



17-Feb-2025

Subject:

Special Advocacy Task Force of the Solar Physics Division on the American Astronomical Society

Charter:

The object of the Solar Physics Division of the American Astronomical Society (AAS/SPD) shall be the advancement of the study of the Sun and promotion of coordination of such research with other branches of science. As such, one of many roles of the AAS/SPD is to carry out and organize the promotion of solar physics within the Federal milieu. It is recognized that individual members of the SPD Committee may have or develop conflicts of interest that prevent or unduly limit advocating for the field within their places of work. Therefore, it is prudent for the Chair of AAS/SPD to delegate such matters to an unconflicted subcommittee, a Special Advocacy Task Force, empowered to speak on behalf of SPD in the case that the current Chair and Vice Chair should develop such conflict.

Therefore, we, the SPD Committee, hereby constitutes an SPD Special Advocacy Task Force (SPD-SAT), and charge them to speak on behalf of the SPD on matters in which the current Chair and the Vice Chair may have a personal or professional conflict of interest. The SPD-SAT is a special subcommittee of the AAS/SPD, with members appointed from time to time, which will be reevaluated at each regular meeting of the SPD at the SPD Committee's discretion, generally from the pool of past AAS/SPD Chairs. When active, SPD-SAT may speak on behalf of the SPD, including generating official correspondence and leading discussions of the SPD Committee, on particular matters on which the Chair and Vice Chair may be personally conflicted.

The SPD-SAT shall maintain internal communications via email or other means as they judge proper and shall indicate to the SPD Chair when they believe a matter has arisen

in which the Chair and Vice Chair may be conflicted. On the Chair's concurrence, SPD advocacy related to that matter shall become the responsibility of the SPD-SAT and the chair of that task force shall, in coordination with the other members, be empowered to act on behalf of the SPD within the role normally assigned to the SPD Chair, to engage with that matter outside of the SPD Chair's personal conflict of interest.

When activated on a particular matter, the SPD-SAT shall attend regular SPD Committee meetings and engage with the SPD Committee. When the SPD Committee deliberates on the particular conflicted matter, the SPD-SAT chair shall assume the role of SPD Chair pro tempore and, if necessary, may request the elected SPD Chair and any other conflicted SPD Committee members to leave the Committee meeting while the matter is engaged.

The initial composition of the SPD-SAT shall be: Craig DeForest (chair), Dale Gary, Holly Gilbert.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicholeen Viall". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Nicholeen Viall, on behalf of the Solar Physics Division Committee,
Chair of the Solar Physics Division of the American Astronomical Society