



COUNCIL

American Society of Plant Biologists

Committee meeting, Friday, October 14, 2022; 11:00 am – 12:15 pm EDT

Via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/3012960900>

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Katie Dehesh, Past President and Chair; Gustavo Macintosh, Member; Stacey Harmer, Member; Clint Chapple, Member; Elena Monte, Member; Ruth Welti, Member; Steve Theg, Member; Erin Friedman, Member; Patricia Leon, Member; Tessa Burch-Smith, Member; Juan Dong, proxy for Mid-Atlantic Section; Kathrin Shrick, Member; Karen Hicks, Member; Max Barnhardt, proxy for ECPS; Stefan de Folter, Member

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Crispin Taylor, ASPB CEO; Sylvia Lee, ASPB Executive and Governance Affairs Administrator; Jean Rosenberg, ASPB Director of Meetings and Events; Sarah Black, VP Content and Communication; Clara Woodall, ASPB CFO; Winnie Nham, ASPB Education Coordinator

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:

Judy Callis, Centennial Challenge Committee; Laura Wayne, Centennial Challenge Committee; Brian Larkins, Centennial Challenge Committee; Rob Last, Centennial Challenge Committee

Minutes

1. **Opening and notice of intent to record meeting:** Katie opened the meeting at 11:04 a.m. ET and noted intent to record.
2. **Approval of the agenda:** Katie requested approval of the agenda. Motion to approve made by Gustavo. Motion was approved by consent.
3. **Action item: Approval of minutes from July 8, 2022 Council Meeting (Katie; 3 min) –**
 - a. See filename [Minutes_ASPB_Council_Meeting_2022-07-08-For Approval.docx](#)
 - b. Stacey moves to approve, Gustavo seconds; approved by consent.
 - c. Minutes from Council meetings on March 10 are pending

4. Information/Discussion item: Centennial Challenge Status and Plans (Laura, Brian, Rob, Judy)

Laura: Centennial Challenge nearly 2/3 of way to \$3 million fundraising goal. All donations have been from individuals. Pioneer recognitions have been very successful; thrilled to see colleagues recognized in this way. 104 Pioneers recognized so far. Brings community together. Have been redesigning website to make it easier for people to donate and to highlight specific 'sprint' goals. One goal is to issue more travel awards for the PB24 meeting in Hawaii; another is to fund more SURF awards in 2023.

Brian: Brian has been leading the Centennial Compendium project; a three-part resource that will include a series of essays focused on the past 25 years of ASPB. Will cover the organization, the people, and the science.

Rob and Judy: working to promote involvement of Legacy Society members in ASPB. Trying to get them involved with each other and with young members, such as SURF awardees, via virtual happy hours, etc.

Laura: We'd like to broaden representation among Pioneers. The challenge is identifying potential candidates who have large enough networks to enable fundraising the \$5,000 required for this recognition. Working with WIPB and EDIC committees to identify specific individuals; invites Council's help identify new candidates and points out that CCC and Council could assist with fundraising.

5. Action item: Election of Council members to BoD and Nominations Committee (Katie)

- a. The ASPB constitution calls for Council to elect one of its members to also serve on the Board of Directors and another to serve on the Nominations Committee
 - i. Tessa Burch-Smith (chair, Science Policy Committee) served on the Board of Directors during 2021 – 2022
 - ii. Eva Farre (chair, Women in Plant Biology Committee) served on the Nominations Committee during 2021 - 2022
- b. Council will use the same process for both elections
- c. Terms for those elected begin immediately and are for one year, renewable upon subsequent votes by Council
- d. Tessa, at Katie's request, indicated she would be willing to continue on the Board of Directors. Other nominees were solicited from the Council via Google form. No other nominees accepted nomination. Council voted unanimously via Google forms to approve Tessa as BoD member.
- e. Nominations were solicited for service on the Nominations Committee. Erin Friedman was nominated and agreed to serve if elected. Council voted unanimously via Google forms to approve Erin as Nominations Committee member.
- f. ASPB solicited applications from Early Career Representatives who wanted to serve on Council. Katie suggests that we appoint Brianna Griffin, a recent PhD recipient from Justin Wally's lab who recently completed a term in EDIC. All approve this decision.

6. Information item: Plant Biology 2023 Workshops; Call for Proposals and Review by Program Committee (Stacey, Jean)

Stacey: call for workshop proposal will go out this week. Feedback from Portland was that workshops were great but that there were perhaps too many. Some suggestions that they should be better curated. Crispin: if one or another committee submits a workshop proposal that looks similar to another one from within the org or outside, it is hoped that committees will get together and make a combined workshop. Stacey: people wanted workshops that were more interactive/hands-on/tool based and not lecture-type format.

Katie asks Jean how many workshops she envisions – last year we had 32. Monday all day workshop did not work well in person. People thought one day without science was a waste. Jean doesn't have a set number; it will depend on the type of submissions we get – whether they fit criteria.

Stacey: community call for plenary and concurrent symposium topics also going out this week.

7. Discussion item: Volunteer Donation Bank (Stacey, Jean)

- a. The Program Committee proposes implementing a limited trial of a mechanism that would enable those eligible to receive registration waivers to Plant Biology

2023 who nevertheless opt to pay for their registration to donate their waiver to a pool for distribution to volunteers supporting the conference.

- b. See filename **Volunteer Registration Donation Bank.docx**

Stacey: Some committee members, editorial board members, and others receive free registration to the meeting and have told us that they would like to be able to donate these to those with financial hardship. Program committee has been developing a way for these people to donate their registrations; note that they will have to pay to attend the meeting to accomplish this transfer (can't just skip the meeting and transfer the unused registration).

Would like to target as recipients those who help make the meeting run, such as ECR volunteers. Gustavo: can we designate about 5 of these donated registrations to the ECPS section? They know who is doing the work and can direct the funds accordingly.

Stacey: we have no idea how many donations we'll get; we are proposing keeping it as simple as possible in this first year of the effort.

Max: great idea, a great place to start. ECPS will develop funds needed for ECPS members to travel to the meeting and will be presenting target numbers to Council for help in funding.

Crispin: looking towards donors as a way to fund these efforts.

Katie: elimination of honoraria for ASPB officers from 2023 budget may free up some money for this type of travel support.

Gustavo: trying to rebalance budget to provide more support for those who need it most (more travel awards, more SURF awards).

8. Information item: Open Call for ASPB News (Sarah; 5 mins)

Sarah: not as many views to ASPB News as we'd like. It's open to members and non-members, but only about 200 views on the website after publication. Not working as a recruitment tool. Proposes changes as follows: put the online version behind the members firewall and make a select number of articles available to all via the ASPB Blog. The latter will be used for member recruitment.

Tessa: what about open calls for articles?

Sarah: worth considering; would also put out specific invitations.

Ruth: Membership Committee works very hard to generate content; would like to involve members of all committees in consultative role. Likes idea of inviting members to contribute content, with guidance on what is being sought.

Max: are contributions voluntary basis or is there some compensation for contributions?

Sarah: yes, usually volunteer basis. Some commissioned pieces have a nominal budget.

9. Any Other Business

10. List Action Items

Add Tessa and Erin to respective committees. Link to revamped donations website – first couple of sprints. Action item is to act on Laura's challenge and see where it takes us.

Think about applications for workshops for PB 2023. Rubric has been changed a little it because of the crowded nature of the program.

11. Adjournment at 12:13 pm

- a. Tessa moves, Karen seconds, approved by consent.