

American Mathematical Society
Committee on Science Policy Meeting
March 7-8, 2023
Washington, D.C.

Committee Meeting Summary
Report

The Committee on Science Policy (CSP) met in person and virtually over two days to hear presentations by key DC-based policymakers and funders; discuss and resolve issues of the committee; as well as to plan committee activities for the coming year.

Presentations were given by:

Duncan Wright
AMS Congressional Fellow, Office of Senator Todd Young

Duncan discussed his experience as the AMS Congressional Fellow, his role in the office and the impact of Science & Engineering Fellows in Congress.

Jong-on Hahm, David Manderscheid, Lee Zia
National Science Foundation

NSF officers discussed current programs in their divisions, and potential future directions for mathematicians' engagement.

Cate Johnson and Alan McQuinn
U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Science, Space & Technology

Cate Johnson and Alan McQuinn provided an update of the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology for the 118th Congress.

Michelle Schwalbe
NASEM - Board on Mathematical Sciences and Analytics (BMSA)

Michelle Schwalbe provided an overview of BMSA (i.e., membership, current and upcoming projects, the project lifecycle, and how folks can get involved).

AMS Executive Director Report

Catherine Roberts, AMS Executive Director, gave a report and led a discussion on topics relevant to CSP. She gave an overview of open access memos, task force reports, MathSciNet, JMM, etc.

Roberts introduced Bryna Kra as the new AMS president, as well as all newcomers to the Committee on Science Policy. She discussed the potential impact on the AMS by the "Nelson Memo," which states that publishers are to make their journal articles open access.

MathSciNet now has a beta version of a user interface and Roberts asked members to test it and give feedback to her.

She then asked that members continue to join the AMS at JMM and provided information on the flow of past sessions. Roberts updated the committee on AMS funding for faculty at predominately

undergraduate institutions (PUI).

She concluded her report with comments about staffing changes. There has been significant turnover in the past year, and this has presented operational challenges.

AMS Director of Government Relations Report

Karen Saxe, AMS Associate Executive Director and Director of Government Relations, gave a report and led a discussion on topics relevant to CSP. This report included an overview of what is going on in Congress, AMS policy priorities, and the role of the AMS Office of Government Relations (OGR) in the DC advocacy ecosystem.

She thanked members for doing Hill Visits and asked that they send her a short write-up about their discussions with congressional staffers.

Saxe gave a Washington update and discussed NSF appropriations, CHIPS and Science Act, open access, relationships with Congress and Executive Branch agencies, D.C. based fellowships, etc.

Saxe updated the committee on the letters that the AMS Office of Government Relations sends to Congress, the White House, and other Executive Branch agencies as well as bills that were endorsed by the AMS. The CSP was asked to review the letters sent and bills endorsed in 2022 in advance of the meeting. Letters sent and bills endorsed can be found here <https://www.ams.org/government/government/letters-statements-legislation>

American Mathematical Society Committee on Science Policy Meeting

The AMS Committee on Science Policy (CSP) met March 6-8, 2023. The business meeting was held in-person, with virtual option, on March 7 and 8.

Carla Cotwright-Williams (Department of Defense) is chair of the committee in 2023.

Committee Actions:

1. The committee voted to make a request to Council at their May 2023 meeting. The motion reads: *The Committee on Science Policy (CSP) recommends to the Council that the current National Policy Statement be removed from the AMS website (<http://www.ams.org/about-us/governance/policy-statements/sec-ams-policystatements>), and that it be archived.*

Rationale: This statement currently appears on the AMS website. It was first approved in 1994 and the only revision made since then was the removal of a single sentence that was clearly out of date. While reviewing this document for possible revision, a subcommittee of the CSP found that the existing document was out-of-date, including references to issues that were dated or no longer of high priority to the AMS and with no mention of issues that are of great current importance and interest. Thus, this document is no longer timely and does not reflect the current state of the AMS.

The motion to archive the National Policy Statement was in fact brought to Council and it passed at the Council meeting in May 2023.

2. Each year, CSP forms subcommittees that will continue work throughout the next year. For 2023, these are as follows:
 - a. Each year the AMS sponsors a mathematician to serve as the AMS Congressional Fellow. A subcommittee was formed to help with the selection process for the 2024-2025 Fellow.

- b. A subcommittee was formed to work on two aspects around AI. The first is to plan for the CSP panel at the 2024 JMM in SF; the panel will focus on policy and societal impacts of AI. The second task is to come up with a list of policy recommendations around AI, that the AMS can advocate for in Congress and possibly OSTP (and take to DMS at NSF, if relevant).
- c. A subcommittee was formed to review the process that the AMS Office of Government Relations currently uses when asked by a Congressional office to endorse a piece of legislation. The subcommittee will recommend that this process is satisfactory, or recommend changes.

Previous reports, the committee charge, and the current committee roster are available on the CSP webpage: www.ams.org/about-us/governance/committees/csp-home