

American Mathematical Society  
Committee on Science Policy Meeting  
March 4-6, 2024  
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:

Stacey Levine & David Manderscheid  
Program Director and Division Director, DMS/NSF

Manderscheid gave an update on NSF and DMS and future directions for the agency and the division. Levine talked about AI at NSF with an emphasis on DMS and future directions for the division.

Congressional Speakers Albert Hinman and Alan McQuinn  
Professional Staff - Research and Technology Subcommittee; Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

Hinman and McQuinn gave an update of the work of the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology, with a special focus on their legislative goals regarding Artificial Intelligence.

Michelle Schwalbe  
Director, Board on Mathematical Sciences and Analytics  
National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicines' Board on Mathematical Sciences and Analytics (BMSA) serves as an interface between the research enterprise and federal agencies that rely on the mathematical sciences. BMSA provides objective and authoritative advice on how best to apply the tools of the mathematical sciences to problems of national importance. BMSA consists of pro bono experts from a broad range of quantitative fields with experience in academia, industry, government, and national laboratories. This discussion provided an overview of BMSA, including membership, current and upcoming projects, the project lifecycle, and how you can get involved.

Ellen Urheim  
AMS Congressional Fellow, Office of Sen. Casey

Urheim provided an overview of her experiences in Congress and her contributions to the office as the AMS Congressional fellow. She discussed the varied ways in which mathematical skills, even at a theoretical research level, are relevant and valuable in the world of policymaking.

*AMS Interim Executive Director Report*

Lucy Maddock, AMS Interim Executive Director, was invited to give a report and led a discussion on topics relevant to CSP.

Maddock introduced Ravi Vakil as the AMS president-elect, as well as all new members of the Committee on Science Policy.

There were discussions about AMS' involvement and financial commitments to ICM 2026, and about grants that the AMS Programs group (led by Sarah Bryant) is applying for.

Maddock provided information on the AI themed JMM 2025.

### *AMS Director of Government Relations Report*

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

Saxe spoke about the ways that we communicate from the math community to policy makers through legislation. There were concerns regarding international graduate students and other visa issues. Saxe and Ravi Vakil, AMS President-elect, discussed creating a one pager about this and other topics.

Saxe discussed the increasing and continuing importance of AI and congressional interest in it. OGR communicates with congressional offices and emphasizes that AI is not a new area of investment for the federal government. In this context, she mentioned that the first NSF grant in AI was awarded in 1963.

Saxe updated the committee on the letters that the AMS OGR sends to Congress, the White House, and other decision-makers in Washington. The CSP was asked to review the letters sent in 2023 in advance of the meeting, and invited to voice concerns and offer other comments. Letters sent 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 4-6, 2024. The business meeting was held in-person, with virtual option, on March 4 and 5.

Carla Cotwright-Williams (Department of Defense) is chair of the committee in 2024.

### **Committee Actions:**

The Committee has no actions it wishes to bring to Council, at this time.

Each year, CSP forms subcommittees that will continue work throughout the next year. For 2024, these are as follows:

1. 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 2025-2026 Fellow.
2. A subcommittee was formed to work on two aspects around AI. The first is to plan for the CSP panel at the 2025 JMM in Seattle, as well as a possible Professional Enhancement Program (PEP). The second task is to produce a plan for future AI-related work of CSP.
3. A subcommittee was formed to review and possibly update the CSP charge.

Several CSP members stayed in Washington, DC to visit congressional offices on March 6. Materials for those visits are found here: <https://www.ams.org/government/dc-prepare>. During the meeting,

there was support voiced for the AMS Office of Government Relations to produce a congressional “leave behind” on issues of visas, immigration, keeping foreign talent, and keeping domestic talent, etc. Saxe will work on this.

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](http://www.ams.org/about-us/governance/committees/csp-home)

*Written by Karen Saxe  
Senior Vice President  
Government Relations*

*March 11, 2024*