

Ombudspersons

Ombudspersons: Erika Barthelmess, Jessica Light, Marjorie Matocq, and Morty Ortega

Mission:

Members of the Office of Ombudspersons are appointed at the discretion of the President to hear and respond appropriately to complaints of unprofessional behavior by any member of the ASM at its annual meeting or in the governance of the ASM through its committee structure. All issues brought before either (or both) of the appointed individuals are resolved as discreetly as possible. The Ombudspersons are entrusted to deal with each situation as they best see fit.

Information Items:

- (1) The Office continued to be active throughout 2023 and 2024, mostly via email and zoom.
- (2) During the annual meeting in Anchorage, The Office handled a complaint regarding a covid-positive meeting attendee. We also handled a complaint regarding inappropriate language during a poster session at the annual meeting.
- (3) The Office worked to transfer of Societies Consortium communications to the IDEA committee to have members of that committee track recent happenings and updates with the Consortium.
- (4) The Office of the Ombudsperson received several inquiries for advice from other societies.
- (5) Jessica has requested to step down from the office and will do so immediately following the conclusion of the 2024 annual meeting.

Action Items:

- (1) Work with recommendations of the Vision Committee for structural changes to the office and updates to the Code of Conduct following recent Title IX updates.
- (2) Following Action Item #1, return interactions with the Societies Consortium to the Office of the Ombudsperson.

Respectfully submitted,

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