The NASP Leadership Assembly has adopted three strategic goals that guide the association’s work. In your state, what are some gains being made in school psychology practice related to these goals, and what are some pressing challenges?

The NASP Leadership Assembly has adopted three strategic goals that guide the association’s work. In Alabama, I am proud that we are making meaningful gains in these three areas. If elected as the Alabama NASP delegate, I will expand and enhance the efforts in these three critical areas.

The first strategic goal is that school psychologists and school systems implement the NASP Model for Comprehensive and Integrated Psychological Services (NASP Practice Model). Effort has been made to increase awareness by presenting the NASP Practice Model at conferences. I would like to see this awareness expanded to middle and high schools, undergraduate students, and graduate students.

The second strategic goal is that there is a high-quality and diverse school psychology workforce that meets the critical demand for school psychological services. We have some work to do in this area. Our current school psychologist to student ratio is staggering! I am striving to meet this goal by implementing a training program at my university this fall to train up diverse school psychologists that can meet the needs of ALL the children in Alabama. I have also secured a large grant to fund scholars in this training.

The third strategic goal is that school psychologists have the self-awareness and critical consciousness to engage in and advocate for socially just practices that protect the right of every student to receive high-quality educational access, opportunities, and experiences. I am proud to say that AASP has really focused on social justice during my AASP presidency, bringing in speakers and engaging in discussions on this important topic. Social justice will continue to be our emphasis in our trainings, conferences, newsletter, and association communications.