Thank you...

Because of your unwavering support, SPS is able to continue providing valuable professional development opportunities for our membership and collaborative events to raise awareness throughout our community and beyond.
OVERVIEW OF SPS

Scientific and technological advancements have come with their own cadre of unique, complex issues. The economic, societal, environmental, and cultural challenges of today require that we harness the power of science-policy-society interfaces, and create policy-based solutions for the betterment of all of Earth's inhabitants. The problems facing us today are time-dependent. This will require a burgeoning generation of scientists with the skills to bridge the gap between the scientific community, the public, and decision-makers. This is where PSU Science Policy Society comes in.

OUR OBJECTIVES

The Penn State Science Policy Society aims to provide the next-generation of scientists and engineers with the skillset to work in the policy arena and advocate for solutions that we want for our planet. We do this through three main outlets: self-education, legislator engagement/advocacy efforts, and community outreach.
August 2020: Legislative advocacy workshop hosted by Flora Cardoni of PennEnvironment
Acheivements and Outputs
2020-2021 Academic Year

**September 2020:** Voting initiatives discussion with Ava Bosco of the Centre County Democrats (representative from Republican party was invited, but had a prior obligation)

**October 2020:** PSU Career Services Workshop
"Strengthening your LinkedIn Presence"

**October 2020:** Transitioning from academia to policy discussion hosted by PSU alumna Caroline Normile, PhD

**October 2020:** Public comment submission:
Petition for deregulation of Darling 58 genetically engineered American Chestnut
Acheivements and Outputs
2020-2021 Academic Year

**December 2020:** Big Tech Reform: Informational website advocating for necessary reform is officially LIVE!!!

*Check it out here:* https://sites.psu.edu/bigtechreform/
Acheivements and Outputs
2020-2021 Academic Year

December 2020: SciPol Connect: This podcast aims to connect listeners with the experiences of those working in science policy. Our first podcast episode is LIVE!!!

Check it out here:

Apple Podcasts:

Listen Notes:

Logo designed by Jeremy Sutherland
March 2021: Discussion about the various models of democracy that educate and empower citizens. Hope for Democracy book discussion hosted by Dr. John Gastil of PSU Departments of Communication Arts and Sciences and Political Science.

March 2021: Furthering our objective to educate ourselves and others and advocate for reform in Big Tech, we partnered with the PSU Law, Policy, and Engineering Initiative to host Decoding Big Tech. More information on page 9.
Decoding Big Tech

Friday, April 2, Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Free Virtual Event
Register at bit.ly/LPE-Big-Tech.

Tackling issues in technology requires robust solutions that prioritize people’s interest. To initiate productive conversations, the Penn State Law, Policy, and Engineering initiative has collaborated with the Penn State Science Policy Society student organization to host Decoding Big Tech, a Law, Policy, and Engineering Colloquium.

A expert panel comprised of Penn State faculty members including Andrea Matwyshyn, Sascha Meinrath, Margaret Hu, and Daniel Susser will discuss big tech in the context of data privacy laws, anti-trust enforcement, broadband access in rural and underserved communities, content moderation and tech-ethics. Sandra Allain will serve as the colloquium moderator.

Panelists

Margaret Hu
Associate Dean for non-JD programs at Penn State Law at University Park and Professor of Law and International Affairs

Andrea Matwyshyn
Associate Dean for Innovation and Technology and Professor of Law and Engineering Policy at Penn State Law at University Park and Professor in the School of Engineering Design, Technology, and Professional Programs

Sascha Meinrath
Palmer Chair in Telecommunications in the Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications

Daniel Susser
Assistant Professor of Information Sciences and Technology in the College of Information Science and Technology

Moderator

Sandra Allain
Director of Law, Policy, and Engineering; Professor of Practice in the School of Engineering Design, Technology, and Professional Programs; and Lecturer in Law

LPE is an initiative of Penn State Law in University Park, College of Engineering, and the School of International Affairs. www.lpe.psu.edu
Science on Tap is an event that seeks to connect the community with scientific research. We went virtual due to COVID-19, but that didn't stop eager folks from learning at our events! Check out our "In Quarantine" editions on our YouTube channel! https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOXaraVW6_wterh5rfF-wUg

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Building Climate Resilient Communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Parasite Pu-Pu Platter: A sampling of PA’s peculiar pests</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Nanomaterials: Thinking small for BIG ideas</td>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Wildfires in a warming world</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Fashion’s Footprint: The environmental price tag of the textile industry</td>
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<td>August</td>
<td>Grad Students Present: From acylation to wildlife</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Reflections on racism in the U.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Vultures: Nature’s decomposition crew</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Mental well-being in the time of COVID-19</td>
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**Science on Tap Stats 2020/2021**

- **Registrants**
  - COVID-19: 59
  - Vultures: 56
  - Racism: 37
  - Grad Students: 27
  - Fashion: 27
  - Nanomaterials: 12
  - Parasites: 12
  - Climate: 37

- **Attendees**
  - COVID-19: 41
  - Vultures: 35
  - Racism: 29
  - Grad Students: 21
  - Fashion: 28
  - Nanomaterials: 20
  - Parasites: 15
  - Climate: 11

- **Virtual Views (YouTube)**
  - COVID-19: 37
  - Vultures: 15
  - Racism: 6
  - Grad Students: 27
  - Fashion: 2

*SoT events with 0 virtual views is due to no recording published for public viewing.
Science Insider offers valuable insight into the realities of working in the science policy arena. It also serves as a way to improve communication and networking skills by offering a chance to engage in an informal conversation with professionals in the field. Our "In Quarantine" editions will be soon be posted to our YouTube channel for your listening enjoyment! Check them out...you just might find some inspiration!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Dr. Keith Holtermann</td>
<td>Department of Homeland Security, CISA Chief Learning Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Brandi Robinson</td>
<td>Faculty and Advisor for Energy and Sustainability Policy at PSU</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Dr. Linus Manuel</td>
<td>PSU; Professor Dept of Bioinformatics and Molecular Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Dr. Robin Worthington Woo</td>
<td>Georgetown University, AAAS, GWIS, FDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Carol Hodes</td>
<td>PA Dept of Education</td>
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</table>

SCIENCE INSIDER STATS 2020/2021

- January: 16
- February: 19
- March: 8
- April: 9
- May: 4
Since March 2020, the world has been on "pause," but SPS has striven to remain engaged with our Membership and provide opportunities for professional growth and development within the virtual workspaces that defined the past 15 months of our lives.

A very special thank you to all of our generous donors: The Institute for Computational and Data Sciences, Rock Ethics Institute, The Social Science Research Institute, and the College of Engineering. We couldn't fulfill our mission without your generosity and support!
Looking Forward
2021-2022 Academic Year

Thanks to the scientific advancements that beget the development of mRNA vaccines and the diligent work of scientists and public health officials, we are on the brink of a "new" normal and more in-person experiences will define 2021/2022. SPS learned so much by navigating the virtual environment. A website advocating for reform in Big Tech, a podcast, and our newly-curated YouTube Channel have helped to propel our organization's mission and output beyond the brick-and-mortar university! This upcoming year, we will continue to work in the virtual space but also welcome the return of in-person workshops and events. We hope to see you at one of our events!

On the Horizon:

Professional Development:
Engaging Policy Makers: Writing workshop hosted by AAAS
SciPol Careers: CV workshop hosted by NSPN
Student Leadership Practices Workshop by Career Services
Professional Conference: AAAS 2022 Empower with Evidence

Legislature Engagement and Advocacy Efforts:
State Capital Visit
National Capital Visit
Public Comments and JSPG Submissions

Community Outreach and Education:
Kiss the Ground Screening featuring Q&A with soil scientists
Science on Tap Returns to Federal Taphouse in Hybrid Format!
Further episodes of our SciPol Connect Podcast
Big Tech: Focusing on Solutions
Proposed Spending
2021-2022 Financial Goal

$13,000

Proposed Spending: 2021/2022
Financial Goals, excluding UPAC

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<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposed Spending
2021-2022 Financial Goal

Reasons for increased funding:

- **Professional Development:** Workshop and travel fees associated with in-person AAAS Workshop hosted on campus.

- **Professional Development:** Conference and travel fees associated with AAAS 2022 conference, February 17 - 20, Philadelphia, PA, USA for no less than 10 interested SPS Members.

- **Professional Development:** Reimbursement for annual membership to National Science Policy Network for all interested SPS Members.

- **Advocacy:** Travel fees and one meal for visit to Harrisburg, PA to engage with legislators at the State Capitol for up to 12 members.

- **Advocacy:** Travel fees and two meals for 2 day, 1 night visit to Washington, D.C. to engage with legislators and NGOs for up to 10 members.

- **Outreach:** Kiss the Ground screening and discussion with soil scientists; advertising, honorarium for discussion leaders, and other associated costs. Anticipated venue Elk Creek Café.

- **Outreach:** Science on Tap goes hybrid! Funds needed to purchase video and audio equipment to record and produce SoT episodes for our YouTube Channel.

- **Outreach:** Funds needed to purchase additional audio equipment for our podcast.

- **Outreach:** State-wide advertising costs associated with our Big Tech: Focusing on Solutions event.

- **Other:** Lunch at our monthly General Meetings for those attending in-person.