

## **Re: Safety at AAPCSW /NIPER Conference**

Dear Colleague,

We hope this finds you well. We are stating the obvious that we are living in a time of uncertainty and have concerns about the coronavirus and its variants.

While planning for the in-person conference in November, we will take all measures necessary to ensure everyone's safety in Philadelphia, including the expectation that attendees be fully vaccinated. Masks are now required at the Hotel. As of now there are no lockdowns (*force majeure*) anywhere in the country, and we are vigilantly watching developments about public gatherings in the state of Pennsylvania and nationwide.

With so much changing, we are hopeful it will be safe to gather in November. Registrations are coming in, and we know some are waiting on the sidelines to make their decision. Refunds will be made if attendees need to cancel. October 3<sup>rd</sup> is the deadline for hotel reservations at the discounted rate. Registration form, hotel reservation link, program, and more – are on the web. Here's the link <https://aapcsw.org/events/conference/>

Plenary sessions on Friday-Sunday mornings and the film discussion on Friday afternoon will be live streamed (with a separate registration form and zoom link).

We will address rescheduling or virtual alternatives, if the in-person conference is cancelled due to lockdowns. Our foremost interest is for everyone's safety. Hope to see you in Philadelphia.

- The Conference Committee