in psychology. My career has been marked with opportunities focused on social justice and this is translated into my work in Brazil, India, Nepal, South Africa, and Vietnam empowering communities to advocate for their rights.

While living in Los Angeles, I worked with immigrants on issues of acculturation and taught at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology (TCSPP). In 2009, I returned to Brazil, although I continued with TCSPP in the International Psychology (IP) Department teaching online doctoral and master students and supporting their development as global agents of change to respond to the demands of our societies.

I also have been writing books, book chapters, and publishing articles at the same time I supervise the theses of several doctoral students. The studies are conducted with international populations on the areas of cultural, cross-cultural, intercultural, and indigenous psychologies.

Since 2018, I have been the Chair of the IP Department. Under my leadership, the IP Ph.D. program won the International Program of Excellence Award from the American Professional and Continuing Education Association. In 2012 and 2021, I received the Distinguished Multicultural Teaching Excellence Award and the Distinguished International Research Award from TCSPP.

I was introduced to SIP in 2016 when I attended the regional conference in Argentina. In 2021, I was elected the National Delegate (USA) and shortly after I became the Secretary for North America. I am also an active member of the American Psychological Association Division 52 International Psychology and the Coalition of Psychology at United Nations.

One's candidacy platform is shaped by how one lives; hence, if I am elected the theme of my strategic plan will be ***Bring SIP to the World and the World to SIP***. My action plan will include the following goals:

International alliances – Enhance SIP's visibility in the global arena

- Establish new partnerships sharing similar missions and philosophy
- Apply for consultative status at United Nations Social Affairs Department
- Solidify existing collaborations with global partners
- Promote the use of all official languages (Spanish, Portuguese, English, and French)

Invest in the next generations of psychologists

- Encourage students in the development of leadership skills to take active roles at SIP
- Foster events focused on women's leadership

Grassroot efforts – Increase membership

- Empower students, National Delegates, and Working Groups to promote SIP highlighting the benefits of becoming members