**Scientific Advisory Committee**
Approved by AAPS Board of Directors – January 2021

**Statement of Purpose:** The AAPS Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) is convened by the AAPS Board of Directors (BOD) to provide scientific and technical expertise to the BOD and to perform external scanning of the pharmaceutical sciences to identify key opportunities and issues affecting our field. Based on relevant trends and AAPS Strategic Goals as defined by the BOD, the SAC provides guidance and offers strategic direction on key scientific, technical and regulatory issues that affect the advancement of pharmaceutical sciences.

The SAC’s guidance assists the BOD defining the focus of AAPS’ scientific overall agenda, as expressed across publications, meetings, and membership groups, in order to apply AAPS’ attention and resources where they will best affect the advancement of the pharmaceutical sciences and respond to members’ needs.

**Membership and Position in Overall Scientific Governance of AAPS**

The Scientific Advisory Committee is a standing committee governed by the Board of Directors. It draws representation from the leadership of AAPS’ scientific content committees, as well as the editors-in-chief of AAPS’ scientific journals. Additional full members are added through an open call for volunteers within the AAPS membership. The Board of Directors may consider a blend of experienced and young or earlier career professionals for these positions, in order to achieve balanced input across current and future pharmaceutical trends.
Responsibility and Scope of Work

1. **Horizon-Scanning**: The SAC looks broadly across the pharmaceutical sciences disciplines to provide a high-level perspective on key scientific trends in industry, academia, regulatory, public policy, and business areas with relevance to our scientific discipline. Particular attention is paid to those opportunities, trends, and issues where AAPS may be able to contribute to a field by addressing a topic. The SAC reports its observations and recommendations to the BOD regularly; shares its insight with other components within AAPS at the BOD’s direction; and produces an annual report to the BOD that contains at minimum a SWOT analysis of AAPS’ scientific outputs.

2. **Strategic Alignment**: AAPS covers a wide scientific remit within the pharmaceutical sciences, which is reflected in the significant topic diversity represented by more than 40 AAPS Communities, as well as the breadth of programming put forward at AAPS conferences. As AAPS must continually maintain and grow its relevance to members and the scientific community at large through deliberate strategic choices, an aligned scientific strategy focuses the organization’s attention and resources by identifying a limited number of scientific causes where AAPS expertise is best applied. The SAC is expected to support scientific alignment across the organization through recommendations to the BOD that assure the organization’s programs, products, positions, and services are well-coordinated and in line with the strategic objectives defined by the BOD.

3. **Scientific, Regulatory, and Policy Opinions**: The SAC may advise the BOD in the choice, review, and development of scientific, regulatory, or policy opinions within the remit established by AAPS’ mission and bylaws.

4. **Scientific Task Forces**: The SAC, with approval from the BOD, may form scientific task forces to develop scientific content or opinions in specific scientific areas of interest for publication by AAPS. Such content will be subject to review and approval by both the SAC and the BOD.

**Metrics and Milestones**: The committee’s success is judged based on its ability to identify and communicate to the BOD key external pharmaceutical science issues, trends, and opportunities that should be addressed by AAPS in order to remain relevant to members as an organization and to better fulfill the organization’s mission of advancing the pharmaceutical sciences and fulfill the needs of its members.

A second key measure of success is the ability of the SAC to support the BOD in developing and maintaining a scientific strategy for AAPS that is reflected in aligned programming, publications, and other membership offerings.

The SAC will operate in accordance with AAPS Bylaws for Committees.

The frequency of reporting to the BOD shall be as key issues, trends, and opportunities arise.
The committee is also expected to produce an annual report to the BOD containing at minimum a SWOT analysis.

**Committee Composition and Terms of Service**

The SAC is made up of 10-15 members comprising a mix of full members and the chairs of the committees that manage AAPS’ scientific programs and publications.

The BOD seeks SAC members representing the breadth of the pharmaceutical science field including a variety of specialties and disciplines. A key strength of any candidate is their ability and experience in conducting environmental scanning and SWOT analysis in the pharmaceutical sciences relevant to AAPS. The ideal candidate can help AAPS respond to market forces that are shaping the work lives of pharmaceutical scientists.

All SAC members are expected to have:
- Pharmaceutical scientific expertise
- Strategic market analysis ability
- Leadership experience in AAPS content development or evaluation committee(s), e.g. SPC
- Active, high-level, professional engagement with pharmaceutical science organizations beyond AAPS
- Scientific review and evaluation experience

**Chair:** Appointed by the BOD after nominations and an open call for volunteers from the AAPS membership.

**Full member Qualifications:**

Full members are appointed by the BOD after an open call for volunteers within the AAPS membership. Required qualifications include:
- At least one term of service on one of AAPS’ scientific content planning committees (example: a meeting’s scientific programming committee, a journal’s editorial board, an abstract screening committee)
- Membership in AAPS at the time of application and throughout service
- Candidates must be experienced in exchanging information electronically and comfortable with collaboration platforms including the AAPS Communities
- Candidates must also be able to convene online or in-person as appropriate to deliberate committee business

**Other Members:**

The sitting chairs of AAPS’ scientific committees are members of the SAC by virtue of their selection to lead a scientific program. This includes:
- Chairs of the PS360, NBC and LOL Scientific Programming Committees
- Chairs of the abstract screening committees
- Chairs of SAC-commissioned task forces
• Editors-in-Chief of AAPS scientific journals
• Staff liaison: AAPS Executive Director with support from Managing Director, Member Services

The SAC will operate in accordance with AAPS committee policies and procedures.

**Temporary advisors:** The SAC may invite subject matter experts who are not AAPS members to present or provide input into the deliberations of the committee at the discretion of the SAC chair.

**Terms of Service:** Full committee members are approved by the BOD with an initial term of 2 years. Full committee members may be approved for up to three total terms by the BOD. For committee members who are representing other AAPS committees (e.g. SPC chairs), term on the SAC is driven by the term of service as Chair on that committee.

The BOD approves a SAC chair annually and by majority vote. The BOD may expand or reduce the number of members on the committee at any time.

**Out of Scope:** Review of the overall programming structure, managing individual scientific events, membership process and overall AAPS governance matters.