



American Institute of Biological Sciences

Scientific Peer Advisory & Review Services

At AIBS SPARS, our primary mission is scientific peer review. We help organizations invest their research dollars effectively by identifying promising research to support.

The Scientific Peer Advisory and Review Services division of the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS SPARS) is committed to providing the highest-quality scientific services to our clients. AIBS SPARS has over 40 years of experience in providing peer review of grant applications and funded programs, scientific-grants management, and meeting-facilitation services to diverse organizations, including federal and state agencies, private research foundations, and nongovernmental organizations.

Peer Review

AIBS SPARS facilitates impartial review of research proposals and ongoing programs that focus on medicine, advanced technologies, biotechnology, and wildlife and environmental concerns. We work collaboratively with funding agencies from the beginning to the end, developing the request for proposals (RFP), application template, and review criteria; receiving proposals and tracking them throughout the review process; identifying and convening external review panels of independent experts; planning all logistics for a successful review; and providing high-quality statements summarizing the results of the review in a timely fashion. Peer reviews are accomplished through face-to-face meetings of reviewers or by mail reviews that may be combined with teleconferences.

Our database presently includes over 7,500 individuals whose expertise covers a wide variety of science. The database is continually evolving and growing to meet the needs of our clients.

On-Site Meetings Support

AIBS SPARS provides logistical support for meetings of all sizes. Our staff is acutely aware of the demands placed on scientists; therefore, we facilitate all arrangements to enable participants to focus on their scientific duties rather than logistics. Services include: staff on call 24 hours a day; reservations for meeting and sleeping accommodations; technology set-up and support; expense reimbursement and honorarium payment.

AIBS SPARS peer-review panel meetings are conducted in full compliance with agency/client regulations, including the Americans with Disabilities Act. AIBS also strives for well-balanced demographic representation on all panels. For confidentiality purposes, review meetings are closed to the public and no individually attributable reviewer remarks are ever made public or leave the control of AIBS SPARS.

Program Review

AIBS SPARS assists clients in achieving research results through on-site program reviews and establishing monitoring oversight of ongoing scientific research programs. AIBS reviewers assess current progress and provide recommendations based on programmatic goals.