Science for Good

AIBS Council Meeting | September 9, 2025

Science for Good Co-Founders

Emma Courtney

JP Flores

Sam Goldstein

Stand Up for Science,
March 7th, 2025

Science for Good was founded to go beyond moments of crisis to create **long-term change.**

Our Mission is to **Reimagine Science with Communities for Social Good.**

We envision a world where **science is a collaborative force rooted in shared curiosity, shaped by communities, and committed to collective well-being.**

Our Goals

Empower Scientists

We aim to cultivate a shared sense of responsibility among scientists to see their work as part of a broader movement for social progress.

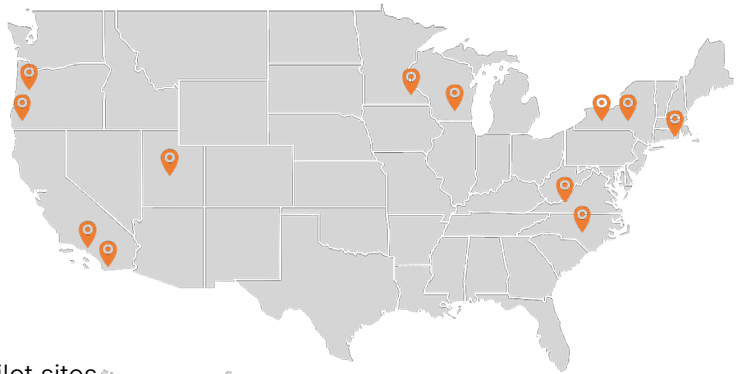
Reach Communities

We hope to build partnerships, engage directly with communities, and listen deeply to understand how science can better serve the public good.

Our Initiatives **Brewing Scientists**

Goal: Pair scientists with local breweries to co-design beer labels inspired by their research and host public events to bring science into **community** spaces.

We've hosted 2 events and have 10 more pilots underway!



Pilot sites

Chapel Hill, NC | April 5, 2025

What's the Big Idea?

Goal: Fill a gap in the evaluation of community science events by developing a robust, flexible evaluation tool that helps public-facing science communication efforts generate actionable, scalable insights.

Some questions we're interested in:

- Is the event format being delivered as intended?
- Is it engaging and practical for audiences and organizers?
- Who's being reached—and what's the impact?

Our Initiatives | Protocols

Goal: To reimagine science as a force for public good by bringing scientists, policymakers, and communities together to share perspectives, strengthen priorities that matter to the public, and build a sustained network for advocacy and reform

Emma Courtney

JP Flores

Growing Momentum

Social Media

Social media reach:

- Instagram - 33,000
- LinkedIn - 3,800
- Facebook - 5,300
- TikTok - 5,000
- Bluesky - 1,900

Board of Directors

- Dr. Francis Collins
- Chris McEntee

Volunteers

- Christopher Weingart
- Molly Magid
- Angelique Allen
- Julia LanzDuret-Hernandez
- Alison Trainor

Building Infrastructure

Filing 1023, building advisory boards, launching fundraising

How can we work together?

Where can an organization like Science for Good be **most effective**?

How can we work together?

Would your society consider partnering with Science for Good through one or more of these?

- Connecting on social media (@sciforgood)
- Sharing your science policy and communications updates with us
- Offering complimentary booth/table space at your annual or smaller conferences
- Consider distributing survey requests or research briefs from us to your members
- Feature an op-ed, article, or interview introducing SFG in your newsletter

Thank you!

Contact us:
info@sciforgood.org | jpflores@sciforgood.org
sciforgood.org

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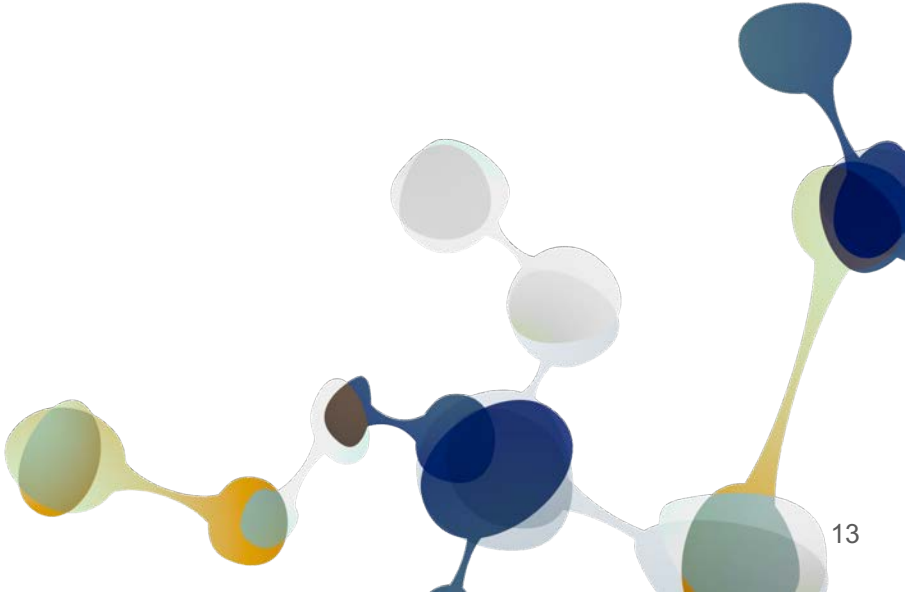
Early-career researchers bridging science and community



AIBS Council Meeting

September 9th, 2025

What is Scientist Network for Advancing Policy (SNAP)?

A grassroots coalition of early-career scientists dedicated to **mobilizing for large-scale initiatives** and **bridging gaps** between scientists, their communities, and the general public

Made up of 20+ science policy groups; 120+ members
From North Carolina, to Kansas, to California

Formed out of 2025 AAAS Meeting and **McClintock Letters Initiative**

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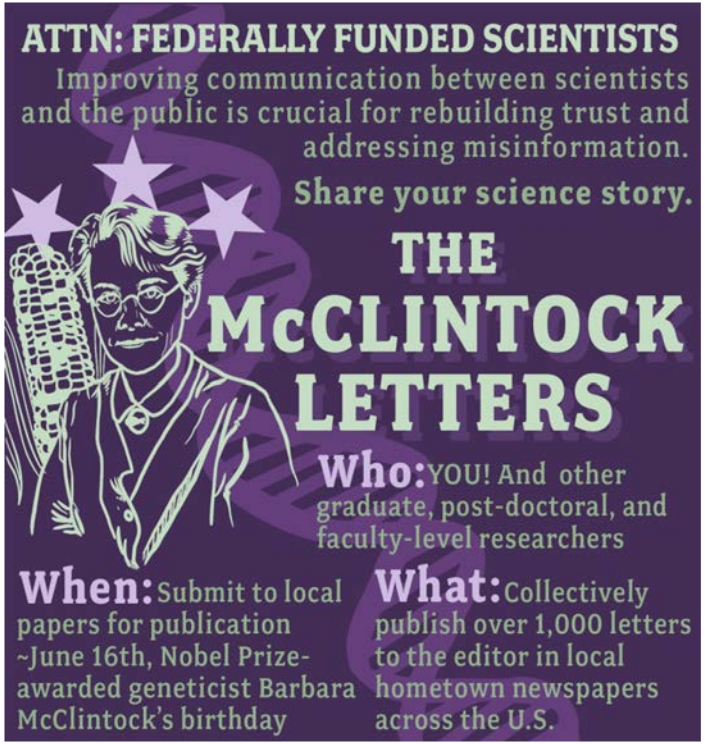
McClintock Letters

What are the McClintock Letters?

- Goal: Reconnect scientists to their communities
- Method: Op-eds published by scientists of all career stages in their hometown newspapers
- Publication day was June 16th in honor of Barbara McClintock, first American woman to win a solo Nobel prize in the sciences



McClintock Letters: The Process

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- **180+ scientific societies**
- **Presidents and Deans at every R1 university**
- **Student groups, student unions, student governments**
- **Friends, family, classmates, colleagues**

WHERE DO I START?

1. Identify the newspaper you want to submit to! You can start with the Science Homecoming map of newspapers by counties across the US, and Googling "your hometown" + "local paper" + "op-ed" or "guest column" is another great way to find newspapers
    a. Remember, our goal is to share local hometown papers in order to reach the widest and most diverse readership. (e.g. If you are from Aurora, Illinois, write to the Daily Herald, not the Chicago Tribune)
    b. Some participants are writing to outlets specific to identities that they hold, for example their local hometown Jewish outlet or a Philly-based queer publication
    c. How to identify word count for op-eds/letters to the editor
        i. For op-eds, generally around 750 words is more than enough, but some guidance says between 500-1000 words (Good goal to aim for ~700)
        ii. For Letters to the Editor, these are typically shorter, like 200-300
        iii. You can look into the submission guidelines for your newspaper of interest for this info!
        iv. Don't get discouraged if you can't quickly find a suitable outlet, and if you need help identifying a paper, reach out to us

Science Homecoming

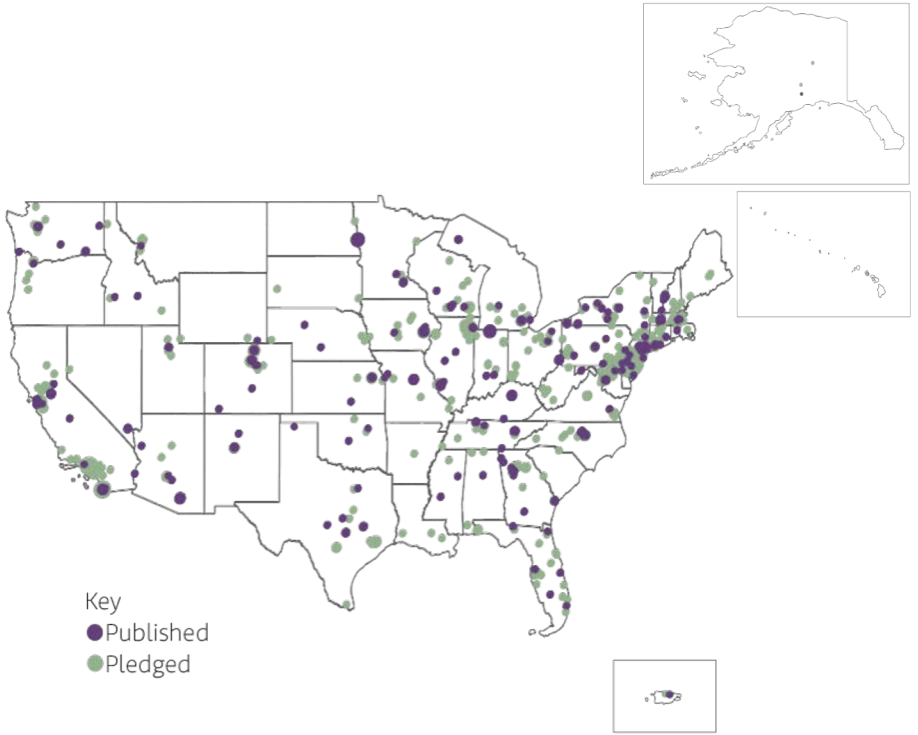
Recruitment

Resources

Editing

McClintock Letters: The Impact

- Over 600 researchers pledged to write, over 200 letters published across 45+ states
- Over 1200 signatures on companion open letter
- National coverage in NYT, NBC, Science, and more, plus international coverage



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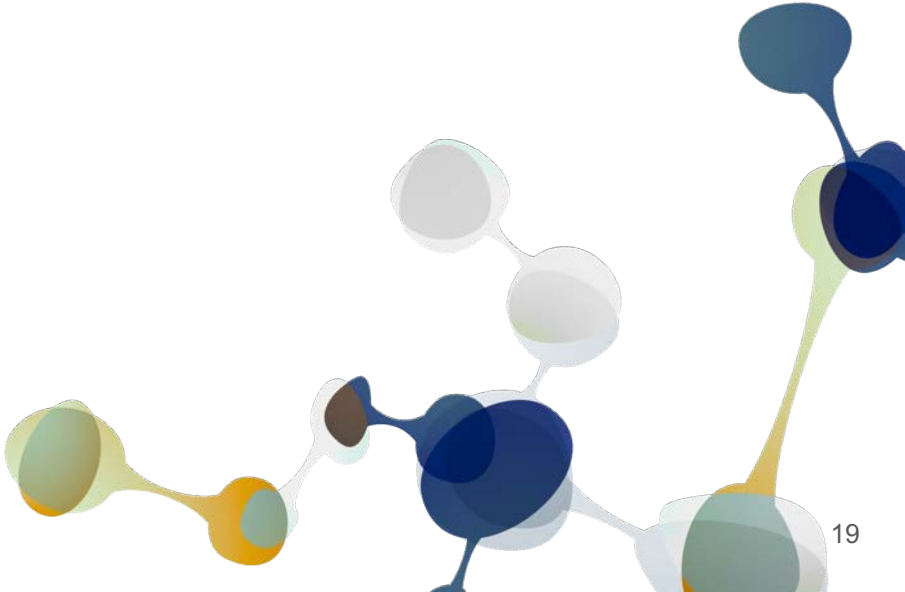
District Visits



Congressional District Visits Initiative

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- Goal: Help early-career scientists meet with their local Member of Congress in the last 2 weeks of August 2025

- Our Asks:
  - Sustained/increased federal science funding
  - Halt destabilizing activities that harm researchers

District Visits: Preparation

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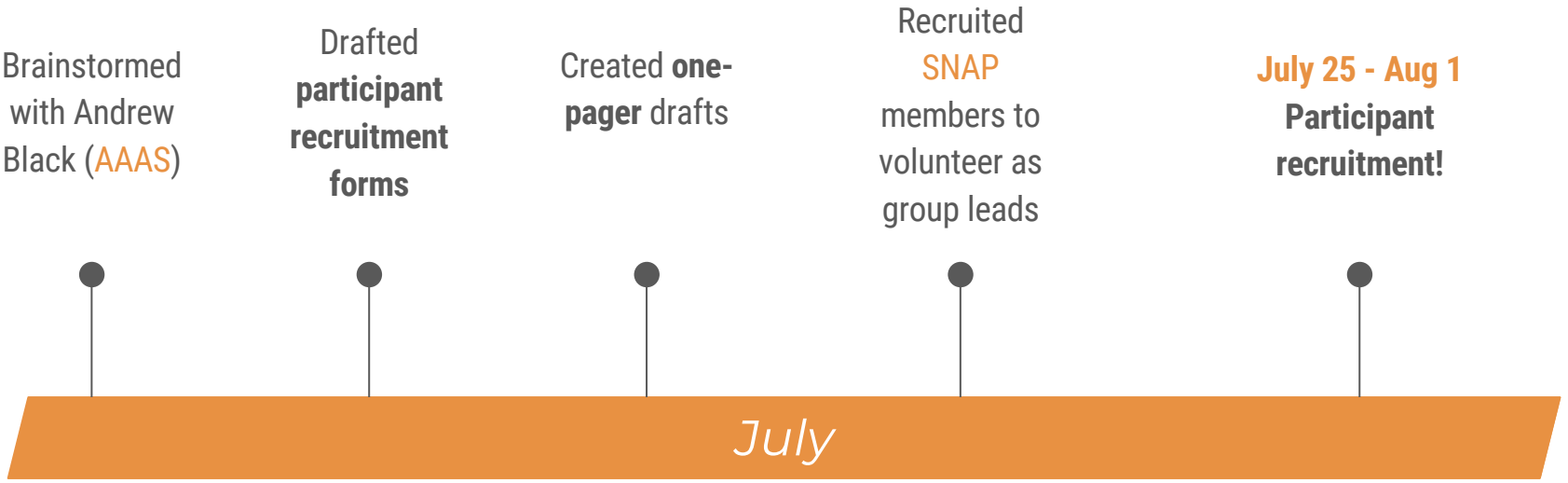

District Visits: Execution

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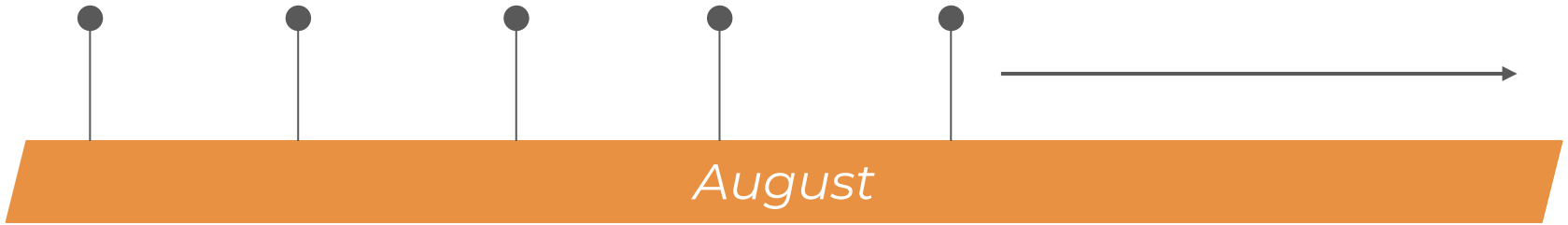
Aug 3-4
Group assignments

Aug 5
Orientation email sent to groups

Aug 8
Primary training session
SNAP + AAAS

Aug 12
Make-up training session
SNAP

Aug 13
Visit scheduling & **one-pager** prep
Wrapping up!



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Early-career researchers bridging science and community

We are the next generation of scientific researchers in Texas, urging you to vote to **sustain public science funding for FY 2026.**

Texas ranks in the top 10 states for bioscience jobs.

In 2023, the **bioscience industry employed 129,245 Texans** across 9,212 businesses, a 21.6% increase from 2019.

Within the counties comprising TX-36, **frozen and cancelled NIH grants** have led to the loss of approximately **$60 million in new economic activity** this year, including $56 million in Harris County.

The proposed **15% cap on indirect funding for NIH grants** is estimated to cost the district **nearly $300 million in new economic activity**, including $287 million in Harris County.

Scienceimpacts.org

Texas received $1.9 billion in NIH funding in FY 2024

aiding the creation of innovative therapies and **generating an estimated $6.13 billion in economic activity**

With funding from NSF, the **University of Houston-Clear Lake** supports **undergraduate research** and **training for science and engineering jobs** in the private sector

Program Engaged Learning to Promote STEM Graduation

Through a joint NSF grant with Rice University, **San Jacinto College** aims to support **900 students** in earning their **Associate of Science degrees**

Award: AIM for STEM

An estimated 9 out of 10 American adults believe federal investment in **STEM education** is important for future economic prosperity.

Association of Science and Technology Centers, April 2025

Texas received over $510 million in NSF awards in FY 2023

enabling fundamental, curiosity-driven science necessary to advance groundbreaking discoveries

Our work revolutionizes technology on Earth and in space.

NASA Johnson Space Center requires and improves all domains of science, from geology and engineering to microbiology and nutrition.

NASA Johnson Space Center is the **leader in space technology and human spaceflight**, employing over 12,000 people.

In 2025, NASA is slated to lose **a quarter of all employees**, including 2,000 senior leaders, signifying **a drain of talent from the agency**. *Politico*

These agencies comprise just ~1.2% of the federal budget, but yield substantial returns.

We ask you to set FY26 funding levels for:

NIH at $48.7 billion
NSF at $9.1 billion
NASA at $24.9 billion

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Early-career researchers bridging science and community

We are the next generation of scientific researchers in Washington, urging you to vote to **sustain public science funding for FY 2026.**

Our research helps save lives.

Research by early-career scientists lays the groundwork for the life-saving treatments of tomorrow.

NIH funding supports University of Washington researchers who are developing ways to diagnose Alzheimer's disease earlier

which affects over 120,000 people aged 65 and older in Washington

"Without [NIH] funding, early career scientists like myself will have to continue our training abroad, patients will continue to suffer or die from diseases that this research could cure, and the U.S. will cede its position as a global leader in biomedical research."

– Kristin, UW Immunology Ph.D. candidate

Washington received $1.26 billion in NIH funding in FY 2024

aiding the creation of innovative therapies and **generating an estimated $3.09 billion in economic activity**

NSF funding enabled the University of Washington to found and lead the AI Institute for Dynamic Systems

a pioneering AI research institution that will bring together fundamental advances in AI with emerging technologies

Washington researchers are using NSF funding to help communities predict and plan for power outages caused by wildfires

which are increasingly prevalent in Washington

Our work revolutionizes technology.

Early-career scientists advance innovative solutions to global problems, ensuring U.S. competitiveness and powering humanity for the next century.

Washington received $155 million in NSF funding in FY 2024

enabling fundamental, curiosity-driven science necessary to advance groundbreaking discoveries

An estimated 9 out of 10 American adults believe federal investment in **STEM education** is important for future economic prosperity.

The NIH provides critical **T32 training grants** to the University of Washington, **supporting graduate education in cancer biology, diabetes and obesity, infectious diseases, and more.**

The NSF invested **over $25 million in STEM education** in Washington in 2024, **supporting the next generation of scientists and engineers** who will make innovative technological discoveries.

Sufficient funding for scientific research and education is at unprecedented risk. We call on you to **fund the NIH and NSF for FY 2026 at $48.7 billion and $9.1 billion, respectively**, demonstrating Congress's commitment to scientific discovery and development.

Stability for the research enterprise is crucial and recent Executive Branch actions have destabilized it. We urge you to **encourage the Administration to halt destabilizing activities**, including funding freezes and revocations, workforce layoffs, and the breakdown of regular order and processes.

District Visits Impact (as of 9/5)

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- Visits are scheduled or completed in **29 states**
  - **41 visits** Completed
  - **10 visits** Scheduled
- Majority in House offices, several Senate offices
- Over 60% virtual
- One lab tour!
- Currently collecting follow-up feedback

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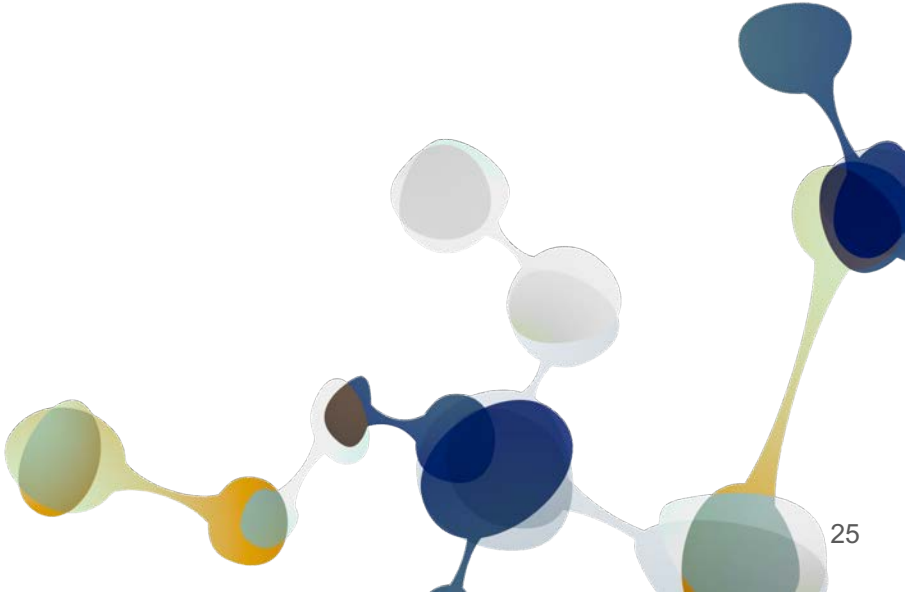
What's next?



What's next?

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- Developing a modular **Science Policy Curriculum** (Fall 2025)
  - Topics: Science Policy 101, How Government Works, Science Communication, etc.
  - Aim: Educate trainees and encourage new university science policy groups

- **Science Policy Hackathon** (Spring 2026)
  - Organized event to tackle science policy issues
  - Focus on bolstering the STEM workforce
  - Policy solutions to be showcased by SNAP

What's next?

- **Stance-on-Science** (2026 Elections)
  - Gathering science policy positions of candidates
  - Sharing responses on the SNAP website
  - Opened up interest form this week!

- Participation in **AAAS Conference** (February 2026)
  - SNAP plenary session; other members attending the conference

SNAP's Overarching Goals

Develop capacity (skills, knowledge, confidence) for science communication and advocacy among early-career scientists.

Create a sustained culture of science communication and advocacy among the future generations of scientists.

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Early-career researchers bridging science and community

Thank you!

snapcoalition.org

snapscipolorg@gmail.com