

Botanical Society of America
Student Representatives on Committees
2024 - 2026

General Information

Application: Short application (200 words or less) that includes a statement of interest highlighting your expertise, experience, and interest in serving on this particular committee, as well as a CV. Applications are accepted November 1, 2023 – February 1, 2024 and can be submitted at: <http://committees.botany.org/>

Eligibility: BSA student members (undergraduate and graduate) of any level are eligible to apply for these positions, unless stated otherwise.

Appointments: These applications will be reviewed by the Committee on Committees. Appointments will be announced in May to the beginning of July. The term length of each position is 2 years. The student should be a student at the start of the term, but does not need to remain a student for the length of the term.

Development Committee

This committee will be appointing 1 graduate student.

The Development Committee meets one to two times per year. This committee works with the Director-At-Large for Development and the Board of Directors to develop and enhance resources for the Society to support its programs like PlantingScience. This committee works to foster membership support, coordinate with retired members and the Legacy Society, and work to increase the BSA Endowment Fund. The goal of student representatives on this committee is to provide a student or early-career researcher's perspective on fundraising ideas or leads. [See more.](#)

Education Committee

This committee will be appointing 1 undergraduate student.

The Education Committee meets two to three times per year, as well as during the Botany meeting. The education committee focuses on all matters relating to teaching, training, and professional education in the plant sciences, including informal, K-12, undergraduate, and graduate biology education. The goal of a student representative on this committee is to provide a student or early-career researcher's perspective on how best to keep evolving the education efforts of the BSA. For example, a recent focus of this committee has been on how to revise the educational outreach portion of the BSA website. [See more.](#)

Election Committee

This committee will be appointing 1 graduate student.

The Election Committee meets during the first four months of each year to oversee the BSA election for the BSA Board and Committee positions. For board appointments, the Committee sends out a call for nominations to the BSA membership. The BSA Executive Director provides all nominations to the Committee Chair of the Elections Committee, and on occasion, the Chair may reach out to obtain additional nominations. The Election Committee follows the BSA

Bylaws to prepare a slate of candidates for the election which is presented to the BSA Board for approval prior to holding the election. [See more.](#)

Financial Advisory Committee

This committee will be appointing 1 graduate student.

The Financial Advisory Committee meets one to two times per year. This committee works with the Treasurer on society finances and reporting of finances to the Society. The committee reviews the annual budget and ensures that the budget accurately reflects the goals of BSA. The student representative on this committee will be expected to learn about BSA budget and finances. Previous experience is not necessary, but the position requires an interest in financial management and issues of a scientific society. [See more.](#)

Information Technology Committee

This committee will be appointing 1 graduate student.

The Information Technology Committee meets one to two times per year and provides input regarding IT support needs of members, works with the IT staff to preview new programs or beta test new programs developed for member services (membership directory, awards portal, etc.), and offer suggestions to improve the society's web presence. The student representative for this committee would provide input and feedback on how students interact with BSA through technology and how we can help BSA do a better job supporting membership's needs in this area. A student rep would keep us up-to-date and grounded in current technology and issues of accessibility. [See more.](#)

International Affairs Committee

This committee will be appointing 1 graduate student.

The International Affairs Committee aims to link BSA with other national botanical societies outside the U.S. and connect BSA members to international botanical events, including the International Botanical Congress (IBC) which is held every six years. The committee informs the society regarding international activities impacting the study of plants through articles in the Plant Science Bulletin, symposiums and colloquiums at the annual Botanical meetings, and other activities. [See more.](#)