

To: SSSP Board of Directors  
From: Val Leiter, Chair, By-Laws Committee  
Re: Annual Report of the Committee  
Date: July 16, 2021

The By-Laws Committee considered one proposed bylaw change over the past year, which was taken on at the request of the Board of Directors and the Ad Hoc Committee on Mentorship. A new permanent Committee on Mentorship was created as a result.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members, Héctor Delgado and Tracy Dietz for their quick and helpful work on the committee, and Michele Koontz for her excellent and constructive guidance over the past year. They are a wonderful group of colleagues who made this work possible. While I made this same statement last year, it remains true.

**The following amendment was approved by the board in 2020-2021 and in the general election in 2021 and is now in effect:**

**Article VI, Section 31  
Committee on Mentorship**

The Committee on Mentorship shall consist of a Chairperson, a Chairperson-elect, and three other members, one of whom shall be a graduate student. In the first year that the Committee is a permanent standing committee, the Chairperson and three other members (one of whom shall be a graduate student) shall be nominated by the President in consultation with the Committee on Committees and appointed by the Board of Directors. In the first year and each subsequent year, the Chairperson-elect shall be nominated by the President-Elect in consultation with the Committee on Committees and appointed by the Board of Directors, and shall serve as a member of the Committee during the year prior to becoming Committee Chairperson.

The duties of the Committee are to develop and operate the SSSP Mentoring Program. The Committee shall provide an annual call for mentors and mentees to the Administrative Office, match mentors and mentees, and provide mentors and mentees with information annually to create a common understanding of the program and the scope of the relationship between mentors and mentees.

**Rationale:** The Ad Hoc Committee on mentorship proposed to change the program's name from the "SSSP Meeting Mentor Program" to the "SSSP Mentoring Program," and to expand the primary objective from a mentor to meet at the annual meeting and to a 1 year (virtual) commitment; to create a committee with oversight of the new SSSP Mentoring Program, in order to have more oversight on the pairing process; and to create a By-Laws amendment to make these changes. The Board of Directors approved these proposals. The proposed addition to the Society's By-laws would convert the existing Ad Hoc Committee on Mentorship to a permanent standing committee, which will be responsible for all portions of the new SSSP Mentoring Program, now that the scope of that program has grown. The Committee would oversee the selection and matching of mentors and mentees and the operation of the Program, and would include a graduate student member to ensure that the Program is meeting the needs of mentees.