



Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee American Society of Plant Biologists

Committee meeting, October 24, 2023; 11:00AM-12:00 PM PST
Via Zoom

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

	Danelle Ignace, Chair
	Imara Perera
	Ramin Yadegari
	Kevin Cope
	Gurleen Kaur
	Sannidhi Menon
	Christos Noutsos

STAFF/GUESTS:

	Crispin Taylor, CEO
	Sylvia Lee
	Mary Williams - couldn't make it
	Roman Ramos Baez
	Kevin Cox - couldn't make it

Agenda:

1. Welcome to the new committee members

2. Front and Center discussion (Roman Ramos Baez)

Background: It started 2 years ago as a way to connect and center BIPOC voices in plant science. It created (1) a slack channel (adventitious roots, lead by Kevin Cox), (2) a website <https://frontandcenterplantscience.wildapricot.org/>, (3) social media and features (self nominated) led by Roman. It has been supported by ASPB since June last year (on twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, Threads, and Bluesky). Kevin and Roman get a boost of money and they want to make sure it continues to be led by an early career scientist. Roman's term ended at end of may and he hasn't been able to find a replacement. There is a blurb on planteia explaining what they do. Can we get it highlighted in the newsletter, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.?

<https://planta.org/front-and-center-celebrates-and-connects-black-indigenous-and-latine-plant-scientists/>

<https://aspb.org/membership/aspb-ambassador-program/>

Danielle and Crispin will follow up with Kevin and Roman on what we can do to help.

3. Update on the planned joint EDIC/WIPB breakfast/lunch event in Honolulu
Imara is in touch with Leslie from WIPB, working a proposal. There may be a meeting session that ends early so there is a big lunch/reception right after sessions finish either on Sunday or Monday of the conference. It will be a 90 min event.
Topic: overcoming barriers to inclusion in the scientific community: The importance of networking and mentorship. It includes 1-2 invited guests.
Imara will also send proposal to the group. Everyone should think of speakers and give feedback.
4. Possible topics/organizers/speakers for the EDIC symposium during Plant Biology 2024
Sannidhi and Kevin and Christos will co-lead the EDIC symposium and submit a high-level outline of the session by November 17.
5. Maui donation options
In Portland, there was a donation to an organization that was giving support service to underrepresented groups, especially Indigenous communities.
Crispin has a short list of nonprofits that he will circulate. Think of additions.
It is already on the conference website with a link with ways to help. (CVB list).
6. Electing an EDIC member to the ASPB nominations committee (to succeed Adam)
Danielle will take this on.
7. Planning for review of regular travel awards (the submission deadline is Nov. 15)
December 22 is when reviews due. Abstract submission deadlines are in early January.
8. The Publications team is working on a schema for identity-based questions for authors and reviewers
Royal Society of Chemistry demographic questions for authors and reviewers: <https://www.rsc.org/policy-evidence-campaigns/inclusion-diversity/joint-commitment-for-action-inclusion-and-diversity-in-publishing/diversity-data-collection-in-scholarly-publishing/>
Crispin will draft an email and send to committee to form a small group to work on this.
10. Adjournment