



SIGMA XI

THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH HONOR SOCIETY

2021 – 2022 Final Report of the Committee on Nominations

Committee Charge

The 2021-2022 Committee on Nominations (hereby referenced as the Committee) was responsible for selecting at least two candidates for President-Elect to stand for the November 2022 election.

Committee on Nominations Membership

The Committee was comprised of fifteen members including three past presidents, Dr. Tee Guidotti, Dr. Stuart Cooper, and Dr. Joel Primack. Additional voting members included Drs. Robert Boily as Chair, Julie Ealy as Deputy Chair, Andrea Ashley-Oyewole, Bruce Fowler, Surojit Saha, Francis Dane, Audrey Chang, Loretta C. Johnson, W. Berry Lyons, C. Sue Weiler, Ngozi Okoye, Thomas Rosseel. Ally Street provided administrative support. Jamie Vernon, Sigma Xi Executive Director, attended as a non-voting advisor.

2021-2022 Committee Chair

Robert Boily, former Deputy Chair of the Committee, began serving as the Committee Chair in November 2021. In January 2022, Julie Ealy was selected as Deputy Chair.

Meetings

Committee meetings have been held via video conference for generally one hour in duration. A kick-off meeting was held on January 12, 2022 with subsequent meetings have been held 02/15, 03/08, 03/22, 04/5, 04/19, 05/3, 5/10, 5/17, and 5/24. A consensus of the Committee members indicated that Tuesdays at 3:30 – 4:30 pm (ET) was a favorable time for recurring meetings. Each scheduled meeting resulted in a quorum and minutes for each meeting were drafted by Sigma Xi staff and approved at subsequent meetings by the Committee. Due to the majority of members attending the meetings, it can be asserted that the conclusions and candidate selections validly represent the consensus of the elected members of the 2021-2022 Committee on Nominations.

A means for written communications between committee members and committee documents were made available to the committee members via “Basecamp” a project management online tool.

Discussion of Procedures from the Executive Committee

A memo from the Executive Committee from 1998 and re-ratified in 2006-2007 was presented to the Committee providing instructions on how the Committee and Executive Director should proceed with the processes of finding candidates. Throughout 2022, nominations were solicited from the general membership via community boards, Sigma Xi’s newsletters, and mass emails. A list of potential nominees previously presented to the Committee was reviewed and nominees who requested to be contacted this year were contacted. A call for nominations was featured in the Sigma Xi Today section of the January/February and March/April 2022 issues of *American Scientist*.

Selection of Candidates for President

Committee members were asked to solicit potential nominees for President-elect. As members provided potential nominees the Committee reviewed each and advanced qualified individuals accordingly. A Committee liaison was assigned to each nominee. The liaisons made the initial contact with the nominees which was followed by an official letter of invitation from Sigma Xi. Potential nominees were asked to submit a biographical sketch, curriculum vitae, photo, and nominee statement (including discussion of diversity).

The nominations process was officially closed on a motion carried by the Committee during the May 10 meeting. The committee reviewed 22 nominations. Four, well-qualified individuals accepted the nominations and were approved to advance in the process. During the May 3 and May 10 meetings, liaisons presented a synopsis of their assigned potential nominees for consideration of the Committee. A detailed discussion of the nominees followed each synopsis.

The committee requested that the four nominees be invited to participate in individual interviews. Questions were developed by committee members based on Sigma Xi's strategic plan and were linked together for a combined total of 6 questions and an introductory segment. Each nominee met with the committee for a 45-minute interview.

Following the May 17 and May 24 interviews, nominee ranking forms were distributed to committee members. These forms, developed by the 2013 Committee on Nominations, provide written rankings on ten different criteria of each nominee's qualifications, and is unweighted in terms of the importance of each attribute. Space is provided on the form for committee members to provide additional comments regarding the strengths and weaknesses of each nominee.

The Committee on Nominations will complete their rankings and final tabulation for each nominee to select the final candidates for the November 2022 election by June 30, 2022 and will provide an updated report to the Board of Directors.

The committee decided that the interview process is effective in helping to understand each nominee and recommends that interviews be conducted by future committee sessions.

Update:

The Committee on Nominations completed their rankings and final tabulation for each nominee to select the final candidates for the November 2022 election and reconvened on May 31, 2022 to discuss the rankings and vote for the final candidates.

13 out of 15 possible completed ranking forms were received by the Chair and Deputy Chair on or before the Saturday, May 28, 2022. The Chair and Deputy Chair transferred the rankings to a spreadsheet for analysis which included an average of the numerical entries for each attribute ("ABS" entries were NOT assigned a numerical value and thus not included in the average). A score was obtained for each nominee by an unweighted average over the ten attributes. The Chair and Deputy Chair calculated these scores independently and arrived at the same values. The Chair created a summary sheet for each nominee that included the score, rank, and copies of

the comments (anonymously) as provided by the Committee on the ranking forms and distributed these sheets to the Committee prior to the May 31, 2022 meeting. During the May 31, 2022 meeting, the Chair briefly summarized the ranking process and reviewed the scores.

During the meeting of May 31, 2022, the committee voted unanimously to:

- 1) Advance three candidates for the November 2022 election
- 2) Advance Donna Nelson, Kathy Lu, and Mukund Chorghade as candidates for the November 2022 election.
- 3) Move forward with two candidates should one candidate become unavailable to complete candidacy.
- 4) If permitted by Sigma Xi's bylaws/constitution, provide a ranking vote system for membership to select the next president of the Society*

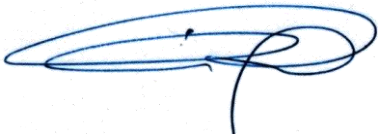
*The executive office will investigate the voting requirements in the Society's bylaws and constitution.

The nominees' rankings and attributes were discussed and after deliberation, candidates Nelson, Lu, and Chorghade were sent letters of their advancement to candidacy to serve as President-Elect. Each of the three nominees accepted the candidacy by June 10, 2022. The Committee agreed to recommend the fourth nominee for future consideration.

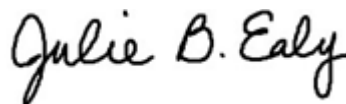
A subgroup of the nominations committee will examine the rankings system the committee uses to select candidates and recommend an alternative means for determining the most qualified and suitable candidates.

This concludes the report of the Committee on Nominations.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Boily, Ph.D., Chair
2021-2022 Committee on Nominations



Julie Ealy, Ph.D., Deputy Chair
2021-2022 Committee on Nominations

Attachment:

2022 Candidates