



Science Policy Committee (SPC) American Society of Plant Biologists

Committee meeting, January 25, 2022 at 3:00 PM ET

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://lewis-burke.zoom.us/j/84267449312?pwd=b1pLaFU5enk3cWY4bTE1QXIDK1FZZz09>

Meeting ID: 842 6744 9312

Passcode: 205790

Invited Participants:

SPC Chair: Tessa Burch-Smith

ASPB Staff: Crispin Taylor

SPC Members: Becky Bart, Scott Jackson, Ka Man Jasmine Yu, Erin Doody, Simon Gilroy, Carolyn Lawrence-Dill, Rod Wing, Maureen McCann

ASPB President: Katayoon (Katie) Dehesh

Lewis-Burke Associates LLC: Bridget Krieger, Eve Granatosky, Victoria Haber, Elizabeth Stulberg

Guests: Ruth Welti, Chair, Membership Committee; Shoshana Kronfeld, Senior Membership Manager

Agenda

1. Welcome from Tessa/Crispin
 - a. Welcome to Shoshana and Ruth
 - i. Here for newsletter discussion
2. **ACTION:** Planning for Q2 ASPB Newsletter—SPC themed
 - a. The newsletter is sent out quarterly, March edition will be Science policy themed. Need volunteers to help compile articles and a crossword highlighting high-level policy discussions; nothing too specific.
 - i. Interview with policy specialist
 - ii. Profile on plant scientist engaged in policy building and implementation
 - iii. Function of the SPC
 - iv. Day in the life of an advocate/lobbyist
 - v. Policy crossword or jeopardy-like game
3. **UPDATE:** DC State of Play
 - a. FY 2022 Appropriations
 - i. FY 2022 inching forward – some signs about coming to agreement on top line spending levels; but policy riders and individual bill levels are still unclear. A continuing resolution (CR) is in place until 2/18 and there will be at least another short-term CR into March. Earmarks will still need to be resolved, too.
 - b. Reconciliation
 - i. Being negotiated at very highest leadership levels. Package, if passed, would be much smaller than the \$1.5 trillion.
 - c. Planning for FY 2023
 - i. Due to the lack of clarity on FY 2022 appropriations, the community is struggling to decide on asks for FY 2023
 - d. USICA/Competitiveness

- i. House advancing their own pieces, including bioeconomy R&D Act.
- 4. Spring SPC Meeting
 - a. Date TBD
 - i. March 15 and March 29 as possible dates. But maybe push until April after the President's Budget Request is released.
 - Victoria will send Doodle poll.
 - b. Possible Speakers: **NSF, DOE, USDA**, OSTP, DARPA, NASA, USAID
 - i. Might schedule "main" agency meetings on the same day and arrange others at different times later in the spring
 - c. Virtual Hill Meetings
 - i. LBA folks will also start reaching out to schedule hill meetings in March
- 5. Year Ahead
 - a. Farm Bill
 - i. Start thinking about the Farm Bill. Expires 9/30/2023 – start work later this year (over the summer). More likely to focus on protecting current programs that work than making a big push for new programs.
 - b. Plant Biology 2022
 - i. In Portland, Oregon this summer. Delaying registration to prepare for in-person meeting.
 - Interested in having a federal employee speak about policy issues and advocacy in a workshop that the SPC (Erin and Jasmine) are organizing – begin brainstorming.
- 6. Next Meeting: February 22, 2022
 - a. Strategic planning is happening then, so Tessa and Crispin are not available
 - b. Reschedule for February 15 at the same time.
- 7. Adjournment