

Summary of WiPB Committee Meeting - January 2020

The WiPB Committee met on 1/10/2020 [Via GoToMeeting] to review the Sharon Gray WYITA applications. Committee members present include: Laura Wayne (Chair), Eva Farre, Li Tian, Grace Miller, Katie Murphy, Kelly Gillespie, Aruna Kilaru, and Sylvia Lee (ASPB staff).

When the application closed in December, Sylvia sent Laura all of the candidates who had submitted complete applications and Laura assigned committee members as reviewers. Slight changes were made for reviewers to avoid conflict of interest with an applicant. All applicants were reviewed initially by two committee members prior to our January meeting. Applicants were judged based on quality of research, impact of attending the conference will have on their career, and need of financial support.

During the January meeting, the top candidates were discussed as well as those where there was a large discrepancy between the two reviewers. After discussion, we decided to do a second round of reviewing so that all committee members had a chance to review the top 17 candidates. The final decision was decided via email the following week. Eight applicants were selected to receive the 2020 Sharon Gray WYITA and attend the Plant Biology 2020 conference!

[Update: Sharon gray WYITA recipients have been announced in the March/April Newsletter!

Congratulations! <https://aspb.org/newsletter/archive/2020/MarApr2020.pdf#page=4>]

For the remainder of our meeting, we discussed our on-going activities, focusing on our workshops for PlantBio20. We will have a workshop lunch with guest speaker: [Dr. Sharlene](#)

Weatherwax will give her Perspectives in Science Leadership and Policy. Additionally, we are partnering with MAC to organize a workshop on Implicit Bias & Conscious Inclusion. You can see the details of the workshops here: <https://plantbiology.aspb.org/workshops/>

We are starting a new initiative to make short videos of ASPB and WiPB supporters answering some FAQ. Currently the committee is gathering these videos. If you would like to participate, please comment below.

We also would like to continue with our webinars and have a few ideas so stay tuned.

Check us out on Twitter: [@ASPB WiPB!](#)