

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE
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AAAS GUIDE FOR OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

General

The AAAS includes 117,000 individual members and 262 affiliated scientific societies and academies of science.

Responsibility for the affairs of the Association is vested in a small administrative body, the Board of Directors, which is elected by the membership at large, and a Council of 86 members, the majority of whom are elected directly by the membership through electorates. The Council establishes the general policies governing AAAS programs.

Sections and Electorates

The Association is organized into 24 sections: Agriculture, Food, and Renewable Resources (O), Anthropology (H), Astronomy (D), Atmospheric and Hydrospheric Sciences (W), Biological Sciences (G), Chemistry (C), Dentistry and Oral Health Sciences (R), Education (Q), Engineering (M), General Interest in Science and Engineering (Y), Geology and Geography (E), History and Philosophy of Science (L), Industrial Science and Technology (P), Information, Computing, and Communication (T), Linguistics and Language Science (Z), Mathematics (A), Medical Sciences (N), Neuroscience (V), Pharmaceutical Sciences (S), Physics (B), Psychology (J), Social, Economic, and Political Sciences (K), Societal Impacts of Science and Engineering (X), and Statistics (U).

The electorates are "subsets of the twenty-four Sections of the Association, consisting of those Members who are enrolled as voting members of the Sections." AAAS members may enroll in one to three electorates, may vote in each electorate in which they are enrolled, and are eligible for election by those electorates to any position filled by vote of an electorate, except that no member may be nominated for office in more than one section at a time. The electorates have no function other than that of electing officers and Council delegates.

Section Committees

The affairs of each section are managed by a Section Committee consisting of the Chair, Chair-Elect, Retiring Chair, Secretary, four Members-at-Large, Council Delegate(s) of the corresponding electorate, and representatives of the affiliated organizations enrolled in the section. The Chair-Elect and one Member-at-Large are elected annually by the members of the corresponding electorate. The Secretary is appointed for a four-year term by the Section Committee's Steering Group.

Under the direction of the Secretary, who is an administrative officer of the Association, the Section Committee promotes the work of the Association in its own field and arranges programs for presentation at AAAS meetings. Section Committees conduct their business at meetings held during the course of the Association's Annual Meeting and by mail. Each Section Committee is represented on the AAAS Council by the Retiring Chair.

Affiliated Organizations

Section Enrollment

Affiliated organizations shall generally enroll in five or fewer sections that parallel their interests, subject to approval by the respective Section Committee(s), and are required to appoint one representative to the Section Committee of each section in which they are enrolled. **Such representatives must be members of the AAAS.** They are appointed for three-year, renewable terms, beginning on the day after the AAAS Annual Meeting and ending on the last day of the Annual Meeting.

Affiliates that wish to enroll only in the Section on General Interest in Science and Engineering (Y) may do so without seeking the Section Committee's approval. However, an affiliate that wishes to enroll in Section Y and in one or more other sections must seek approval from the Section Committee of each such section, including Section Y.

The AAAS hopes that each affiliate will cover the expenses of its representative(s) in attending the annual business meeting(s) of the section(s) in which the affiliate is enrolled.

Responsibilities of Representatives

Representatives appointed by the affiliated organizations serve three-year terms as members of the Section Committees described on page 1 of this Guide. They are expected to attend the annual business meetings of their Section Committees, to serve as liaisons between the Section Committees and the organizations they represent, and to respond to mail inquiries initiated by section officers or by the AAAS office.

Representatives are sent advance information about Section Committee meetings. They should consult the organizations they represent concerning reimbursement of their expenses in attending those meetings.

Exchange of Information

In order to maintain up-to-date records on its affiliated organizations, the AAAS Executive Office will ask the secretary or executive officer of each affiliated organization to fill out three forms supplying the following:

1. Names and addresses of the affiliate's new officers and information concerning meetings (to be supplied annually).
2. Names and addresses of the affiliate's new or reappointed representatives to the Section Committees of the sections in which the affiliate is enrolled (to be supplied at three-year intervals).
3. Indication of the affiliate's wish to continue its affiliation with the AAAS (to be reaffirmed at three-year intervals as required by the AAAS bylaws).

Should any change in an affiliate's officers or Section Committee representatives occur at irregular times, the secretary or executive officer of the affiliate should notify the AAAS Executive Office. In turn, the AAAS will keep officers and representatives of affiliates informed on matters of mutual interest.

Automatic Disaffiliation

Procedures for automatic disaffiliation, established by the AAAS Council, are covered in AAAS Bylaw Article I, Membership and Affiliation, Section 3, Affiliates.

"Failure of the Affiliate to appoint within one year a representative to at least one Section Committee will result in initiation of disaffiliation procedures. In addition, failure of the Affiliate to appoint within one year a representative to other Sections in which it is enrolled will result in automatic cancellation of enrollment in those Sections.

"At three-year intervals, the Executive Officer shall communicate with all Affiliates to assure that they wish to continue their affiliation. If an Affiliate replies in the negative or fails to reply in due course, disaffiliation shall be automatic and the term(s) of its Section Committee representative(s) shall expire simultaneously with the lapse of affiliation."

Participation in AAAS Annual Meetings

Affiliates are welcome to participate in AAAS Annual Meetings (preferably through their sections of affiliation) in several ways--organize or sponsor sessions in the scientific program using established procedures, display information about their organization at specially discounted booths in the exhibition, or hold a separate meeting of the affiliate membership concurrent with the AAAS Annual Meeting. Affiliates are encouraged to publicize the AAAS Annual Meeting (and their contributions to it) in their journals and newsletters and to encourage their members' attendance.

For further information, write to the AAAS Meetings Department, 1200 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

Participation in Other AAAS Activities

1. The **Education and Human Resources Programs** office has several activities in which it invites the participation of affiliates.

The office is interested in collaborating with biological science and educational affiliated organizations in the development of a digital library for undergraduate biology and medical education. The office is also interested in collaboration with affiliated organizations in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences on K-12 education, career, and diversity related activities.

The office is home to the Senior Scientists and Engineers, a group of retired and semi-retired professionals who donate their time and talents to voluntary initiatives, including service as reviewers of agency proposals, assistance to federal, state, and local policy bodies, and as volunteers in museum and school programs. SSE welcomes senior members of affiliated organizations who wish to be involved in these activities.

The AAAS Project on Science, Technology, and Disability offers technical assistance to affiliates on barrier-free meetings and disseminates information on education, careers, and assistive technology in science, mathematics, and engineering for people with disabilities.

AAAS is interested in working with affiliates around general issues related to providing information on and advancing careers in science and engineering at all levels. In particular, AAAS serves as "incubator" to the National Postdoctoral Association and would welcome the opportunity for partnership with affiliates around issues facing post docs within all areas of study.

The Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows program was established to improve the public understanding of science and technology by providing summer media experiences to advanced students. AAAS invites affiliates to sponsor students in this activity, thus improving the students' skills in communicating science to a lay audience and increasing the coverage of science in magazines, newspapers, and in broadcast media.

2. The **Office of International Initiatives** works to promote better understanding of the importance of international scientific collaboration, to strengthen the role of scientists and engineers in developing countries, to increase the contributions of science and technology to the solution of regional and global problems, and to achieve more effective collaboration with foreign scientific communities. The AAAS international effort addresses three main objectives, building on strengths and assets across AAAS: promoting international scientific cooperation, building scientific capacity and workforces, and engaging science in sustainable development.

Recent programs carried out in collaboration with scientific and engineering partners in other countries and regions include: (a) furthering women's participation in international science through the NSF-supported Women's International Scientific Cooperation (WISC) program; (b) sending competitively-selected delegations of high school students to international youth science festivals in China and Korea; (c) supporting efforts by the U.S. Department of State and its Foreign Service Institute to strengthen the impact of S&T on the formulation and implementation of U.S. foreign policy; (d) helping to form a coalition of science and technology experts that policymakers can tap as they address U.S. security and development concerns in Central Asia; (e) linking research with local development needs across the Plata River Basin through the Environmental Areas of Responsibility Initiative; (f) conducting an international evaluation of the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research; and (g) serving as a node of the international Initiative on Science and Technology for Sustainability to advance the study of human-environment interactions and build a network of global scientists dedicated to improving the integration of science with goals for sustainability.

The office also serves as the Secretariat for the Consortium of Affiliates for International Programs (CAIP), a broad-based multidisciplinary network of over 100 AAAS affiliates that publishes a membership directory and the newsletter *Consortium Notes* and carries out a variety of international activities. An additional 158 disciplinary societies from 67 countries participate as corresponding members.

In addition, the office facilitates the activities of the Center for Science, Innovation, and Sustainability, which works across AAAS to advance science and technology for sustainability, build science and policy communities that can realistically address local sustainability issues, and help connect scientists with actions to achieve the U.N. Millennium Development Goals.

For more information about current and planned activities, visit our web site at www.aaas.org/international.

3. **Science and Policy Programs** incorporate a diverse set of activities serving AAAS goals in areas where science, society, and government intersect.

The R&D Budget and Policy Program analyzes R&D funding trends in the federal budget and the policy environment for science and technology. It hosts an annual Forum on S&T Policy, maintains an active web site with information on funding, and publishes periodic reports on the federal budget for R&D and science policy.

The office of Science and Policy Programs offers the AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellowships, year-long opportunities for scientists and engineers to learn about the policymaking process in Washington, DC, while working in Congress or in executive branch agencies. Fellows provide technical expertise and perspectives on current issues relating to S&T. The programs are competitive and Fellows are selected through a peer-review process. AAAS also provides coordination for policy fellowships sponsored by other science and engineering societies.

The Center for Science, Technology, and Congress provides timely, objective information on current S&T issues to members of Congress and their staffs. It publishes a monthly newsletter, sponsors seminars and briefings, publishes special reports, and assists other AAAS units in working with Congress.

The Research Competitiveness Program mobilizes the expertise of the national science and engineering community to assist institutions in enhancing the competitive positions of their research programs and to provide advice and guidance to federal and state government agencies concerned with research policy. Initially created to work with states receiving the smallest shares of federal R&D funding, its services are now available to all institutions seeking to strengthen their research capabilities.

The Scientific Freedom, Responsibility and Law Program recognizes that the goals and methods of science are important to the larger society and that the conduct and application of science should be consistent with broader community values. The program is committed to upholding high ethical standards for science and engineering and to examining the impediments to and opportunities for achieving those standards; to improving understanding of the relationship between the law and science; to monitoring ethical, legal, and social issues related to science and technology and bringing them to the attention of scientists, engineers, policymakers, and the public; to acknowledging the actions of persons whose behavior has fostered scientific freedom and responsibility; and to facilitating the exchange of ideas and information related to the program's mission among all interested parties.

The Science and Human Rights Program currently has five major objectives: to document human rights violations affecting the scientific community worldwide in order to aid scientists, health professionals, and engineers whose internationally recognized human rights have been violated; to develop new applications of scientific methodologies for the promotion and protection of human rights and to train human rights groups in the use of scientific skills and technologies; to develop scientific methods for monitoring the implementation of human rights; to promote greater understanding of and support for international human rights within the scientific community; and to undertake a variety of human rights research projects on subjects of particular importance within the scientific community or where the application of scientific methodologies is especially relevant.

The Program of Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion seeks to promote knowledge about developments in science and technology within the religious community; to provide opportunities for dialogue among members of the scientific, professional ethics, and religious communities to promote greater understanding; and to facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration on projects that explore the ethical and religious implications of scientific and technological developments.

The Project on Science and Intellectual Property in the Public Interest was established in 2002 to examine the implications of intellectual property policies for scientific research, applications of science, and public access to the benefits of science.

The Association's constitution and bylaws are published in the AAAS HANDBOOK, which contains information on the Association's organization, activities, and history; lists of officers, committee members, Council members, and Section Committee members; and policy statements.