

ASPB hereby institutes a process for revoking awards and ASPB Fellow status in cases of proven scientific misconduct or serious breaches of professional ethics.

ASPB has joined the Societies Consortium on Sexual Harassment in STEMM, an initiative by a group of professional societies that is developing sound policies and procedures and other resources aimed at advancing professional and ethical conduct, climate, and culture. In the interim, ASPB has put in place the process described herein, an adaptation, with permission, of Fellows Review and Revocation policies used by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (<https://www.aaas.org/programs/fellows/revocation-process>). This policy covers breaches of professional ethics wherever they take place.

ASPB will only consider requests for revocation filed within four years of publication of the report or announcement of the finding, sanction, or action, and will not consider requests when the awardee or Fellow is deceased.

Procedures:

1. A request for revocation should be made in writing to the Chief Executive Officer of ASPB (<https://aspb.org/about/staff/#toggle-id-1>). In all steps of the Process, the identity of the requestor will not be revealed by the Executive Office, except as may be required by a court of competent jurisdiction or as otherwise required to comply with ASPB's legal obligations. Anonymous requests will not be accepted.
2. A request must include an investigative report and/or public announcement of findings or actions taken (or links thereto) from a credible body, such as the Federal government's Office of Research Integrity, other Federal or state agencies (e.g., NSF, NIH), a professional organization, an academic institution, a court of law, or admission(s) of conduct by the accused. ASPB will only consider requests for revocation filed within four years of publication of an external report or announcement of the finding, sanction, or action, and will not consider requests when the awardee or Fellow is deceased. Requests for revocation may only be made by an ASPB member. The member must include detailed information about the sources used to enable verification of information. In addition, the member must agree in writing to maintain the confidentiality of the matter until its conclusion at ASPB. The requestor should be advised that the name of the requestor and the information provided in the request may have to be disclosed to the accused to comply with legal due process requirements, and that requests from the requestor for anonymity or non-disclosure of the information provided by the requestor cannot be honored.
3. The ASPB Chief Executive Officer will conduct a preliminary review to determine if the request is substantive, has adequate documentation, and complies with this Process. This review will be made in consultation with the President, President-Elect and Past President (otherwise known as 'Leadership', below). As a result of this review, either the Process will continue or the request will be

dismissed. In either case, the staff will provide a report to the ASPB Board of Directors (BoD; <https://aspb.org/about/committees/#toggle-id-1>).

4. During revocation procedures, deliberations on claims will be based on the evidence provided. Investigations by ASPB of complaints or charges beyond information presented in the request or otherwise available publicly (such as publications or court records) will not occur as part of revocation procedures.
5. Based on the submitted documents, the BoD will decide whether to proceed with revocation procedures or to dismiss the request. If the BoD proceeds, it will refer the matter to a four-member Revocation Panel consisting of the three Constitution and Bylaws Committee members and one former President (appointed by the current President). Should one of the committee members disclose a conflict of interest, the President will appoint an alternate member. The Revocation Panel will remain active until a determination has been made on the request. This work may continue past the end of a Constitution and Bylaws committee member's term and/or the term of the appointed President.
6. If the BoD decides to proceed, the awardee or Fellow will be offered the option to resign their status. The accused will be given notice of the request, with the supporting documentation and the process being followed. The accused will be invited to respond in writing to the request within fourteen days, and if desired, make an oral presentation to the Revocation Panel, ordinarily via telephone conference. Such conference will not include any representatives of the accused and will be limited in time and scope per the direction of the Revocation Panel.
7. After the deadline for responses has passed, the Revocation Panel will consider the original request, any responses, including the oral presentation/conference with the accused, if any, and may also consider any other pertinent information of public or official record. The Revocation Panel will discuss and vote on a motion of revocation. An affirmative vote of three of the four on the Revocation Panel is required for this motion to pass. The decision of the Revocation Panel is final and there is no appeal.
8. Following the decision, the Revocation Panel will provide a summary report to the BoD. The report will indicate if the motion passed or not, but neither the vote tally nor the decisions of individual voting members will be included. The CEO will share this report with the accuser and the accused.
9. If the ASPB Executive Office staff determine that there should be an announcement or publication of the decision to revoke Fellow status, the background factors or bases for the revocation may be included in the announcement.
10. Reinstatement: After an awardee or Fellow's status has been revoked or an awardee or Fellow has resigned under the procedures of this Process, should significant, material new evidence come to light that would call into question the conclusion to revoke awardee or Fellow status, a member may request reinstatement. The process and procedure for reinstatement will be substantively equivalent to the procedure to revoke awardee or Fellow status.

11. Record keeping. All steps in the proceeding will be documented in writing with the understanding that they may have to be produced in the event of legal action. All reports of proceedings, including electronic correspondence and all supporting documents, shall be preserved until the matter has been finally resolved.

Notes

1. The four-year time limit for submitting revocation requests will be waived for the first two years this policy is in effect.
2. The BoD will report to the Council any actions taken under this policy.
3. The Leadership will review this policy and bring forward to the Council not more than two years after the policy is in effect any proposed changes to this policy.

Approved by the ASPB Board of Directors on March 13, 2019