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Nomination Statement

Broadly, my goals in serving as part of NLPA's Leadership Council as Early Career Psychologist Representative for the next two years are to use the knowledge gained from my previous service endeavors to: a) identify current challenges and needs of Early Career Latinx Psychologists as researchers and providers of services within the current socio-political context, which would provide valuable knowledge for dissemination and to guide a research agenda; b) collaborate with other members of the Executive Board to assist with the identification and inclusion of Early Career members across different areas in psychology, including those that may be particularly underrepresented at NLPA and those transitioning in and out of the Early Career phase; and c) promote the advancement of Early Career members by disseminating information through conference programming related to training and funding opportunities, interdisciplinary collaboration, networking and negotiation, and providing awards for stellar presentations and/or posters.

As evident from my vita, I have a strong commitment to the advancement of Latinx psychology and have made important contributions to research and the provision of services for our Latinx communities. Also, my involvement with different organizations, particularly those that focus on the development and advancement of underrepresented individuals, has prepared me well for this position. For instance, I have been actively involved in advocating for increased representation and retention of underrepresented students and faculty in the field through different service endeavors with different organizations, such as serving as co-chair of the Ethnic



Minority and Multicultural Health Special Interest Group for the Society of Behavioral Medicine, student council chair of the American Psychological Association Health Psychology (Division 38), student representative for the University of California, San Diego Department of Psychiatry Diversity Committee, student representative for the Institute of Medicine Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professions, and co-organizer for the past five years of the Annual Diversifying Clinical Psychology Recruitment Event for the Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology. I believe that increasing diversity in our field is essential to enrich the educational experience, promote personal and collective growth, challenge stereotypes, encourage critical thinking, foster communication among people of varied backgrounds, strengthen pluralistic societies, reduce existing health inequities, enhance fair economic competitiveness, and prepare professionals to better meet the needs of our underserved communities. In short, I have the necessary qualifications to achieve the proposed goals as Early Career Psychologist Representative, while also collaborate with other representatives to make meaningful contributions to achieve the overarching goals of the NLPA's Leadership Council.