



American Society of Plant Biologists

Efforts to Support Postdoctoral and Early Career Researchers and Women

National Academies Committee on Women in Science,
Engineering and Medicine
Roundtable of Representatives from Federal Agencies &
Professional Societies

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American Society
of Plant Biologists

Cultivating a better future through plant biology research.

American Society of Plant Biologists

- Professional scientific society representing basic researchers in plant biology
- Approximately 5,000 members across the United States and in 50 other nations
- Publishes two of the leading plant science journals: *The Plant Cell* and *Plant Physiology*
- Staff of 21 based at Rockville, MD, headquarters



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Career workshops

- Held at the annual meeting
- Organized by the Women in Plant Biology Committee
- Originally focused around the challenges of dual-career couples
- More recently, have been more general career workshops that draw both women and men
- Most participants are early in their careers including undergraduates, graduate students, and postdoctoral scholars



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Women in Plant Biology luncheon

- Held at the annual meeting
- Organized by the Women in Plant Biology Committee
- Incorporates networking function
- Speakers have generally addressed gender-related issues
- Most speakers have been women



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Child care at annual meeting

- On-site child care arranged for first time at 2010 annual meeting
- Provided by bonded, accredited child care service
- Available for infants through 13 years of age
- Children welcomed at several events, including evening poster session and final party
- Subsidized by the Women in Plant Biology Committee with funds from Estate of Eli Romanoff



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Laboratory Leadership Workshop

- Modeled after lab management workshops organized by HHMI and BWF
- Held prior to annual meeting in 2007; will be held prior to annual meeting in 2011
- Sessions on topics such as teaching, publishing, mentoring, securing grants, and laboratory and budget management
- Targeted toward late-stage postdocs and junior faculty



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Society awards

- Several awards for early career researchers
 - Shull Award for scientists under 45 years of age or within 10 years of PhD
 - Early Career Award for members within 5 years of PhD
 - ASPB-Pioneer Hi-Bred Graduate Student Fellowship for PhD candidates in plant science
- Worked to enhance diversity of awards by making it easier to submit nominations



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