

Federation of Animal Science Societies

Science Policy Director Position Description

POSITION SUMMARY:

This is a full time position to support the scientific policy program for animal agriculture and is under the direction of the Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS). The position serves:

- 1) to provide FASS Member Society Officers, staff, and member scientists continuous and timely information on the status and impact of science policy developments relative to animal agriculture;
- 2) to generate recommendations on science policy initiatives worthy of attention and offer guidance on the appropriate role of the member societies in science policy leadership, support, liaison and networking;
- 3) as a scientific resource for policy makers in the general areas of animal agriculture;
- 4) to develop relationships and collaborations with other representatives of the agricultural community from industry, academia, scientific societies, and commodity groups.
- 5) regional, national, and international endeavors.

The successful candidate will:

- 1) report to the FASS Executive Committee;
- 2) utilize the FASS Scientific Policy Advisory Committee, comprised of FASS member societies' membership, as a resource for expertise, guidance and immediate response action;
- 3) develop an annual work plan that will detail expected deliverables.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES:

Responsibilities and duties include but are not limited to:

- 1) tracking policy issues related to animal agriculture and research, inclusive of food and agricultural systems, animal welfare, food safety, biotechnology, and environment;
- 2) keeping member society officers and scientific advisory committees informed of issues that are of importance to members;
- 3) keeping member societies informed of legislative, executive, and regulatory programs through reports to the FASS Board of Directors, member society newsletters, web pages, and other rapid communication media;
- 4) participating in the selection and mentoring of FASS Congressional Science Fellow(s) and Science Policy Intern(s);
- 5) alerting member society officers of opportunities to provide written and oral science-based counsel and analyses to Congress and Administration;

- 6) drafting, on behalf of member societies, responses to Federal Register Notice-and-Comment to proposed rules/regulations and calls for nominations to advisory boards/committees/councils;
- 7) attending meetings, briefings, and hearings, and testifying on behalf of the member societies;
- 8) working with member societies to establish research priorities for animal agriculture and communicating those priorities to appropriate stakeholders, advocacy boards, and committees;
- 9) representing FASS on boards such as CoFarm, Animal Ag Coalition, National Coalition for Food and Ag Research, Farm Animal Welfare Coalition, Coalition on Animal Health and other appropriate boards;
- 10) serving as liaison with FASS Scientific Advisory Committees by providing expert analyses of policy and other issues, providing direction and assisting the SACs in successful completion of projects and deliverables that communicate animal and poultry science needs;
- 11) guiding committees in the release of white papers on issues relevant to the member societies;
- 12) developing position papers on current topic areas and press releases on scientific issues and providing succinct messages with citations to policy makers and the public;
- 13) taking the lead in developing a strategy for scientific policy to educate consumer groups and maintain freedom-to-operate animal research;
- 14) organizing and coordinating Congressional educational briefings;
- 15) overseeing the organization of Congressional Hill Day for FASS member societies;
- 16) communicating activities and outcomes to the FASS Board of Directors, as well as the member society officers and staff;
- 17) serving as a resource and developing and managing lists of key contacts, associations and related stakeholders with whom FASS must partner for success;
- 18) operating the FASS Office of Scientific Policy within the budget established by the FASS Board of Directors.

QUALIFICATIONS/KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED:

- 1) A minimum of a M.S. Degree in animal agriculture or related field, a PhD is preferred;
- 2) Experience in legislative and regulatory affairs and public policy, to better understand the process by which legislation is created and implemented;
- 3) A keen understanding of the scientific process and an awareness of the latest developments in science;
- 4) Excellent interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to develop relationships and network with individuals and organizations with diverse political, philosophical and scientific views;
- 5) Superior writing skills to translate policy into terms for member Societies as well as the ability to summarize and make scientific publications understandable and accessible to policymakers;
- 6) A confident self-starter with the capacity to multitask and address the dynamic changes occurring in Congress and the Administration.

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Location: Washington D.C.

Salary: Negotiable

To apply: Please visit <http://www.fass.org/positions.asp> to submit the following:

- 1) Letter of intent-The letter must indicate a desire to apply and must provide addresses and telephone numbers of three professional referees. The letter should provide an address and telephone number where the applicant may be reached.
- 2) Detailed resume with experiences, education, and accomplishments.
- 3) Statement of long-term interests, goals, and objectives.

Application review process will begin on March 20, 2009.