WORKING TO ADVANCE SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND INNOVATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL PEOPLE
The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing science, engineering and innovation for the benefit of all people. With more than 100,000 individual members in over 91 countries, we are the world’s largest multidisciplinary scientific society and a leading publisher of cutting-edge research through our *Science* family of journals.

As one of the leading voices for science worldwide, we spearhead initiatives in science policy, international cooperation and diplomacy, STEM education, public engagement and more. We strive to promote and defend the integrity of science and its use, provide a voice for science on societal issues and strengthen and diversify the science and technology workforce. Most of all, we support science, technology, engineering and mathematics as solutions to many of the challenges the world faces today.

“NOW AND IN THE YEARS AHEAD, WE NEED MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE THE HONEST AND UNCOMPROMISING COMMON-SENSE OF SCIENCE. SCIENCE MEANS A METHOD OF THOUGHT... CHARACTERIZED BY OPEN-MINDEDNESS, HONESTY, PERSEVERANCE, AND, ABOVE ALL, BY AN UNFLINCHING PASSION FOR KNOWLEDGE AND TRUTH...”

PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN AT THE AAAS ANNUAL MEETING IN 1948

Get to Know AAAS

“THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE SHOULD BE THE CHIEF CONCERN OF A NATION THAT WOULD CONSERVE AND INCREASE THE WELFARE OF ITS PEOPLE.”

JAMES MCKEEN CATTELL, 1925
Founded in 1848, AAAS was the first permanent organization formed to promote the development of science and engineering at the national level, and to represent the interests of all disciplines. In 1899, Thomas Edison and Alexander Graham Bell brought Science magazine, a private venture, to AAAS, and AAAS and Science have thrived together.

AAAS grew and changed in the first four decades of the 20th century as the American scientific enterprise began to take its modern shape. Between 1900 and 1940, leading scientists of the era including Albert Einstein, Barbara McClintock and Edwin Hubble published in Science or presented their work at annual meetings.

The Second World War brought vast changes in American science. AAAS responded, evolving to become an organization with a strong professional staff committed to the advancement of science and to strengthening the place of science in society.

AAAS is a trusted leader in amplifying a broad spectrum of voices and cultivating diverse top talent in science. We led the way by ceasing all annual meetings in the “Jim Crow” South in the 1950s and holding the first fully physically accessible professional meeting in 1976—long before passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act—and helping other science societies to do the same. Our research was influential in establishing the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunity Act, signed into law by President Carter in 1980 to ensure that men and women of all backgrounds have equal opportunity in scientific and technical fields.

More recently, AAAS has redoubled its efforts to be the leading force for science. We are dedicated to advocating for science and scientific evidence to be fully and positively integrated into public policy, and for the community to speak with one voice to advance science and engineering in the United States and around the world.

> aaas.org
For scientific findings to improve the world around us, they must be integrated into public decision-making. AAAS strives to bridge the worlds of science and public policy by furthering the work of scientists, improving the effectiveness of science in the promotion of human welfare and fostering scientific freedom and responsibility.

For over 40 years, our Science & Technology Policy Fellows have contributed their technical expertise in all branches of the federal government to develop and execute solutions to address societal challenges.

We produce evidence-based science and technology updates, including analyses of federal investments in science and engineering research and development.

“ONLY GOVERNMENTS CAN PROVIDE THE LEVEL OF FUNDING NECESSARY TO MAKE THE MAJOR DISCOVERIES IN BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCE THAT WILL SUPPORT OUR FUTURE. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF POLICYMAKERS TO OPTIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF THE SCIENTIFIC ENDEAVOR.”

KENWYN C.
FORCEFORSCIENCE.ORG/SHAREYOURSTORY
We are leading the charge
to ensure the proper use of scientific
evidence in all aspects of decision-
making and policymaking, including
in local, state, federal and
international policies.

Through op-ed articles, letters to
policymakers, digital and social media
and policy statements, AAAS leaders
and members strive to expand the
public dialogue about the science-
based challenges shaping our
world today.

We provide training and tools,
mobilizing the science and engineering
communities to communicate clearly
and effectively with key audiences
about the science relevant to
public issues.

“SCIENCE IS WHAT MAKES US MODERN HUMANS
AND GIVES US THE QUALITY OF LIFE WE HAVE
TODAY. AS A PARENT, I CANNOT BE MORE
THANKFUL AND RELIEVED WHEN I THINK OF
ALL WE HAVE AVAILABLE TO MAKE SURE OUR
CHILDREN GROW UP WITH ACCESS TO PROPER
MEDICINE, NUTRITION AND EDUCATION.”

DANIEL C.
FORCEFORSCIENCE.ORG/SHAREYOURSTORY
AAAS and Education

From kindergarten to graduate school and beyond, we advocate for the best possible science education for all students. From academia to corporate laboratories, we promote diversity and inclusion in the scientific and engineering workforce.

Our work is changing the way that the public thinks about the priorities and purposes of science and science education. Through our fellowship programs and volunteer opportunities, we are raising the profile of science in and beyond the classroom.

“CURIOUSITY TAUGHT ME TO ASK QUESTIONS, BUT SCIENCE TAUGHT ME HOW TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND SOLVE PROBLEMS. SCIENCE TAUGHT ME THAT THERE CAN BE A LOT OF OPINIONS AND EXPLANATIONS, BUT THERE WILL ALWAYS BE UNDISPUTABLE FACTS THAT ARE BASED ON EVIDENCE. WITHOUT SUPPORT FOR SCIENCE, OUR NATION WON’T HAVE THE TOOLS AND RESOURCES TO MAKE DISCOVERIES, SOLVE PROBLEMS OR ANSWER QUESTIONS.”

CHRISTINA F.
FORCEFORSCIENCE.ORG/SHAREYOURSTORY
AAAS is providing a venue for multidirectional dialogue on topics that capture national and international attention. We are building scientists’ capacity to engage the public on issues such as stem cell research, gene editing, evolution, sustainable development, climate change, and infectious diseases.

“CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL, AND IT ISN’T GOING TO CORRECT ITSELF. THE WISE THING TO DO IS TO PREPARE FOR THOSE CHANGES AND TRY TO MINIMIZE THEM. COMMUNICATING CLIMATE SCIENCE IS ABOUT ENGAGING YOUR AUDIENCE, SPEAKING TO THEIR VALUES AND CONCERNS, AND NOT SIMPLY TELLING THEM WHAT YOU THINK THEY SHOULD HEAR.”

JEFFREY DUKES
PROFESSOR AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY AND AAAS LESHNER LEADERSHIP FELLOW

AAAS and Public Engagement
AAAS promotes the various ways that science and engineering can build bridges and address global challenges across scientific disciplines, sectors, and regions.

Through initiatives in science policy, diplomacy, communication and education, we provide a conduit for science and engineering to bring together societies, even when governments have disagreements.

“SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS DEPENDS ON OPENNESS, TRANSPARENCY AND THE FREE FLOW OF IDEAS, AND THESE PRINCIPLES HAVE HELPED THE UNITED STATES ATTRACT AND RICHLY BENEFIT FROM INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC TALENT.”

A 2017 AAAS LETTER TO PRESIDENT TRUMP SIGNED BY 180 DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS

AAAS and International Science and Diplomacy
Science Family of Journals

AAAS publishes six respected peer-reviewed journals: Science, the premier global science weekly; Science Signaling, the leading journal of cell signaling and regulatory biology; Science Translational Medicine, integrating medicine, engineering and science to promote human health; Science Advances, an innovative and high-quality open access journal for all the sciences; Science Immunology, research articles that report critical advances in all areas of immunological research, including important new tools and techniques; and Science Robotics, science and engineering-based research articles that advance the field of robotics.

> sciencemag.org
TOGETHER ... we are stronger.

TOGETHER ... we are the force for science.

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