

AIBS News

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AIBS *news*

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AIBS Urges House to Fund Science

On 27 March 2009, the AIBS Public Policy Office provided testimony to the House Committee on Appropriations in support of increased fiscal year 2010 federal appropriations for the competitive, peer-reviewed research grant programs at the National Science Foundation, US Geological Survey, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

To read the complete testimony, please go to www.aibs.org/position-statements/.

Public Policy Office to Conduct Policy Training Programs This September

The Association of Ecosystem Research Centers (AERC) and the Long Term Ecological Research Network have arranged for the AIBS Public Policy Office (PPO) to conduct policy training workshops for their member scientists at their forthcoming meetings this September.

The AERC will meet in Washington, DC, 24–25 September 2009. In addition to the policy training workshop for AERC members, the PPO is once again helping AERC host a science briefing for policymakers. The briefing, a focused subset of the AERC annual science meeting, provides policymakers in Washington with timely ecosystem science related to a current policy discussion. For more information about AERC, please visit www.ecosystemresearch.org/.

Also in September, the PPO will conduct a half-day policy training workshop at the Long Term Ecological Research Network All Scientists Meeting (LTER ASM). The LTER ASM will be held at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado, 13–17 September 2009. For more information about the LTER ASM, please see www.lternet.edu/asm/2006/.

The AIBS PPO offers a variety of policy and media training programs, from short, one-hour presentations to half-day and full-day programs. For addi-

tional information about AIBS policy and media training programs, please visit www.aibs.org/public-policy/policy_training.html or contact AIBS Director of Public Policy Robert Gropp at 202-628-1500.

AIBS, ESA Coauthor Budget Analysis

Robert Gropp, AIBS director of public policy, and Nadine Lynn, public affairs director of the Ecological Society of America, have teamed together to analyze the fiscal year 2010 budget request for biological and ecological sciences programs in the federal government.

The analysis, which appears as a chapter in *American Association for the Advancement of Science Report XXXIV: Research and Development FY 2010*, offers insights into recent federal policy initiatives that affect federal funding for the biological sciences. The chapter analyzes recent funding patterns and policy directions of six federal agencies that administer intramural and extramural research programs for the biological sciences: the National Science Foundation, the US Department of Agriculture, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy, and the US Geological Survey. To keep up to date on federal budget developments, visit the AIBS public policy Web site (www.aibs.org/public-policy) or sign up to receive free, biweekly public policy reports (www.aibs.org/public-policy-signup).

Recent Executive Director's Blog Entries Online at <http://blogs.aibs.org/richardogrody>

- AIBS annual meetings: Themes and audiences, onsite and online

Recent Articles Online at www.actionbioscience.org

Original article in English

- “The Decline of North American Freshwater Fishes,” by Stephen J. Walsh, Howard L. Jelks, and Noel M. Burkhead, US Geological Survey, Gainesville, Florida

“Technology: An Educational Issue?” blog post

- Academic Earth videos

Spanish translation of a previously posted article

- “El Uso de Pruebas Genéticas para Predecir Enfermedades: Implicaciones Éticas, Legales, y Sociales” [Genetic Testing to Predict Disease: Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications], by Linda MacDonald Glenn, Alden March Bioethics Institute, New York



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Recent Public Policy Reports Online at www.aibs.org

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Public Policy Report for 27 April 2009

- Obama visits the Academies, shares plans for science
- Scientists visit Capitol Hill: Support the National Science Foundation, US Department of Agriculture research
- Climate legislation still alive
- No Child Left Inside Act reintroduced
- President fills more science posts
- Forest restoration funds requested

- US Geological Survey gets new research vessels
- Advocate for science: Join the AIBS Legislative Action Center
- In the AIBS Bookstore
- From the *Federal Register*

Public Policy Report for 13 April 2009

- Plan to double US foreign agriculture aid could increase research funding
- House and Senate approve fiscal year 2010 budget resolutions
- Federal court strikes down patent of DNA sequence

- Write to the president about science funding
- Antarctic tourism may be curtailed to protect environment, research
- Climate change legislation released
- President nominates assistant secretary of interior
- New in *BioScience*: "Grand Theories: How Far Have We Come and Where Will We Go"
- From the *Federal Register*
- In the AIBS Bookstore

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