



2018 Election

American Society of Plant Biologists

Election Procedures: On the electronic ballot card, mark your choice of candidates for elected office.

Secretary-elect

(to serve as secretary 2019–2021)

Phil Taylor

Phil Taylor leads a group at Monsanto that focuses on working with academic, industry, and professional society partners to accelerate innovation in agriculture. He works across and beyond Monsanto to identify key technologies to pursue and to ensure that collaborations are effectively managed; he is also responsible for the company's biotechnology collaboration strategy in China.

Phil received his Ph.D. in Cell Biology from the John Innes Centre, where he studied nuclear calcium signaling in Bjorn Drobak's lab. He did postdoctoral research in Jurgen Denecke's Lab at The University of Leeds working on protein targeting to endomembranes. He completed his training in Alan Jones's lab at the University of North Carolina (UNC), Chapel Hill, using genetic and imaging approaches to study G-protein responses to environmental stimuli.

An ASPB member since moving from the United Kingdom to the United States in 2004, Phil joined Monsanto in 2006 and has held diverse scientific roles of increasing responsibility in yield- and drought-related trait projects. In recognition of his scientific contributions, leadership, and outreach efforts, he was inducted as an Associate Monsanto Science Fellow in 2016. In parallel, as Science Strategy Lead, Phil was instrumental in the growth of the Fellows Program and helped increase its impact, scope, and emphasis on diversity. Phil also worked to increase Monsanto's outreach to

scientific societies, universities, and research institutes to foster stronger relationships with trainees and more senior scientists. These activities continue to create new opportunities for scientific interaction and professional development for ASPB members

Throughout his time in academia and in industry, Phil has focused on interdisciplinary fundamental and translational research, and he has leveraged these experiences during his five years of service on the ASPB Program Committee, from 2013–2018. He seeks election to the post of secretary-elect because he is passionate about ensuring that the Plant Biology annual meeting remains at the pinnacle of plant biology conferences, as well as a robust venue for professional development and career enrichment opportunities. With the expected growth in population over the next 40 years, there has never been a more critical time to ensure that the plant science community and its talent pipeline are robust, connected, and communicating; the Plant Biology meeting is a vital component in this endeavor.

Phil's work in a variety of collaborative science-focused environments in both academia and industry (including on the ASPB Program Committee) uniquely positions him to ensure that both the scientific and operational aspects of the meeting are well managed into the next decade. Phil lives in St. Charles, Missouri, with his wife Amanda and their four children. Connect with Phil on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jphiliptaylor/) (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jphiliptaylor/>) or [Twitter](#) @jphiliptaylor.