Standard Operating Procedures for the Public Affairs Committees

SSR Bylaws Article XI, Section 4f: A Public Affairs Committee (PAC) composed of five or more Members of the Society, one of whom shall be the Editor of the Society’s Newsletter. The PAC shall review and formulate recommendations on issues of reproductive significance that impact the general public and public policy. The Committee shall be responsible for distribution of the Society’s quarterly newsletter and for the preparation and dissemination of public pronouncements and information regarding reproductive biology. The Committee shall also make recommendations to the Board of Directors for the organizational structure and function of the Society’s Public Affairs Program.

Missions and Duties of the Public Affairs Committee

1. To represent the SSR membership in promoting public awareness of the importance of reproductive biology and the achievement of SSR members.
2. To represent the SSR membership in communicating with government agencies, other scientific societies, and advocacy groups.
3. To inform the SSR memberships on government policies, funding opportunities, and research advancement.

Organization and Duties of the Public Affair Committee

The PAC consists of three subcommittees in order to fulfill the three missions listed above. The duties of these three subcommittees are:

1. Outreach Subcommittee
   • Organize the Educational Outreach Program before the Annual Meeting
   • Organize the SSR Press Day and introduce the SSR to the local community before the Annual Meeting

2. Public Liaison Subcommittee
   • Represent the SSR membership to serve as a voting member and a nonvoting advisor to the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB).

3. Information Subcommittee
   • Publish the SSR Newsletters
   • Maintain and update the PAC Website

Identify important findings having public health relevance made by the SSR members and convey this information to national media (e.g., scientific review journals, PBS, Discover magazine, appropriate regional news outlets, etc)
Directors can serve as ex officio members on committees, but should not be members of committees. While they are members of the Board of Directors, they cannot be chairs of committees. Ex officio members and Board Liaisons can participate in all committee communications and discussions, but they cannot vote on committees. Trainee members can serve on committees when invited and participate in all committee communications and discussions. The trainees on the committee can vote.*

*As approved by the SSR Board of Directors at the 2012 Summer Board Meeting.