

Constitution of the  
American Society of Plant Biologists  
MIDWESTERN SECTION

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Midwestern Section of the American Society of Plant Biologists (ASPB-MW).

ARTICLE II. PURPOSES

The purposes of this organization are to encourage the growth of plant physiology and to promote the general welfare and good fellowship of plant biologists in the middle-western states of the U.S.A. and provinces of Canada.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

1. All members of the American Society of Plant Biologists resident in the areas designated above and in sympathy with the purposes of this Section shall be eligible for membership in the Midwestern Section.
2. All individuals who are not members of the American Society of Plant Biologists but who are in sympathy with the purposes of the Midwestern Section are eligible to become members.
3. Individuals eligible under the provisions of paragraph 1 or 2 of this Article shall be considered members upon payment of dues of five dollars per calendar year.
4. Students eligible under the provisions of paragraph 1 or 2 of this Article shall be considered members upon payment of dues of five dollars per calendar year.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

1. There shall be a meeting each calendar year.
2. The place and time of this meeting shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
3. Other meetings may be held at such times and places as may be determined by the Executive Committee.



4. A business meeting will be conducted during the annual meeting, and action taken by participating members during that meeting is final and need not be submitted to the Society as a whole for ratification.

## ARTICLE V. OFFICERS AND DUTIES

1. The core officers of this organization shall be a Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, a representative to the ASPB Council, and ideally a Communications Director. In brief, their duties include:
  - Chair—responsible for oversight and coordination of the responsibilities of the officers and for management of all activities within the section,
  - Chair-Elect—responsible for overseeing organization of the annual sectional meeting, including working with the local meeting organizing committee to coordinate fund raising and facilitate judging for meeting awards, and communicate advertisement needs and timing.
  - Secretary/Treasurer—responsible for communication with central ASPB regarding coordination of all payments and oversight of the finances of the section and will assist with fund raising efforts of the local organizing committee for the annual meeting, and communicates previous databases of donors.
  - Representative to the ASPB Council—responsible for communication between the section and central ASPB leadership.
  - Communications Director—responsible for the section website and generating communications to advertise the section meeting, section goals, and events.

These officers shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Section and shall carry on any business of the Section which may require action between business meetings. Additional members may be appointed ad hoc for additional duties as needed by the Executive Committee and as described in “ASPB-MW Duties of Officers”.
2. The Chair and Chair-Elect positions shall be occupied by a single individual for only one consecutive year. The Chair-Elect ascends to Chair after one year. Ideally, the Secretary-Treasurer and Communications Director positions are similar, filled for one year and then rotated to the next position. However, at the will of the Executive Committee, they may alternatively serve in their current positions for up to three years. No individual shall serve for more than one term in any one office. New officers shall start their term as soon as elected.
3. The election of officers and representatives to the National ASPB for this organization shall be conducted by the Secretary-Treasurer as follows:
  - A. At the annual meeting, next year's expected openings on the executive committee will be advertised, and nominations solicited. Any member of the society at large may suggest nominations or self-nominate for each office.
  - B. Prior to that annual meeting, the Executive Committee shall contact nominees and as needed suggest additional nominations for open positions on the Executive Committee.
  - C. The consent of the nominees for all offices shall be obtained before their names are placed on the ballot.

- D. At the annual meeting, the Secretary-Treasurer shall present members with the nominees for this year's open positions. Elections shall occur by electronic ballot, allowing meeting attendees to vote and collecting all votes within the following week. These shall contain the names and a brief description of the nominees who agreed to serve if elected. Balloting shall be completed prior to May 1.
- E. If only one candidate for an office has been nominated as prescribed in (A) above, the Secretary/Treasurer shall declare the candidate elected to that office.



## ARTICLE VI. REPRESENTATION IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

A member of the ASPB-MW will be elected every three years to represent the section on the Executive Committee of the American Society of Plant Biologists. This person must also be a member of the national Society and will be limited to a single term in office.

## ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Proposed amendments to the Constitution must be submitted in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer no later than one month prior to the annual meeting. Such proposals shall be reviewed by the Executive Committee and placed on the agenda for consideration at the annual meeting. A two-thirds majority of those present shall be required to pass any proposed amendment.

## ARTICLE VIII. OTHER MATTERS

Section traditions regarding student stipends, awards, and similar expenditures will be decided at the Annual Business Meeting by the membership at large or, if necessary, by the Executive Committee if action is required before the next business meeting. Once established, section traditions and policies will remain in place until explicitly altered at the Annual Business Meeting.

As accepted at the Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, March 24, 2013



