



**Science Policy Committee (SPC)
American Society of Plant Biologists**

Committee meeting, May 24, 2022 at 3:00 PM ET

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://lewis-burke.zoom.us/j/84267449312?pwd=b1pLaFU5enk3cWY4bTE1QXlDK1FZZz09>

Meeting ID: 842 6744 9312

Passcode: 205790

Attending Participants:

SPC Chair: Tessa Burch-Smith

ASPB Staff: Crispin Taylor, Sarah Black

SPC Members: Ka Man Jasmine Yu, Erin Doody, Simon Gilroy, Maureen McCann

Lewis-Burke Associates LLC: Bridget Krieger, Eve Granatosky, Victoria Haber, Elizabeth Stulberg, Hannah Marie Peters-Edwards

Agenda

1. Welcome from Tessa/Crispin
2. SPC Agency Engagement: NSF, DOE, USDA, NASA, USAID
 - a. Prep for USAID meeting at 4 PM ET.
 - b. Discussion of NSF meeting.
 - i. NSF – promote the 25th anniversary of the publication of the first plant genome as a way to talk about future research investments.
 - ii. Joanne Tornow has announced her retirement from NSF BIO.
 - The search process will start in the next few weeks, candidates expected by September.
 - Simon Malcomber will be BIO's acting director.
 - iii. Joanne highlighted the Plant Genome Research Project (PGRP) and there is optimism about plant science at the intersection of TIP and BIO.
3. Brief update on Chavonda Jacobs-Young's nomination for REE Undersecretary. Cloture has been filed, and her confirmation vote should come soon.
4. Introduction of Sarah Black, ASPB, VP for Content and Communications
 - a. Elevating science policy
 - b. Sarah Black is ASPB's first VP of Content and Communications.
 - i. Her role will be to increasing the visibility of ASPB's policy work through the Signal, social media, regular emails highlighting activity, a standing science policy column in the *ASPB News*.

- c. Discussion of who the ASPB members would be to create content; how we get members to sign up; how to recognize contributors; and how to keep members interested during lulls in action.
- 5. **UPDATE:** DC State of Play
 - a. FY 2023 Budget Request & Appropriations
 - i. Hearings for House appropriations bills have started.
 - ii. Draft appropriations bills will be coming soon from the House, but it is unlikely the process will be complete by the end of the fiscal year, Sept 30.
 - iii. ASPB is submitting Outside Witness Testimony (OWT) for these hearings, which show our support for important programs.
 - b. USICA/Competitiveness
 - i. Negotiations are ongoing for conference.
 - c. Farm Bill
 - i. Bridget reports that movement on the Farm Bill is happening.
 - Continue to think about ways ASPB can engage in the Farm Bill process.
 - ii. In 2018, ASPB had a Farm Bill one-pager for discussions on the Hill, and we plan to update this for discussions continuing into 2023.
- 6. Plant Biology 2022
 - a. SPC Workshop
 - i. Sarah Evanega, who was recently nominated for the ASPB Mary Clutter Leadership in Public Service Award will be giving her award speech on the last day of the conference
 - b. Potential SPC meeting in Portland, OR
- 7. Next Meeting: June 28, 2022
- 8. Adjournment