BSA Public Policy Committee
2015 Report to Council

Co-Chairs: Morgan Gostel and Marian Chau

The PPC awarded the BSA Public Policy Award to two BSA early career members, Andrew Pais and Ingrid Jordon-Thaden. Both awardees represented BSA when attending the AIBS Congressional Visits Day on May 13-14, 2015 and spoke with their districts’ congressional offices (and in some cases their legislators themselves) in support of federal funding for scientific research.

Both Andrew and Ingrid have joined the PPC for the upcoming term. We also recruited Charlotte Germain-Aubrey, another early career BSA member who attended Congressional Visits Day, as a new member of the PPC.

Over the last year, the PPC has maintained a regular Policy Update in the Plant Science Bulletin to help keep members informed on our public policy activities. We will continue to do so. We also send out occasional email alerts to membership as necessary.

In July, the PPC sent out a survey to members to evaluate interest in public policy, perceptions of the committee, how people would like to be informed on policy issues, and what types of issues are most important. We will use the results of this survey to identify priorities and set goals for the upcoming year, and into the future.