CoSTEP Statement
The AAAS Committee on Science & Technology Engagement with the Public (CoSTEP) supports AAAS in its mission to “advance science, engineering, and innovation throughout the world for the benefit of all people” by providing insight and expertise regarding public engagement with science and technology. The objectives of the committee are:

- Share knowledge about the evolving relationship between science and society with AAAS membership and leadership. The committee will pay special attention to the relationship underrepresented groups have with science as well as controversial issues in science.
- Provide input and advice on AAAS activities related to public engagement.
- Promote evidence-based practices in science communication and public engagement with science and technology.
- Facilitate better understanding among scientists of public perspectives on scientific topics and policies.

The committee addresses these objectives by:

- Recommending scientists and engineers for the annual AAAS Mani L. Bhaumik Award for Public Engagement with Science.
- Contributing to AAAS public engagement with science blog, Public Engagement Reflections. The committee contributes an annual “state of public engagement” post. Individual committee members or subcommittees may post throughout the year.
- Providing advice on engagement related programming to the AAAS Center for Public Engagement and other AAAS programs that engage the public.
- Creating a biannual Horizon Report to summarize emerging research and practices on public engagement and science communication. In consultation with leading public engagement and science communication researchers and practitioners, the chair will work with the committee to write the report, which will include recommendations for AAAS programs and initiatives related to public engagement and a discussion of areas that remain understudied or misunderstood in public engagement and science communication.
- Disseminating the report: The Horizon Report is presented at the Annual meeting every other year and shared among committee member networks within and outside AAAS
- Working with AAAS to create a brief (2-5 page) biannual Report Response. In years when the committee doesn’t create or present a report, committee members will work with AAAS and the Center for Public Engagement to create a Report Response that will update the committee on how recommendations have been applied and request specific areas of focus for the subsequent report.

Committee members appointed by the Association's Board of Directors. Members serve for a term of three years, beginning and ending with the AAAS Annual Meeting in February, and may be reappointed for a second term. Committee meetings are held quarterly. The committee has a chair and vice chair, who convene and lead the committee as well as relevant subcommittees. Both positions are appointed for a two year term, with opportunities to renew their appointments.

**Annual Timeline**
- mid-February: CoSTEP term begins at AAAS Annual Meeting, present Horizon Report (in alternate years)
- Spring: CoSTEP meeting
- April 15 - June 30: Nomination period for AAAS Awards (incl. AAAS Bhaumik Award for Public Engagement with Science)
- mid-July - mid-September: Review of applications and selection of AAAS Bhaumik Award candidate, forward selection to AAAS Board
- Early fall: Collect nominations for new members and forward nominations to AAAS Board
- Early January: Provide annual report to AAAS Board (including Horizon Report, in alternate years)