

Item # (time)	Agenda Item/Topic Discussion Leader	Discussion Type
1 2:00 (5 min)	<p>Opening Remarks, Quorum Certification, and Grounding <i>Eric E. Kelley, President</i></p> <p>Summary: Time for board to reflect on their fiduciary responsibility to FASEB and to review board norms.</p> <p>Link: FASEB Board Duties and Norms</p>	Operational
2 2:05 (5 min)	<p>Written Reports <i>Darla Henderson, Executive Director/CEO</i> <i>Ellen Kuo, Associate Director of Legislative Affairs</i></p> <p>Summary: Time to allow staff to provide critical and/or late-breaking information in addition to the written informational reports. Introduction of Kathryn Storm, Executive Administrator, kstorm@faseb.org</p> <p>Attachments: a. ED/CEO Operations Report b. Legislative Update c. Q1 2026 Operational Dashboards</p>	Operational
3 2:10 (10 min)	<p>FASEB Comments on Framework for NIH-Wide Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2027 - 2031 <i>H. Joseph Yost, Vice President for Science Policy</i></p> <p>Summary: On March 16, NIH issued a Request for Information (RFI) inviting feedback on the proposed framework for an NIH-Wide Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2027 – 2031. This is the third such agency-wide strategic plan, with the first issued for FY 2016 – 2021 and the current plan covering FY 2021 – 2025. The development of an NIH-wide strategic plan no less than once every six years is mandated by the 21st Century Cures Act. Comments on the proposed framework must be submitted via Web form, with responses limited to 500 words per priority area.</p> <p>MOTION: To approve proposed FASEB comments in response to the RFI seeking input on the framework for the NIH-Wide Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2027-2031.</p> <p>Attachments: a. Draft FASEB Comments on Framework for NIH-Wide Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2027 – 2031 b. REFERENCE: NIH Guide Notice NOT-OD-26-047: RFI – Inviting Comments and Suggestions on a Framework for the NIH-Wide Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2027 – 2031 c. REFERENCE: NIH-Wide Strategic Plan, FY 2021 – 2025 [Current Plan]</p>	Policy

Item # (time)	Agenda Item/Topic Discussion Leader	Discussion Type
4 2:20 (10 min)	<p>Re-Considering FASEB’s Advocacy Priorities: Next Steps <i>Jennifer Zeitzer, Deputy Executive Director/Director, Office of Public Affairs</i></p> <p>Summary: At its March meeting the Board had a generative discussion to identify new and expanded criteria to determine FASEB’s advocacy priorities, considering changes in FASEB’s membership, the new political environment, fluctuating appropriations for federal science agencies, and the desire to recruit new societies. The purpose of this discussion is to review the expanded criteria to determine FASEB’s advocacy priorities and make additional revisions as necessary to ensure that the criteria reflect the Board’s input and any additional considerations that may have arisen since March. The Board will also review the flip charts from the March meeting indicating which agencies and issues should be included in FASEB’s advocacy efforts and consider further refinements and/or additions, which will be followed by mapping priority issues to the respective agencies.</p> <p>Attachments: a. Revised Criteria for Determining Advocacy Priorities b. Summary of Flip Charts c. Flip Charts</p>	Policy
5 2:30 (5 min)	<p>Consent Agenda (routine items for the Board to review and consider in advance of approval) <i>Eric E. Kelley, President</i></p> <p>Summary: Note that the written reports are part of this month’s consent agenda.</p> <p>MOTION: Approve the May Consent Agenda.</p> <p>Attachments: a. ED/CEO Report; b. Legislative Update; c. April 7, 2026, Board Minutes d. Q1 2026 Operational Dashboards</p>	Operational

Item # (time)	Agenda Item/Topic Discussion Leader	Discussion Type
6 2:35 (30 mins)	<p>Extended Session: New Journal Concept <i>Tammy Hanna, Chief Publications Officer</i></p> <p>Summary: The Board will be provided with an analysis supporting a proposed new journal, including incorporation of Board and Publications Committee input, a completed rubric approved by both groups last December, analyses of manuscript types and rejected manuscripts from <i>The FASEB Journal</i>, a competitive analysis, written Publications Committee feedback, and a financial assessment. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Board will be asked to approve a formal motion to advance the new journal with January 2027 launch.</p> <p>MOTION: Approve the new journal proposed for launch January 2027.</p> <p>Attachments: Publications Committee Feedback, Completed Rubric for <i>FASEB Cancer</i></p>	Strategic
7 3:05 (15 min)	<p>Closed Session</p> <p>Summary: Officer Elections (Garvy, Immediate Past President and Chair, Leadership Development Committee) Other Closed Session Topic (Kelley, President and Henderson, Executive Director & CEO)</p> <p>MOTION: Ratify the following nominees who have been elected to office (TBD)</p>	Operational
8 3:20 (5 min)	<p>Open Mic and Adjournment <i>Eric E. Kelley, President</i></p> <p>Summary: Open floor opportunity for Board members to submit future topics of discussion.</p>	Operational



Executive Office and Staffing

- FASEB welcomed Kathryn (Kate) Storm as the new Executive Administrator on April 29. Kate joins from the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, a technical planning and standards development nonprofit in D.C. and received her B.A. in Political Science and Government at American University and her M.A. in Modern US History from Marquette University. Kate can be reached at kstorm@faseb.org and reports to Darla.
- FASEB also said goodbye to two staff members as part of a restructuring of the Conferences program, Darnley Dessimus (grants and contracts manager) and Brandon Corbette (marketing manager). We thank them for their service to FASEB and wish them best of luck in the next career opportunities.
- Applications have been received for FASEB officers for 2026-2027, and voting is underway with expected outcomes following the May 5 Board of Directors Meeting. Voting will then open for the remaining positions (2 Board of Directors representatives to the Executive Committee and up to 2 Board of Directors members to sit on the new Finance, Audit, and Investment Committee). Additionally, we anticipate initiating our outreach to Executive Directors in the next week with a focus on any Board representatives whose terms have expired, a few critical committees who need representatives, and the new Advocacy Committee representatives.
- We received a total of 9 eligible applications for the Early Career Representative (ECR) positions on the FASEB Board of Directors and Science Policy Committee (SPC). Of the total, 7 applied for the SPC and 2 for Board. The applications came from six of the 14 eligible member societies (SfG; SEBM; GSA; ASPET; SDB; AGE). The original deadline was extended by 48 hours to allow more time for incomplete applications to be submitted (2 more came in by the revised deadline). Everyone who started an application received an email from FASEB reminding them to complete their application and announcing the extended deadline. The ECR opportunity was heavily promoted on FASEB social media channels and by FASEB staff on LinkedIn. Society Executive Officers also received a promotional tool kit to share the ECR opportunity with their members. It included sample social media posts, a newsletter article, and website copy. Society verification and review of the eligible applications is currently underway. FASEB's Leadership Development Committee will meet on May 12 to review the society nominees and approve a slate of ECRs for approval by the FASEB Board at the June meeting. There are openings for 2 ECRs on both the Board and SPC.
- Participation in the April Advocacy Town Hall meetings totaled 64 people, a 42 percent increase compared to March! There were 31 participants at the April 7 meeting (highest ever) and 33 at the April 21 session. FASEB staff provided a report on Capitol Hill Day and the latest science policy updates at the April 7 meeting. Former NIH Chief of Staff Carrie Wolinetz was the guest speaker at the April 21 meeting where she offered her insider perspective on what is happening behind-the-scenes at the agency. [Register here](#) to receive the Zoom link and follow-up summary for future meetings. We also welcome your efforts to promote the town hall meetings to your society's staff, volunteers, and members.

Science Policy

- On April 24, all 24 members of the National Science Board (NSB) received email notifications terminating their service, effective immediately. This action was unprecedented, leaving the National Science Foundation – which has been without an appointed Director since April 2025 – without a key advisory body. FASEB's Office of Public Affairs led the development of a FASEB statement expressing concern about the dismissals with two calls to action, the first calling on Congress to fulfill its oversight duties and holding the administration accountable to the parameters of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950. The second is calling on the administration to issue a timeline for appointing new representatives to the NSB and the process for including stakeholders in this conversation. FASEB's statement may be found [here](#).
- News from NIH:
 - On March 31, [NIH Updated its Late Application Submission Policy and announced the end of the Continuous Submission Policy](#). In conversations with NIH officials about these changes, it was noted that an increasing number of applications being submitted under the Continuous Submission Policy were



submitted nearly 9 weeks after the stated deadline, complicating study section assignments. To provide some flexibility, study section service will be recognized as a reason for utilizing the Late Application Submission Policy, granting up to an additional two weeks. The updated Late Application Submission Policy will go into effect for due dates on or after May 25, 2026; Continuous Submission applications will be accepted through August 10, 2026 (the end of the continuous submission receipt period for June/July standard due dates).

- On April 6, NIH followed up on its [January 29 Notice](#) announcing that Basic Experimental Studies in Humans (BESH) would no longer be considered clinical trials by NIH effective on or after the May 25, 2026 application due date. The [April 6 Notice](#) provided details regarding how this change would be implemented, particularly as it pertains to applicant NOFO selection.
- On April 15, NIH [announced](#) that it would continue modified peer review practices through the October 2026 Advisory Council round. Implemented following the 43-day government shutdown, this process is intended to help the agency review the resulting backlog of applications. The modifications include discussing only 30 – 35 percent of applications, marking the middle one-third of applications as “competitive but not discussed,” and the bottom one-third as “not competitive and not discussed.” Summary statements are also simplified as part of this process.
- April 20 was a big day for notices following the reauthorization of the SBIR/STTR Program:
 - [Notice of Information: Policy Changes to SBIR and STTR Discretionary Technical and Business Assistance](#)
 - [Notice of Information: Implementation of HHS Annual SBIR/STTR Application/Proposal Limit](#)
 - [Notice of Information: Policy Changes to SBIR and STTR Foreign Disclosure and Risk Management](#)
- With the Administration abandoning legal appeals for its proposed 15 percent flat F&A rate, NIH issued a [Guide Notice](#) updating the community on the agency's implementation of Uniform Administrative Requirements for Federal Financial Assistance (2 CFR 200). Specifically, the agency – per Congressional directive within the Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY 2026 – will not implement two provisions within the 2024 update to 2 CFR 200 – 2 CFR 200.1 (Modified Total Direct Cost Definition – Calculating Indirect Costs) and 2 CFR 200.414(f) – the De Minimis Indirect Rate. Other updates to 2 CFR 200, including the increased cap for instrumentation spending (\$5,000 to \$10,000) are still in effect.
- On April 21, NIH [announced](#) the end of the leniency period for the use of Common Forms for the Biographical Sketch, Current and Pending (Other) Support, and the NIH Biographical Sketch Supplement for all application due dates and Just-in-Time, Research Performance Progress Reports, and Prior Approval submissions on or after May 8, 2026. Similarly, all of those system warnings will change to errors that will stop submissions if compliant Common Forms are not in use.

Workforce

MOSAIC Program Updates

- FASEB completed its **Academic Job Search** Series in April. The final session, held on April 15, focused on interviewing and negotiation. The 3-part virtual series was open to FASEB's Fellows for the Future (FFF) scholars, as well as MOSAIC Scholars from partner UE5 organizations, including the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB).
- On April 16, FASEB hosted a **strengths-based leadership session** for its MOSAIC and FFF scholars led by **Julie Lockman, PhD**, Assistant Vice President of Graduate Education at the Health Sciences Center at West Virginia University and a Gallup-Certified CliftonStrengths Coach. The session focused on helping scholars apply their individual strengths to leadership, with continued emphasis during the in-person retreat.



- Planning for the **MOSAIC in-person retreat** (May 6–8, 2026) is in its final stages. The retreat will convene FASEB's MOSAIC scholars at its headquarters for a focused program on leadership, identity, mentoring, and the transition to independent research careers.

National Engagement and Visibility

- FASEB submitted an **R13 proposal** to support implementation of a biannual conference for current and aspiring Biomedical Research Training Program Directors. This is a multi-year proposal to host conferences in July 2027, 2029 and 2031. Yvette Seger is the PI and CJ Neely is the Co-PI.

Publications

- **Editorial activities (Objectives 1, 2, and 4 of the 2026 Publications Operating Plan: Financial performance, Grow reach and impact, Strengthening research integrity).**
 - Publications quarterly dashboards were completed using data through March 31, 2026. Key takeaways include:
 - *The FASEB Journal* is on track to exceed the goals of 20% increases in submissions and acceptances, as set in Objective 1 of the 2026 Publications Operating Plan. January and March 2026 recorded the highest number of monthly submissions and publications in the previous 4 years.
 - Submission of Research Letters has been stagnant for the past 3 quarters, indicating a need for additional solicitation and marketing.
 - The Impact Factor for *FJ* is projected to be 4.3 for 2025, an increase of 0.1 over the 2024 impact factor; the impact factor of *FB* is projected to be 2.3, an increase of 0.3 over 2024. Official releases will be made in mid-to-late June.
 - For *FASEB BioAdvances*, Wiley's timeline from acceptance to publication online, already longer than the timeline for *FJ*, has increased by 5 days in Q1 2026.
 - Submissions to *FB* are on track to meet the goal of 20% increase as laid out in the Operating plan, but publications are lagging, only projected to grow by 13.8%. Discussions with the editorial team are ongoing.
 - The *FJ* international-based Associate Editors met on 4/27/26. Topics discussed included the updated performance metrics of the journal, updates to the transfer process to *FB*, and special issue and review topics.
 - A [call for papers](#) was made for a new special collection in *FJ* entitled "Beyond Weight Loss: Multisystem and Functional Implications of GLP-1 Receptor Agonist Therapy". The collection is set to open on May 1, 2026 and will be guest-edited by AE Lauren Sparks and ECR Andrea Brennan.
 - FASEB Publications reviewed demonstrations by the top three vendors/candidates for our Peer Review Management System (PRMS) Request for Proposals. Future decisions on the finalist for PRMS will consider author, editor, peer reviewer, and staff experience; maintaining quality and integrity; API functionality for capabilities including manuscript transfer; and many other features. Notification of the finalist is expected in May 2026.
 - Wiley added an addendum to the publishing agreement providing additional financial support for journal operations annually. The addendum includes an additional \$20k to support the new peer review management system and an additional \$10k in editorial honoraria to support the growth in the journal portfolio.
- **Marketing and promotional activities (Objectives 2 and 5: Grow reach and impact, Expand effective marketing strategy and scalable technical solutions).**
 - Altmetric* overview for the month of April:
 - 224 social media mentions (X, Bluesky, Reddit, and Facebook)



- 54 mentions in News, Blogs, and Podcasts
- 28 mentions in Other Sources (Wikipedia and YouTube)
- **Altmetric tracks and measures the online attention that research outputs receive across sources such as news outlets, social media, policy documents, and blogs—providing a broader view of research visibility and real-world impact beyond citations.*
- The FASEB Publications Quarterly [Newsletter](#) (Spring 2026) was distributed to 10,539 recipients. The newsletter achieved a 16.64% open rate and a 1.43% click-through rate (77 clicks).
- Launched April 13 on [Newswise](#), the press release highlighting *The FASEB Journal's* research on reducing brain swelling and neuroinflammation following traumatic brain injury has generated 1,155 views to date.
- Sarah launched the "[FASEB Publications Review](#)" (LinkedIn Newsletter) on LinkedIn late March to expand visibility and engagement with FASEB journal content.
 - Already reached 1,705 subscribers, establishing an early audience of engaged readers.
 - Published three editions to date, spotlighting key initiatives:
 - [The FASEB Journal Research Letters](#) (driving awareness of our newest rapid-publication format and encouraging submissions)
 - [FASEB BioAdvances Null Studies](#) (supporting the permanently open call for papers of this type of research)
 - [High-impact research feature on traumatic brain injury](#) (aligned with press outreach)
- **BioCore activities (Objective 6: Develop BioCore as a brand and offering).**
 - Team members provided support for partner societies:
 - Organizing and structuring the launch of applications for *Experimental Biology and Medicine (EBM)*'s Early Career Researcher board.
 - Preparing for SSR's annual meeting with identification of *Biology of Reproduction (BOR)* award winners and organizing the Editors' Reception.
 - Sarah and Ken developed the 2026 Strategic Plan for *BOR*, with a meeting scheduled for May with co-Editors-in-Chief to review the plan, gather feedback, and ensure alignment with their priorities and goals.
 - Sarah is supporting marketing efforts for *EBM* through organic and paid social media campaigns promoting open special issues (e.g. [LinkedIn post](#) for "Inflammasomes as therapeutic targets in health and disease" special issue).
 - Sarah launched a new series of short, digestible videos highlighting *BOR's* Editor's Choice articles for social media ([example 1](#) and [example 2](#)).

Office of Scientific Meetings and Conferences

- In the first quarter, four returning conferences that applied by the fall deadline were notified of acceptance, and three additional conferences carried over from prior years were also notified that they will move forward in 2027.
- The first June SRCs have passed their abstract deadlines, with a few deadline extensions still pending. Registrations are trending upward, and about half are near or at target. The team is working closely with organizers on final marketing, speaker management, and room block management to support strong attendance.
- The NIH R13 deadline was April 12, and staff supported two submissions.
- Temporary staff are now in place and supporting three conferences to strengthen operational coverage, and two summer interns are being hired to support meetings operations and grants/sponsorship/reimbursement work.



FASEB

Federation of American Societies
for Experimental Biology

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 5, 2026

Executive Director's Report on Operations

- The Meetings Strategy Task Force is reviewing key financial and operational gaps and will be recommending next steps and possible process changes.
- Federally aligned procurement policies, procedures, and supporting documentation have been finalized and staff trained, including review and selection criteria for venue decisions, to improve process management and support more data-driven decision-making in collaboration with senior leadership, accounting, and the Meetings Strategy Task Force.
- The Meetings Committee's review of the Code of Conduct is complete, and recommended updates are moving forward to the Board to reflect best practices in safety, professionalism, and inclusive conduct at FASEB events.
- The team is in final setup and testing for the Conferences on Demand metadata intake and processing workflow with Cadmore, which will streamline capture of conference outputs and improve the discoverability of FASEB meeting content.
- SRC advertising is underway on ResearchGate and LinkedIn to broaden awareness of FASEB conferences and reach investigators in relevant scientific fields.
- The new blog, FASEB Conference Insider, is now live and will help further promote the portfolio and FASEB's convening role.
- The SRC history project is in development to document the rich history of FASEB's longest-running meetings and create a centralized resource for marketing and stewardship.
- The team has begun 2027 registration and website setup so the upcoming portfolio can have a landing page for save-the-dates and future marketing efforts.
- A new reimbursements information page is also being created to provide clearer guidance and improve the user experience for participants.

Legislative Update
(Prepared April 28, 2026)

Appropriations/Budget Hearings

Budget hearings began in April after a two-week recess. Russell Vought, Director of the Office of Management of Budget appeared before the House and Senate Budget committees on April 15 to answer questions about the president's fiscal year (FY) 2027 budget that was released on April 3, 2026. Vought faced numerous questions about the administration's budget, including whether agencies would be directed to spend funds previously appropriated by Congress and if OMB would engage in further attempts to impound money directed towards specific programs, as happened in 2025. The OMB director spoke about how the administration does not have to spend all of the money appropriated if the work can be done with less. Vought also expressed support for reducing discretionary non-defense spending by continuing to find ways to eliminate projects that the administration determines to be wasteful. Other members of the Budget committee mentioned the 12 percent cut to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and 55 percent reduction for the National Science Foundation (NSF) that were included in the administration's budget request and asked Director Vought to justify the cuts.

Other important hearings were the appearance of the Secretary of Health and Human Services before the House Ways and Means committee and the House Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, and Related Agencies subcommittee on April 16. Also appearing before House appropriators were the Secretary of the Department of Energy on April 15 where he talked about supporting the Genesis Mission and how DOE projects were terminated but not based on politics or whether they were in blue states despite Democrats insisting they were. More detailed coverage of these [hearings](#) appeared in the April 23 issue of the Washington Update newsletter.

The House Science Committee held a hearing on April 15 to discuss the trends, issues and policy considerations around the state of scientific publishing. Witnesses were Mr. Carl Maxwell, Sr. Vice President, Public Policy, Association of American Publishers, Ms. Kate Travis, Managing Editor, Retraction Watch, and Dr. Jason Owen-Smith, Executive Director, Institute for Research on Innovation & Science, University of Michigan. The hearing examined open access policies, peer review, conflict of interest policies, data access and reproducibility, predatory journals, paper mills, "publish or perish" incentive systems, and how the use of artificial intelligence, large language models, and machine learning is influencing the quality of science, scientific integrity, and scientific misconduct. During the questions and answers period, several members of the subcommittee asked the witnesses for their input on the provision in the president's FY 2027 budget proposal that would establish a "government-wide prohibition on publishing and subscription fees," and allow the use of federal funds for "expensive subscriptions to academic journals and prohibitively high publishing costs" only if required by federal statute or approved in advance by a federal agency.

Outside witness testimony (OWT) was submitted on behalf of FASEB for our funding requests for NIH, NSF, Department of Energy Office of Science, and AFRI in the House. As of this writing, there were no instructions on how to submit OWT related to our funding request for the Veterans Administration (VA) Medical and Prosthetic Research program. FASEB staff met with the Military Construction/VA Appropriations Subcommittee majority and minority staff in mid-April and asked for clarification about submitting testimony but is still awaiting a response.

On April 21, the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee released guidance for submitting fiscal year (FY) 2027 OWT. The deadline is May 22, 2026. The Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Military Construction/VA Appropriations Subcommittees also released guidelines related to OWT with various deadlines in May. FASEB will submit statements to the Senate Appropriations subcommittees.

Status of FY 2027 Appropriations Bills

On April 13, House Appropriations Chairman Tom Cole released the FY 2027 [mark-up schedule](#) and [302b allocations](#) for the first six bills that will be considered. Mark-ups began on April 17, with the committee expected to complete consideration of all 12 bills by June 24. It is not clear if any of the FY 2027 spending bills will be voted on by the full House and Chairman Cole indicated he would defer to Speaker Mike Johnson on that issue.

The Military Construction/VA bill that was approved by the Appropriations Committee on April 17 includes \$900 million for VA research – \$45 million below the FY 2026 enacted level. In better news, the bill provides some flexibility on animal research through Section 246, allowing studies involving canines, felines, and non-human primates to proceed with explicit, written approval from the Secretary rather than imposing a blanket prohibition as was included in the VA spending bill in prior years.

On April 28, the House Appropriations Committee advanced the Agriculture/Food and Drug Administration bill, providing \$435 million for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (same as FY 2026 funding).

Coalitions

The Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) had a special meeting outside of their normal monthly meeting to discuss the president's recommendation to have the [Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences](#) (SBE) Directorate zeroed out. Ellen recommended CNSF submit written comments to the House Budget committee where the OMB director will appear so he can be on the record about whether this administration is going to follow congressional report language, which doesn't seem to be the case right now. CNSF is seeking to put bill language in the final FY 2027 Commerce, Justice, Science appropriations bill rather than use report language to save SBE since report language is not law but guidance. There was also discussion that NSF program officers can't talk with the public and instead inquiries need to be sent directly to the NSF's Office of Public Affairs to flood their inbox with concerns and questions.

As for FY 2026 NSF spending, CNSF is asking its members to ask Jim O'Neill, the White House nominee to be the director of NSF, about SBE at any confirmation hearing and even in private Senate meetings with Mr. O'Neill. CNSF members were asked to target Senate Commerce and Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions committee Senators to raise this issue since the NSF Director is a position requiring Senate confirmation.

Additionally, the FY 2026 NSF operating/spend plan just went to Capitol Hill, and there is a desire for committee staff to push back on NSF's operating plan that is cutting SBE and other directorates. NSF seems not to be following FY 2026 report language, which is atypical. Additionally, the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is [actively following the SBE](#) issue and has created an SBE toolkit. FASEB is monitoring but not actively lobbying on keeping SBE since FASEB focuses on the topline NSF funding level versus directorate funding. The Executive Committee discussed possible FASEB advocacy on behalf of SBE at their April 23 meeting and urged staff to continue monitoring what is happening with

SBE and bring potential sign-on letters and other opportunities to the Executive Committee and Board's attention.

Members also talked about [grant witness](#) as a good tool to review, NSF awards search [database](#), [OpenOMB](#), and [USASpending](#). CNSF is also asking for members to send to the group any statements that they have made regarding the SBE directorate. Examples [1](#) and [2](#).

CNSF also met with the Director of NSF's Office of Public Affairs in mid-April. The Director noted that NSF is significantly understaffed due to staff departures in 2025; they are finalizing preparations to move into their new office space on May 4, and staff has not heard any updates on the status of the NSF Director nomination. Staff also indicated that Congress is unlikely to hold a hearing on the FY 2027 NSF budget request because there is no director, there is no political appointee assigned to the agency, and a nominee for the director position has been announced but not yet confirmed. When asked whether NSF would be able to spend its full FY 2026 appropriation from Congress, staff expressed confidence that all grant money would eventually be released even though things are moving slowly right now.

The Energy Sciences Coalition met with the Deputy Director for Science Programs and the Chief of Staff for the Department of Energy Office of Science (DOE SC). The DOE SC staff acknowledged the 30 percent decrease in staff, as well as the \$1.1 billion cut in the FY 2027 administration budget request. However, the DOE SC staff pointed out the \$1.2 billion in new funds was requested for the Office of Artificial Intelligence and Quantum (AIQ) and that this funding will support seven new supercomputers at the National Labs.

Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research is working on organizing a meeting between the coalition steering committee and the new Chief of Staff from NIH hopefully in May.

FASEB Reaction to the President's FY 2027 Budget Request

The House Budget committee provided stakeholders to submit a statement to be included in the official hearing record. FASEB submitted [testimony](#) that expressed deep concern over proposals in the FY 2027 budget that would cut funding for NIH, the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Department of Energy Office of Science, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture and strongly urged Congress to compel the administration to act with urgency to avoid any further delays and disruptions in obligating FY 2026 funding at these agencies as directed by Congress in the final appropriations bills that were approved in March 2026. FASEB also released a [statement](#) on the president's budget. The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research submitted testimony related to OMB's role in facilitating and/or inhibiting timely distribution of National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding with reference to concerns about increasing forward funding and limiting indirect costs at 15 percent.

FASEB Advocacy Town Hall Meetings

Attendance was exceptionally strong at the April Advocacy Town Hall meetings (see Executive Director's report for more details). Carrie Wolinetz, former Chief of Staff at NIH was the guest speaker at the April 21 meeting and provided her insider perspective on what is happening behind the scenes at the agency in the current administration. The May 5 town hall meeting will feature Jim Hobart, pollster for United for Cures, who will share new polling data indicating widespread public support for increasing the federal investment in biomedical and biological research. The Advocacy Town Hall meetings take place on the first and Third Tuesdays of each month at noon eastern. Register [here](#) to receive the Zoom link and follow-up meeting summary that is distributed via email.

**Board Members Present:**

Eric E. Kelley, PhD, *President*

Michael Lehman, PhD, *President-elect*

Beth A. Garvy, PhD, *Immediate Past President*

H. Joseph Yost, PhD, *Vice President for Science Policy*

Clifford V. Harding, *Treasurer-elect*

Zanthia Wiley, MD, FHM, FIDSA, *Vice President for Biological Workforce Development and Engagement*

Melanie J. Scott, MD, PhD (SHOCK), *Board of Directors Representative*

Clinton D. Allred, PhD (SEBM), *Board of Directors Representative*

Judy L. Cannon, PhD, *Vice President-elect for Science Policy*

Matt Yousefzadeh, PhD, *Early-career Representative*

Darla P. Henderson, PhD, *Federation Secretary*

David M. Ornitz, MD, PhD (AAA)

Joseph Cheatwood, PhD (HCS)

Michael Layden, PhD (SDB)

Maria Clara Franco, PhD (SfRBM)

Raj Kumar, PhD (SSR)

Opening Remarks, Quorum Certification, and Grounding

Eric E. Kelley, President

Kelley issued a reminder that FASEB's call for officer and other board positions is open, and that the call closes soon. Open positions include : President-Elect who will also chair the first Advocacy Committee, VP-Elect for Science Policy, VP and VP Elect for Biological Workforce Development & Engagement. These applications are due by Friday April 10. If you have any questions or are unsure of your eligibility, please reach out to Darla. Due later are positions including two Board of Directors representatives to the Executive Committee and up to two Board of Directors *ad hoc* members to serve on the Finance, Audit, and Investment Committee. Eric encouraged board members to review the email Darla sent to board members that issued a call for nominations. Board members, if you are willing and able to serve, Eric encourages you to apply. While FASEB is now starting to move on the upswing from our prior year's performance, we will continue to need excellent leaders to help guide and partner with staff, particularly through the next few years.

Written Reports

Darla Henderson, Executive Director/CEO

Ellen Kuo, Associate Director of Legislative Affairs

Ellen reported that the president's fiscal year 2027 budget request was transmitted to Congress on Friday, April 3, after the Board packet was distributed, and she provided a short summary of the administration's recommended funding levels for the agencies FASEB follows. There was discussion around why FASEB doesn't have a stance advocating for ARPA-H, including a discussion of the position. Clifford Harding encouraged FASEB to revisit and develop a position. AGE have members with funding from ARPA-H for translational research. Melanie Scott noted that it was separate from NIH funding but evolving nicely, including some sepsis research Shock members receive funding. Judy Cannon noted NSF readying to eliminate directorate even though it is congressionally mandated and encourages us to advocate for that as a core value.



Request for Information: Reducing Reliance on Human Embryonic Stem Cells in NIH-Supported Research

H. Joseph Yost, Vice President for Science Policy

In January, NIH paused new submissions to the agency's Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry and issued an RFI to assess the utility of human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) in biomedical research. Questions sought input on areas for which existing hESC lines were sufficient, areas for which hESCs are the gold standard, areas for which emerging technologies could replace hESCs, and areas for which additional investments should be made to bolster validated models to replace use of hESCs. The Science Policy Committee is advancing a proposed FASEB response.

Adjustments were requested to the RFI response specific to ISSCR and SDB statements in development and take to the Executive Committee Thursday for decisioning.

Advocacy Committee Charter

Jennifer Zeitzer, Deputy Executive Director/Director, Office of Public Affairs

As approved by the Board in December 2025, FASEB will establish a new Advocacy Committee in July that will be a parallel to the Science Policy Committee (SPC). The proposed charge to the Advocacy Committee and a list of objectives are described in the draft charter that was included with the agenda for this meeting. The objectives reflect feedback that was provided by the Board at the March meeting. As with SPC, the Advocacy Committee will be an appointed committee, and each full FASEB member society will have the opportunity to appoint one representative to the committee. The Board reviewed and approved the proposed charter and volunteer position description for the new Advocacy Committee. The committee will become operational on July 1, 2026.

Joe Yost made the motion, and Melanie Scott seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Approve the charter and volunteer position description for the Advocacy Committee.

VP and VP-Elect Biological Workforce Development and Engagement Position Descriptions

Beth Garvy, Immediate Past President and Chair, Leadership Development Committee

Additional changes from the governance restructuring following last year's taskforce include the elimination of the DEAI Committee and the introduction of a Biological Workforce Development & Engagement Committee. Concurrent with that change, the VP and VP Elect for DEAI positions were eliminated, and two new positions were created. The position descriptions for the VP and VP-Elect Biological Workforce Development and Engagement have been reviewed by the Leadership Development Committee and are being advanced to the Board of Directors.

Michael Lehman made the motion and Judy Cannon second. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Approve the position descriptions for VP and VP-Elect Biological Workforce Development and Engagement

Promotional Update

Darla Henderson, Executive Director & CEO

Summary: FASEB staff have been working for the last few months on the new messaging and promotional materials for sharing with new potential societies to encourage membership. The Board reviewed and gave feedback on the messaging at the March meeting. The staff have finalized the refreshed logo that we will be transitioning to throughout 2026 and will be sharing this as an informational item.



Consent Agenda

Eric E. Kelley, President

MOTION: A motion was made by Melanie Scott and seconded by David Ornitz to approve the March consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

The Extended Session was cancelled given the Chief Publications Officer is hospitalized and on sick leave. It will be presented at the May Board of Directors meeting.

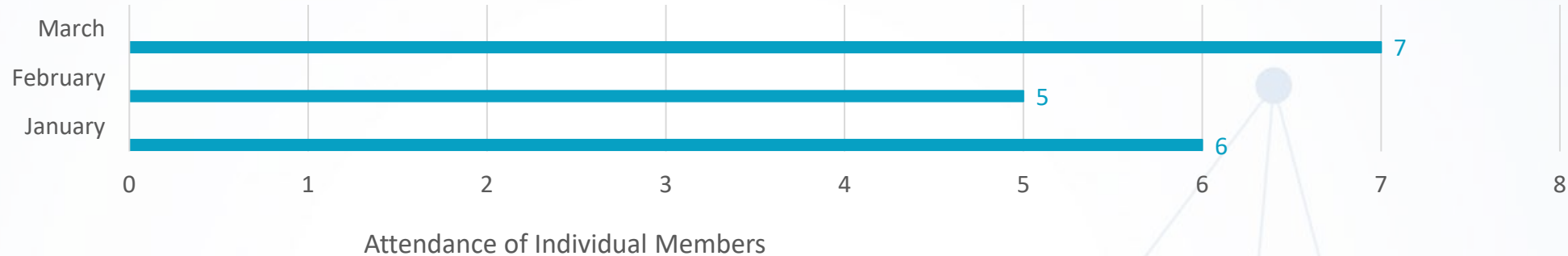
Meeting adjourned at 2 pm.

Biomedical Workforce Development & Engagement – Q1 2026



BWDE Committee Meetings

All Voting and Non-Voting Members

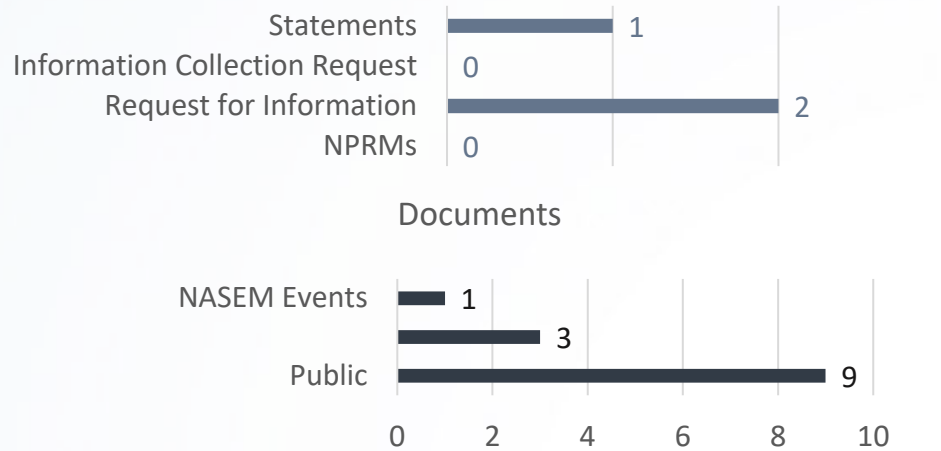


BWDE Committee Actions

- Discussed process and strategy for reinstating the LEAD reverse mentoring program
- Developed plans for workforce focused webinars

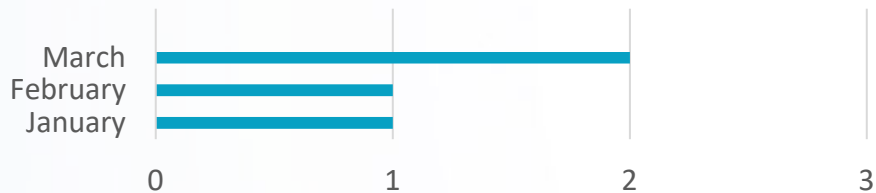
Science Policy – Q1 2026

Science Policy Actions



Meetings Attended

Presentations/Talks

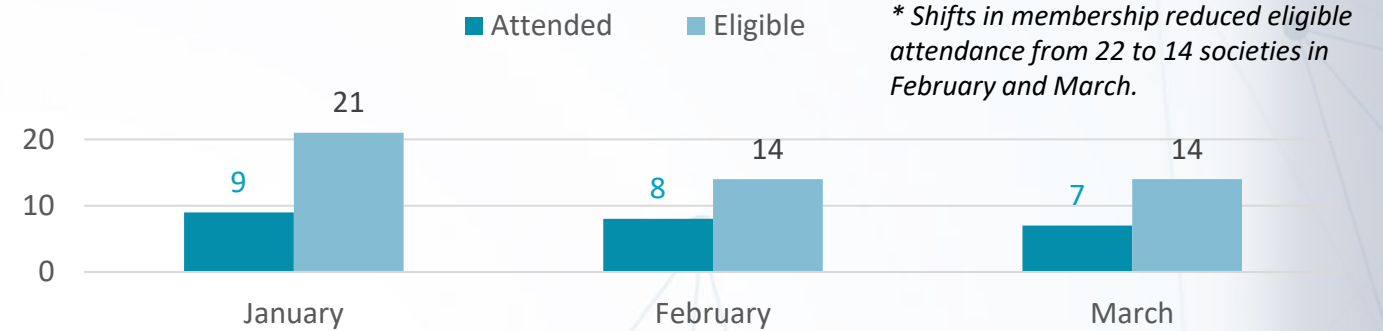


Fact Sheets Approved

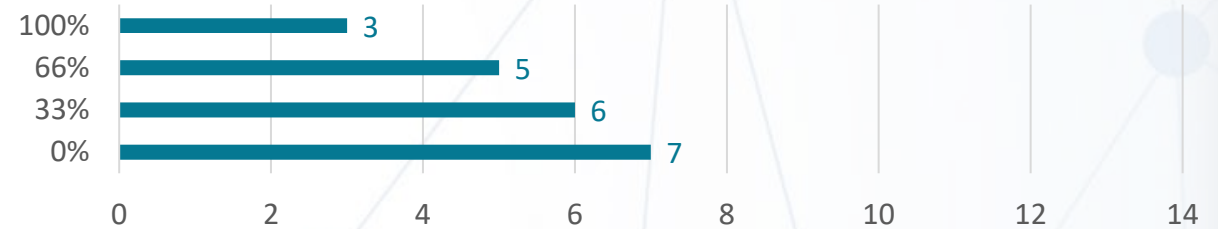
- 3 Animal Research Models
- 5 Regional Impact of NCI Funding

Science Policy Committee Meetings

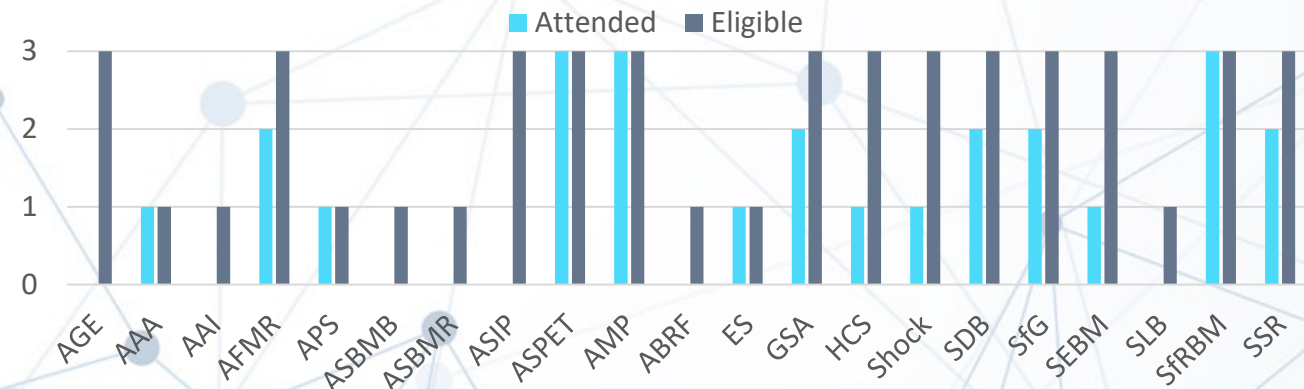
Voting Society Representatives only



Number of Member Societies Represented



Number of Societies by Percent Q1 Attendance

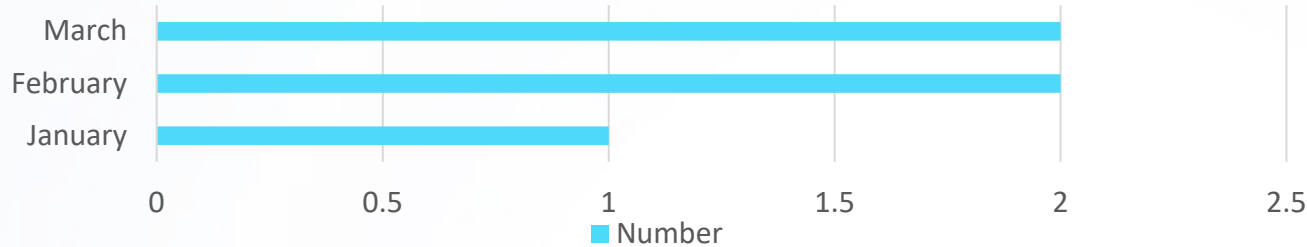


Q1 Meeting Attendance by Society

Legislative Affairs – Q1 2026



Sign-On Letters & Statements



Press Interviews/ Mentions

- *Science* (Jan. 20 – quoted on final FY 2026 NIH funding)
- *The Lancet* (Feb. 21 – quoted on final FY 2026 NIH funding)



E-Action Alerts

- March: Virtual Capitol Hill Day



FY 2027 Appropriations Advocacy

- Appropriations Testimony Submitted = 4 (Ag, NIH, NSF, DOE SC funding)
- Appropriations Forms Submitted = 475



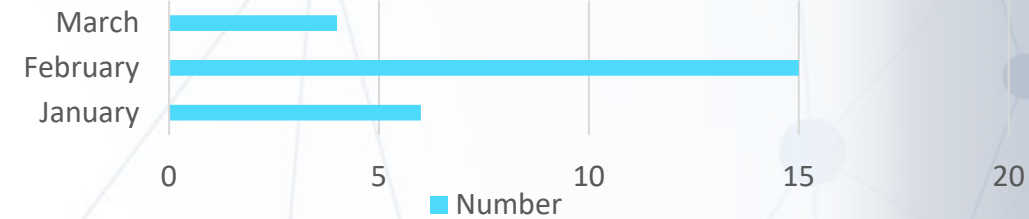
Advocacy Trainings

- Advocacy 101
- Getting Ready for Capitol Hill Day



Coalition Activities

Meetings Attended



OPA General Activities – Q1 2026



Washington Update

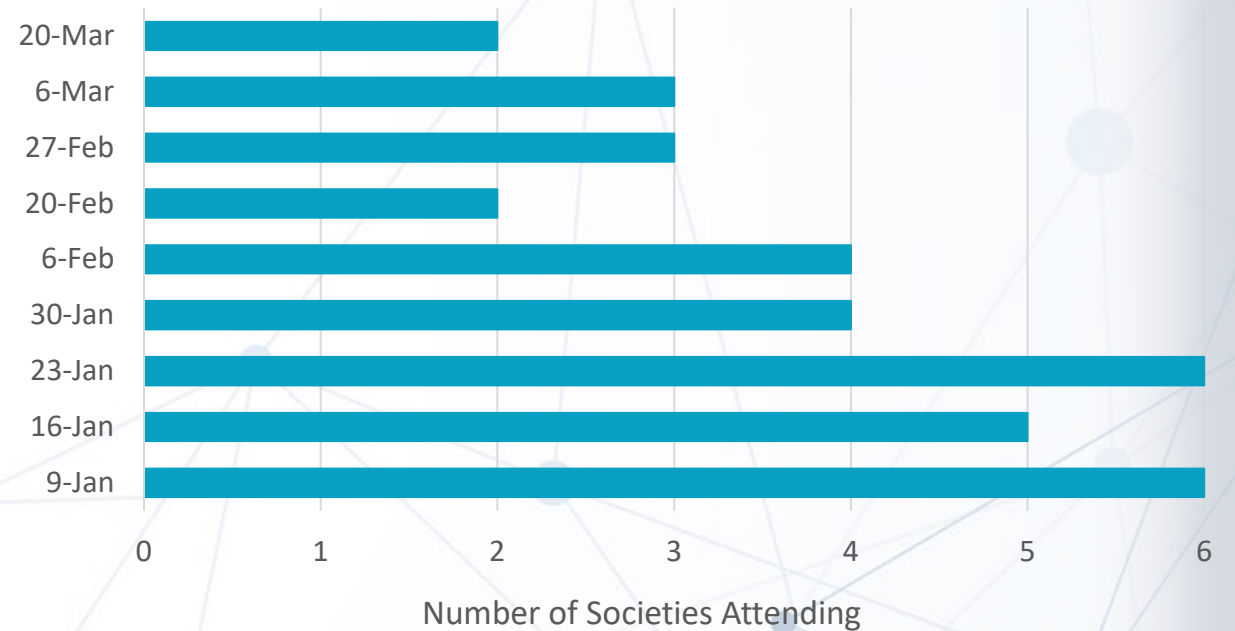
- Total Subscribers: 7,639 ↓
- Total Articles Published: 37 ↑
- Total Article Clicks: 876 ↑



Public Affairs Special Interest Group (SIG)

10 Meetings

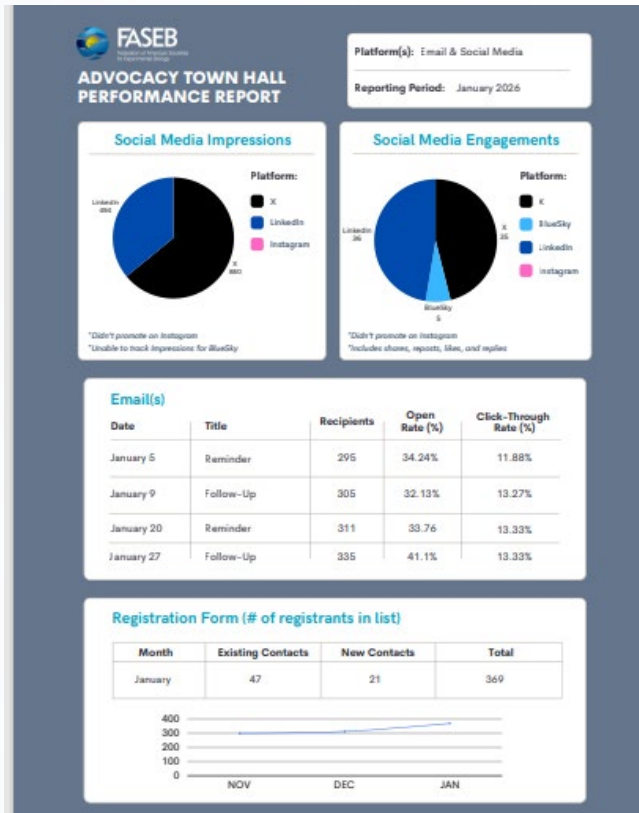
(Attendance range/ meeting: 2 to 10 non-FASEB staff)



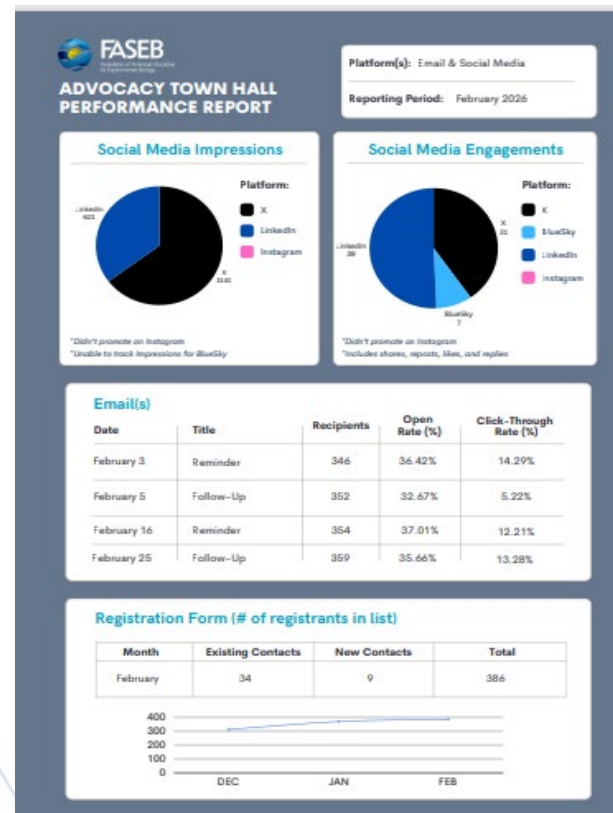
**Did not meet Jan.2; switched to bi-weekly schedule on Mar. 6 to accommodate shifts in membership that reduced eligible attendance from 21 to 14 societies.*

Advocacy Town Hall Meetings – Q1 2026

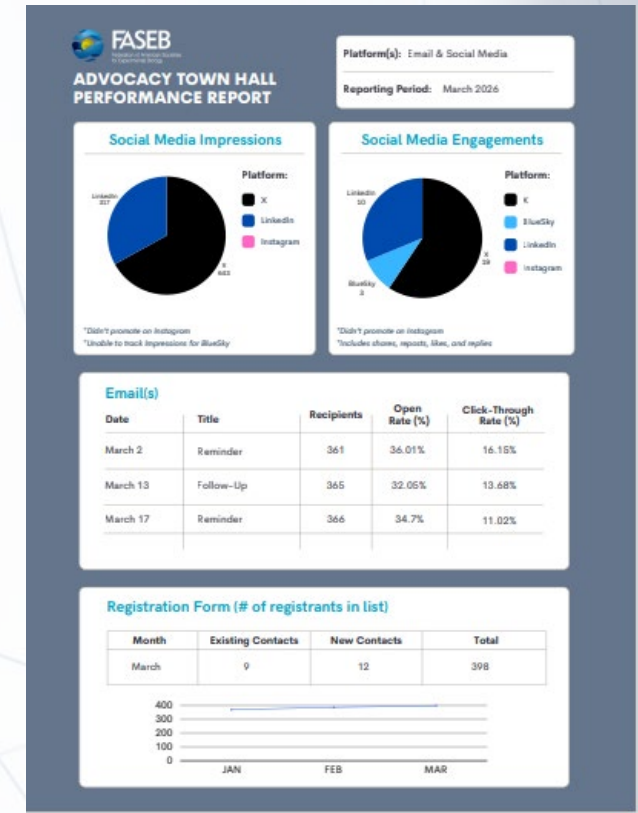
January



February



March



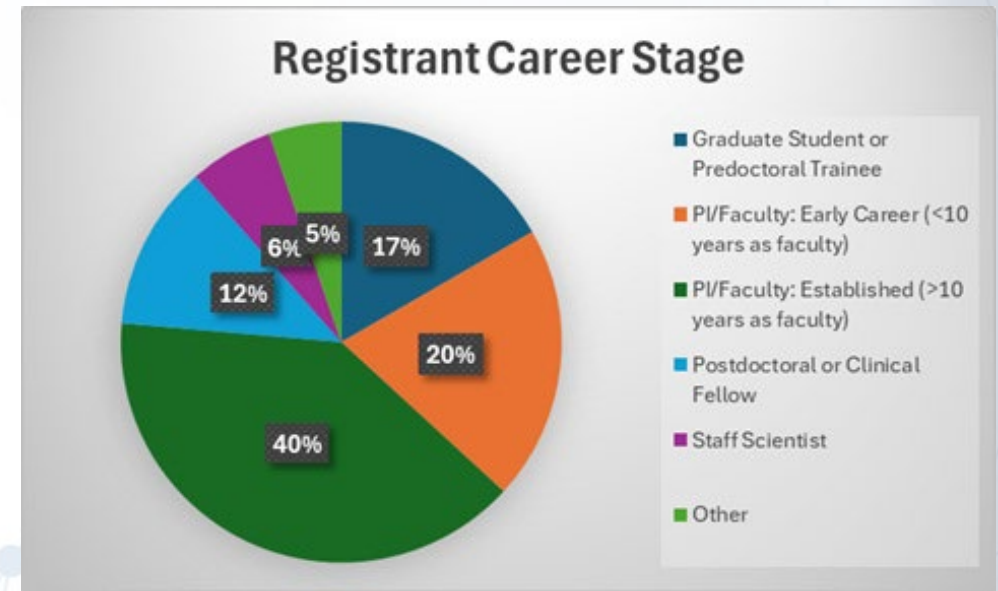
Dashboard OSMC Results Q1 2026

As of 29 April	2026 projected	January-June meetings	July-December meetings	To go
SRC registration	4430	962	674	2794
Registration rev	\$4,844,353.75	\$1,058,932.50	\$742,847.12	\$3,042,574.13
# of meetings	40	10	30	38

*Event registration data

	2026 projection	2026 received so far
Federal funding	\$453,000	\$44,000
Sponsorship monies	\$1.03M	\$533,894.29

Registrant Geography
 US: 75%
 Non-US: 25%



2026 SRCs

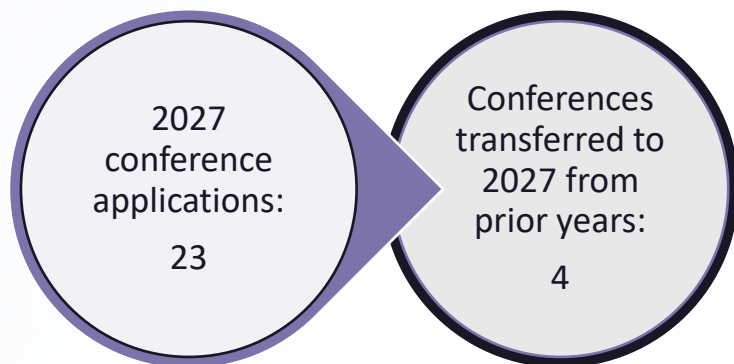
- Meeting environment is fluid
- Funding for meetings is being awarded more slowly than in previous years

2026 Highlights:

- Our second SRC had 127 registrants, well over the expected registration.
- Conferences on Demand continues with the 2026 portfolio with eight of the June conferences expected to be recorded.

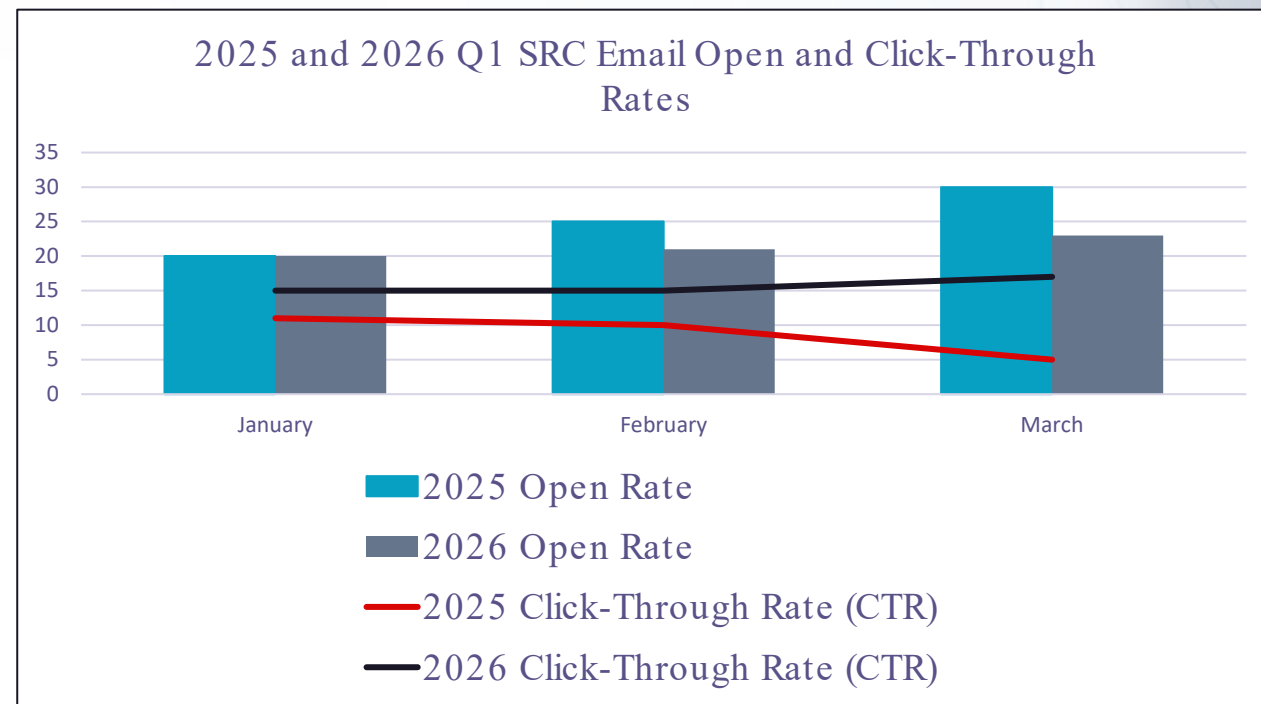
OSMC Dashboard Report Q1 2026

2027 SRC applications



- Fall 2025 = 6 applications (1 withdrawn)
- Winter 2025 = 18 applications
- Top scientific categories for 2027 applications:
 - Cell Biology
 - Cell Signaling and Endocrinology
 - Neuroscience
 - Microbiology and Immunology
 - Biology of Cancer and Aging

Marketing data



2026 Marketing Highlights:

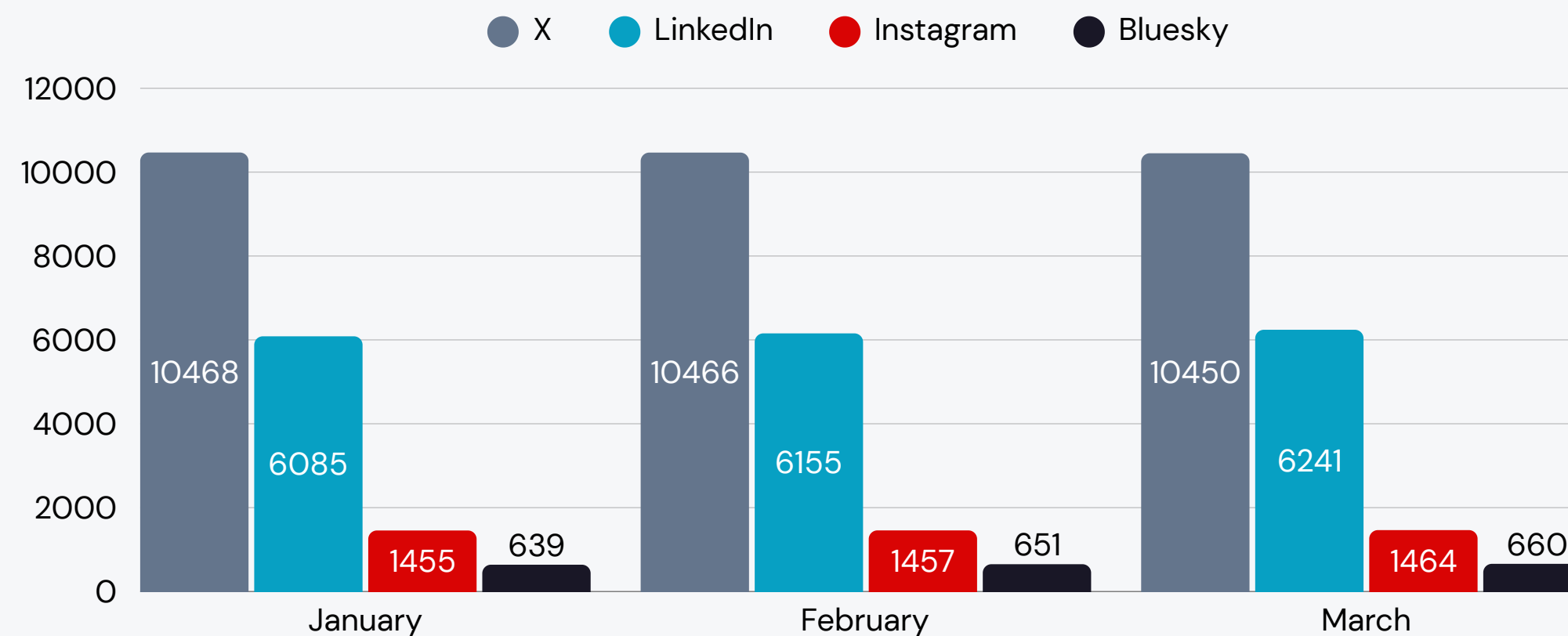
- Open rates trended lower on average in Q1 2026, but the click-through-rates were higher than expected, showing that those who opened were more interested.

SOCIAL MEDIA AUDIENCE

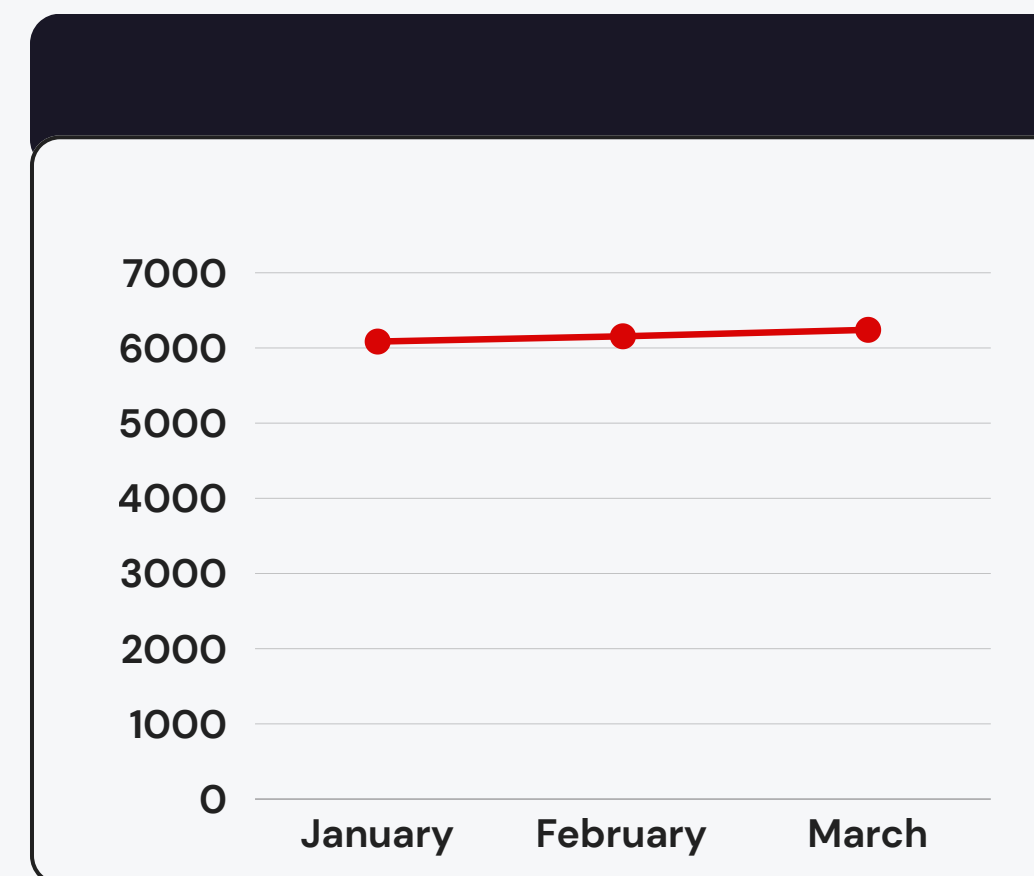
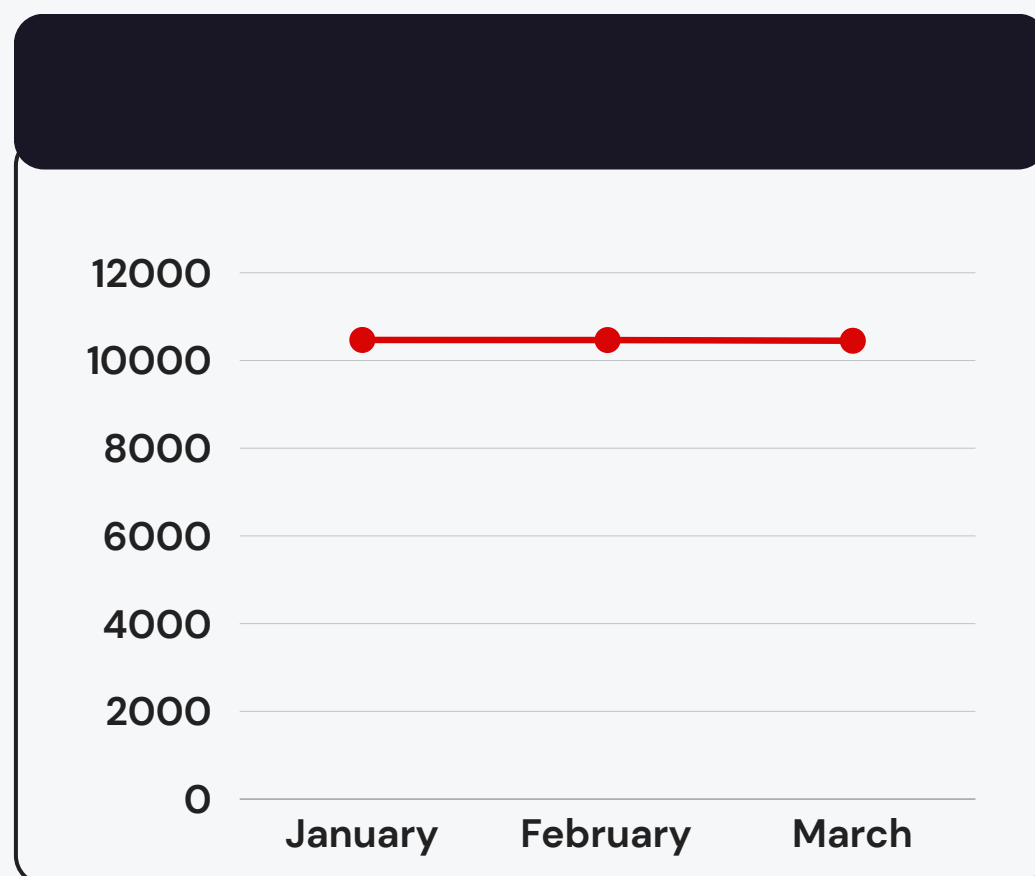
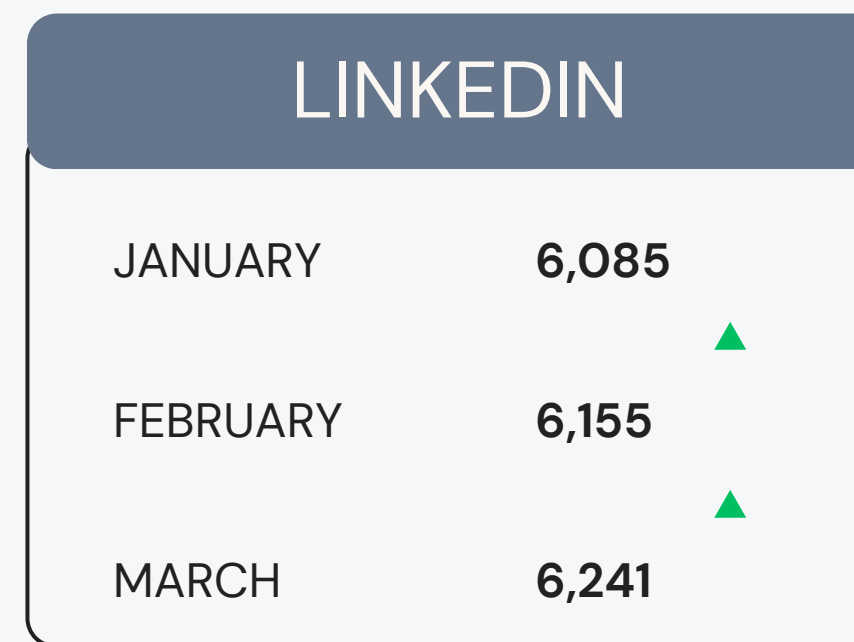
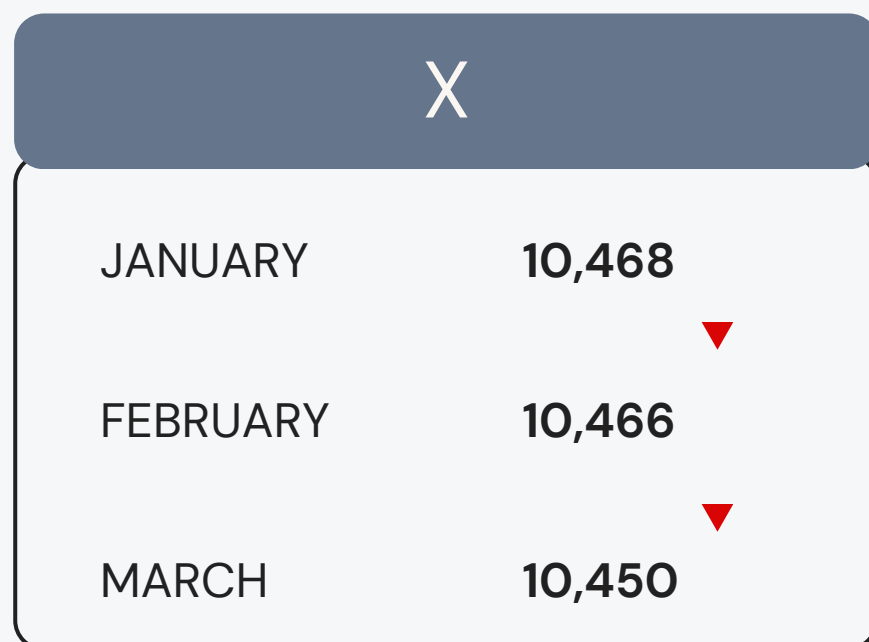
TOTAL NUMBER OF FOLLOWERS ON MARCH 31, 2026: 18,815

TOTAL

X (TWITTER)	10,450
LINKEDIN	6,241
INSTAGRAM	1,464
BLUESKY	660



SOCIAL MEDIA AUDIENCES BREAKDOWN



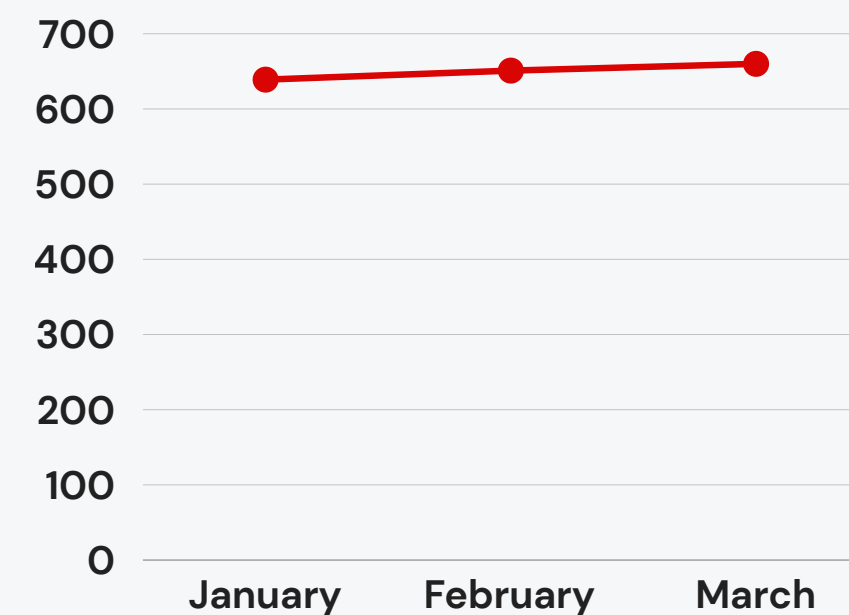
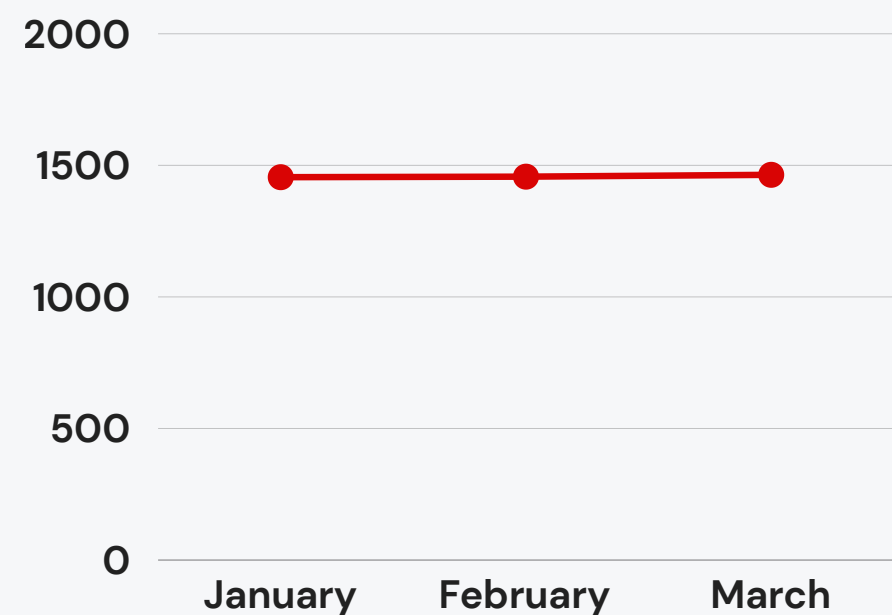
SOCIAL MEDIA AUDIENCES BREAKDOWN

INSTAGRAM

JANUARY	1,455	▲
FEBRUARY	1,457	▲
MARCH	1,464	▲

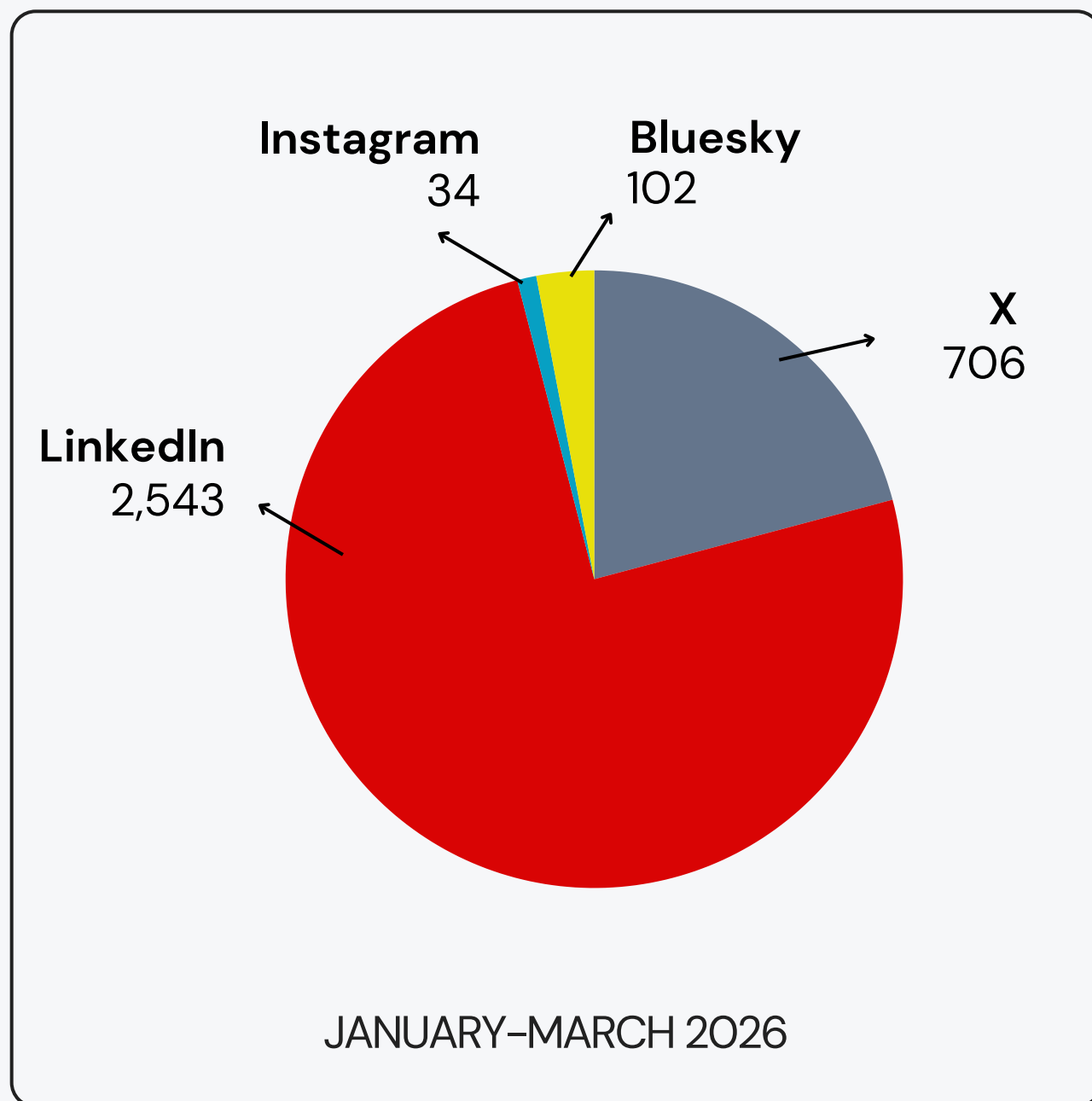
BLUESKY

JANUARY	639	▲
FEBRUARY	651	▲
MARCH	660	▲



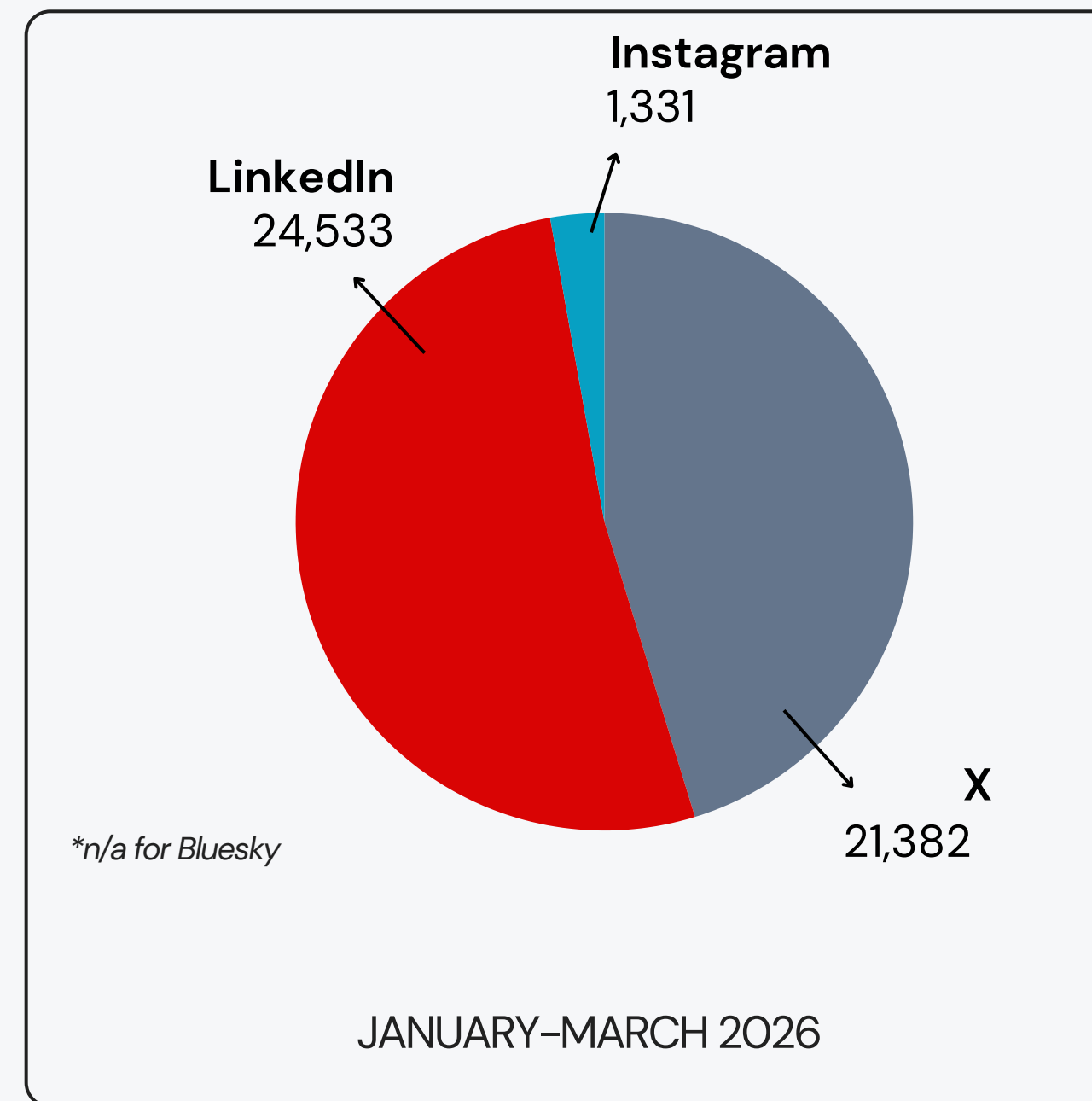
SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS


(Shares, retweets, likes, clicks, and replies)



SOCIAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS

(Potential number of views)



A background network diagram consisting of numerous grey nodes connected by thin lines, forming a complex web-like structure. The nodes are of varying sizes and are distributed across the entire page, with a higher density in the upper and lower portions.

FASEB Publications Dashboard Reports

2026 Q1 (Jan-Mar)

FASEB Publications Operating Plan Highlights



Objective 1:
Financial Performance:
Achieve contribution
target to support
FASEB's overall
financial standing



Objective 2:
Grow reach and impact
globally while
improving
representation of the
community



Objective 3:
Position for financial
stability in an
increasingly open
science world



Objective 4:
Strengthen research
integrity as core to our
mission

A background graphic consisting of a network of interconnected nodes and lines, resembling a molecular structure or a data network. The nodes are represented by small circles, and the lines are thin, light gray. The network is more dense in the upper left and lower right corners, with some nodes highlighted in a slightly darker shade of gray.

FASEB Publications Marketing

FASEB Publications Marketing Highlights

Marketing in Q1 directly supported the 2026 Operating Plan by strengthening awareness, engagement, and positioning across key growth areas—while identifying conversion as the primary opportunity for continued impact.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) | Q1 January – March 2026

Submissions YoY % Change

The FASEB Journal: **+51%**
FASEB BioAdvances: **+3%**

Total Campaign Impressions

487,841

Clicks

Total: **14,518**

Click-Through Rate: **2.96%***

Our CTR is ~195% higher than the average. Industry average is ~0.5% - 1.5%.

We launched the
“[FASEB Publications Review](#)”
Newsletter on LinkedIn!

1,587 subscribers

Launched March 30, 2026

Social Engagement Rate

3.05%*

Our social engagement rate is 3x higher than the average. Typical social engagement rate is ~1%.

Quarterly E-Newsletter Engagement

Total Opens: **2,648 (16.51%
Open Rate)**

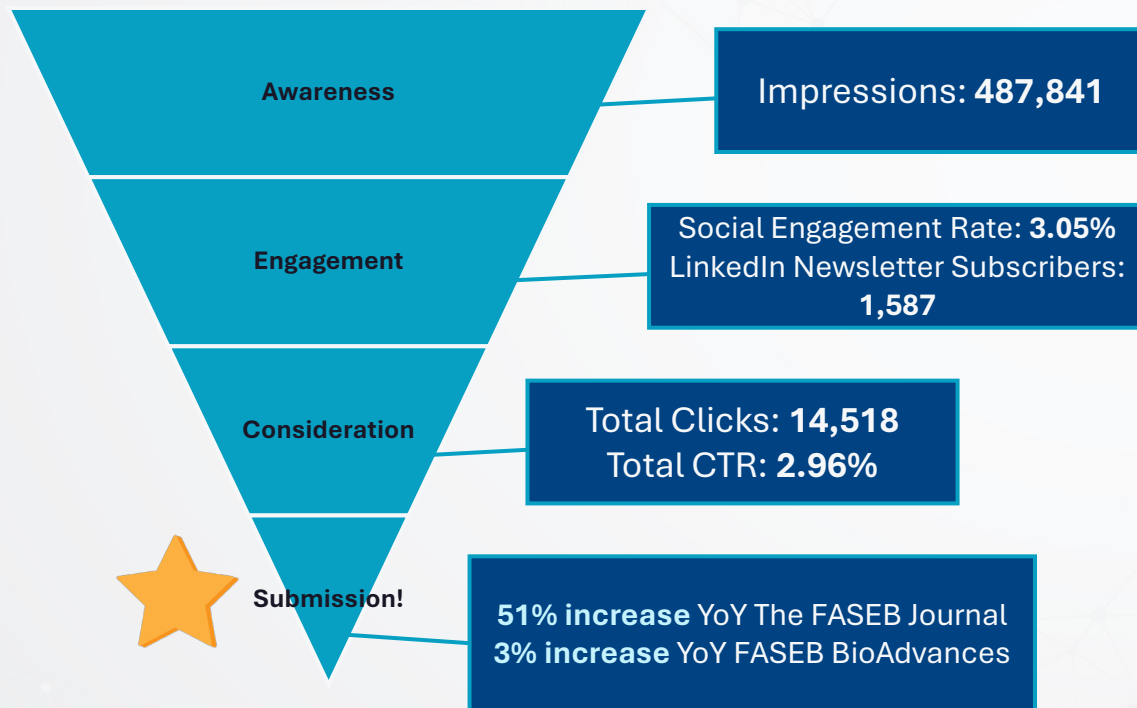
Total Clicks: **77 (1.44% CTR)**

Sent March 31, 2026

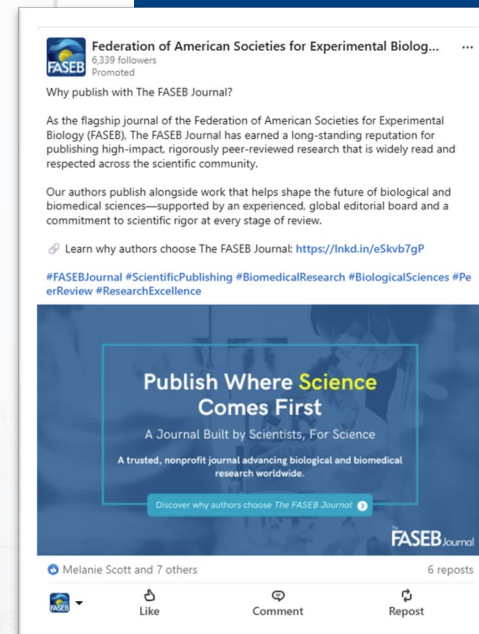
FASEB Publications Marketing Highlights

Marketing in Q1 directly supported the 2026 Operating Plan by strengthening awareness, engagement, and positioning across key growth areas—while identifying conversion as the primary opportunity for continued impact.

Author Journey Funnel & Corresponding Stats for Q1



Top Campaign Highlight: LinkedIn Paid Campaign — “Why Publish with The FASEB Journal”



401,059 impressions

12,322 clicks

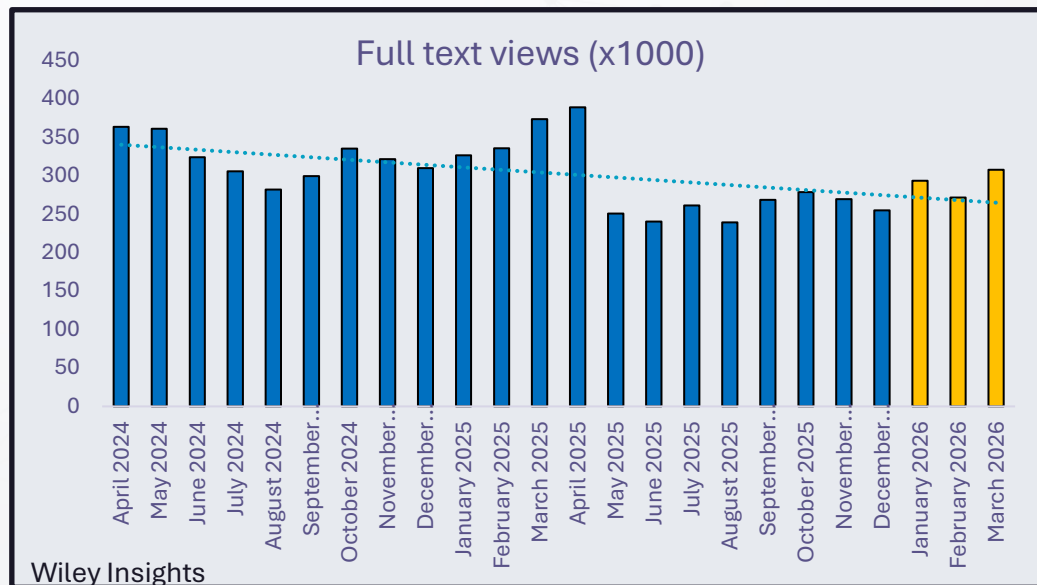
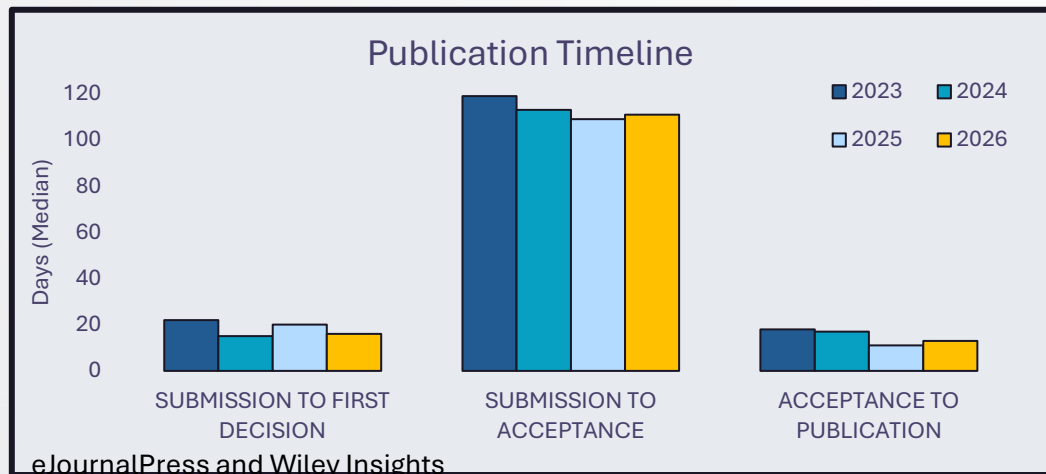
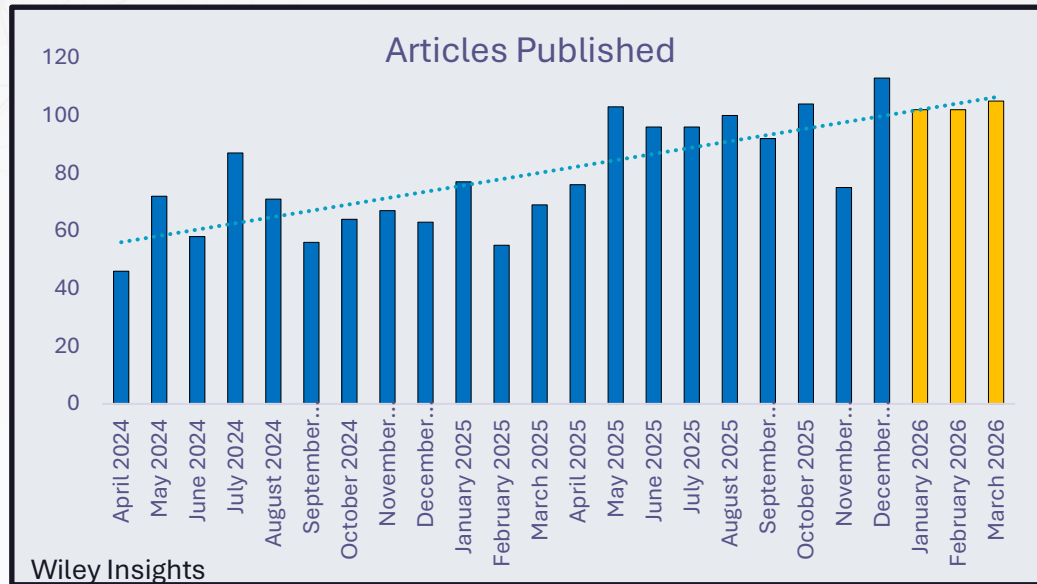
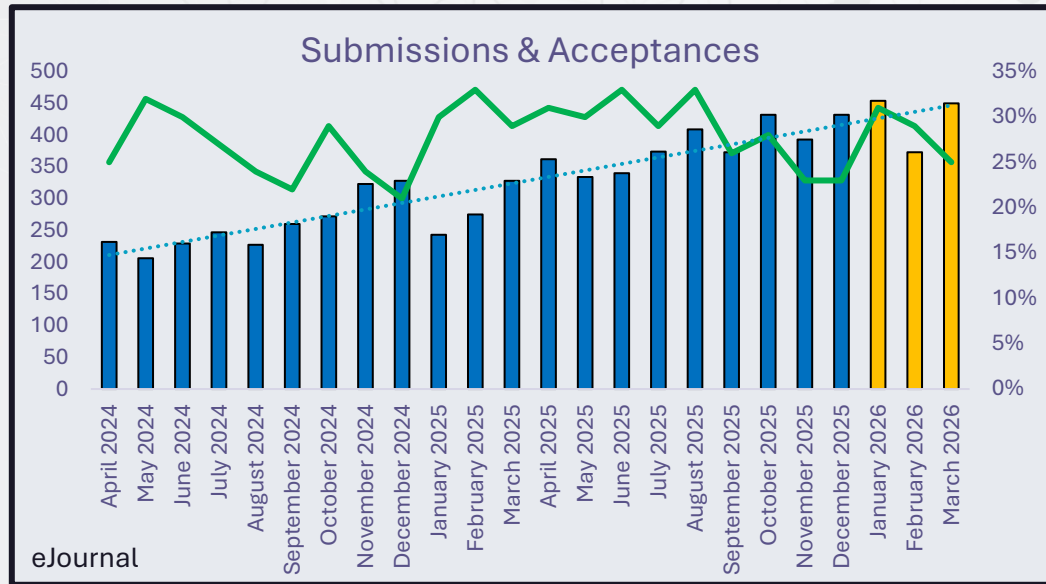
3.07% click-through rate

High engagement performance highlights effective messaging, with conversion to submissions as the key growth opportunity.

A background graphic consisting of a network of interconnected nodes and lines, resembling a molecular or biological structure, rendered in a light gray color. The nodes are represented by small circles, and the lines are thin, connecting the nodes in a complex, web-like pattern. The overall aesthetic is clean and scientific.

The FASEB Journal: Key Metrics

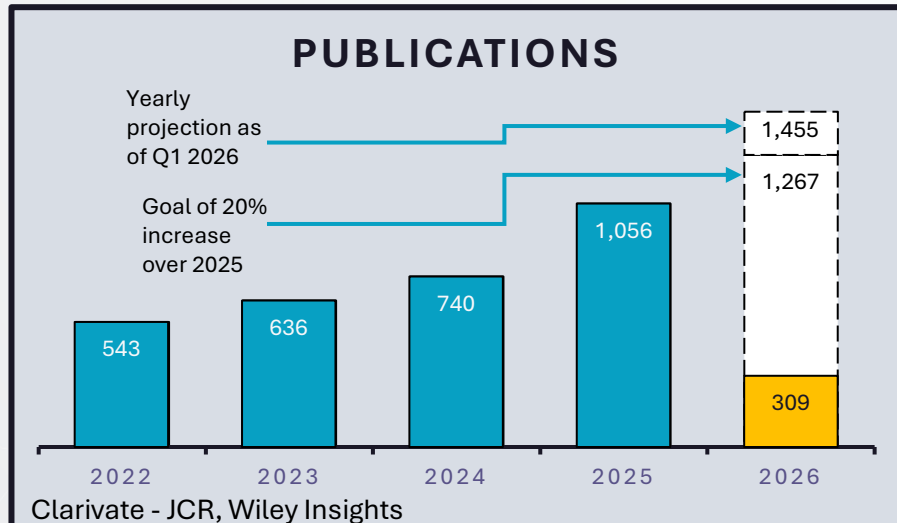
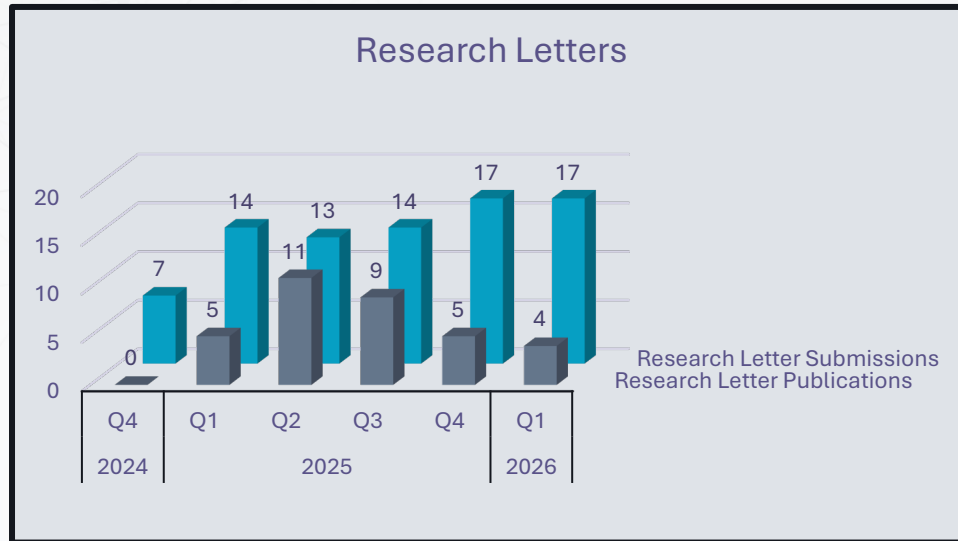
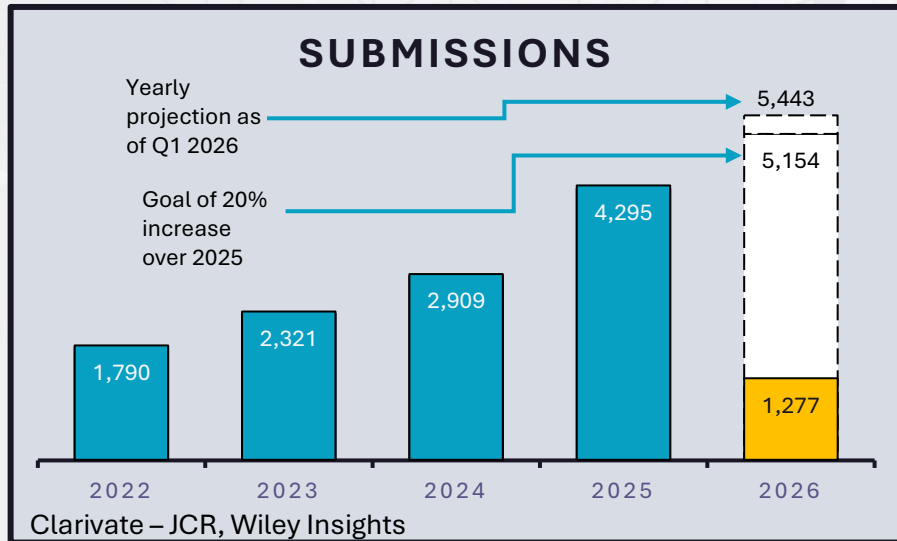
FASEB Journal 2026 Q1 Dashboard



Submissions and articles published grew in Q1 (51% and 54%, respectively, over this period in 2025). January and March 2026 saw the highest submissions of any two months in at least 6 years.

Usage (views) has been rebounding over the past year.

FASEB Journal 2026 Q1 Dashboard



Projected 2025 IF:

4.3

We are ahead of the planned 20% increase in submissions and acceptances as set in the 2026 operating plan.

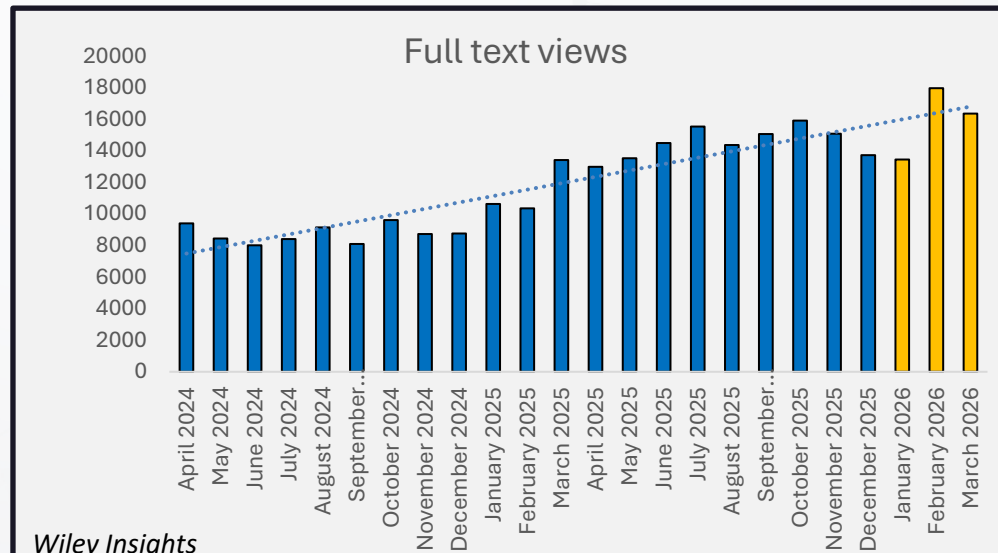
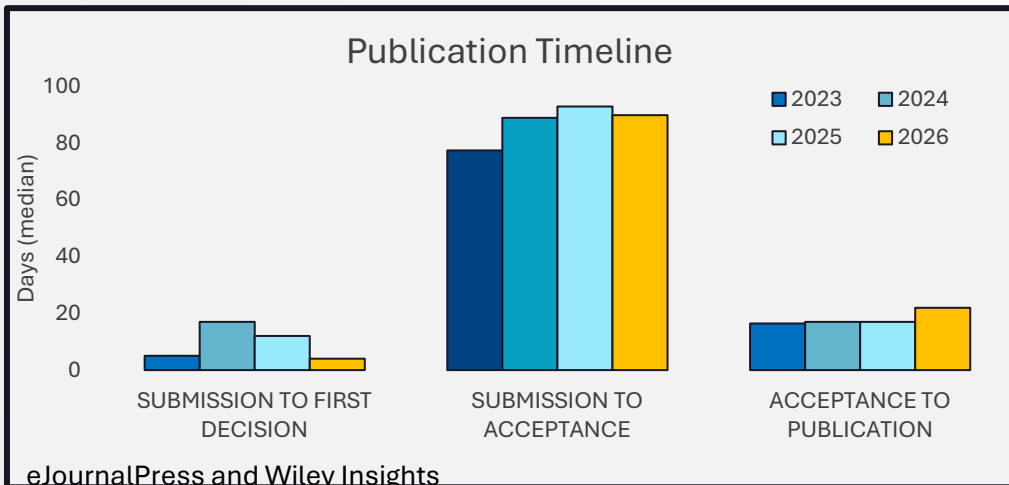
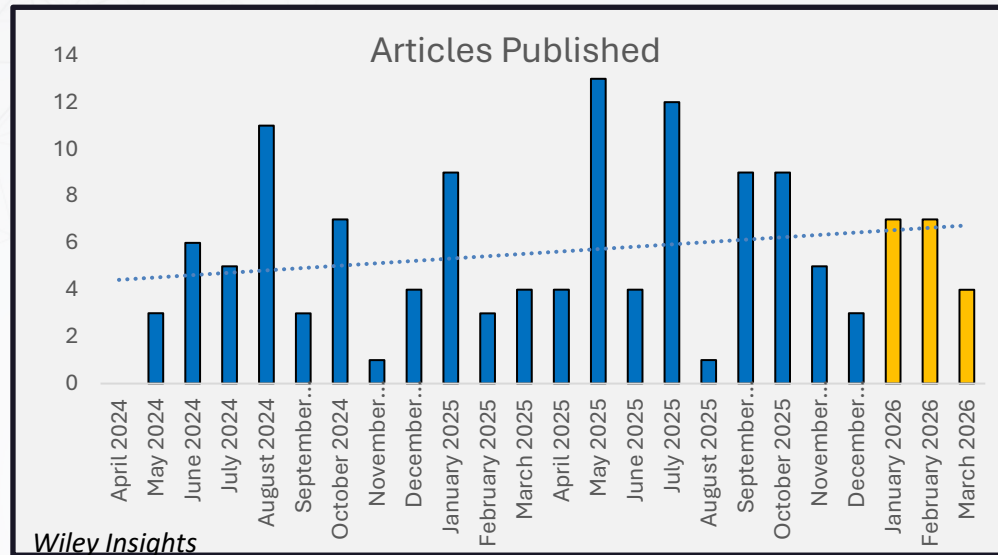
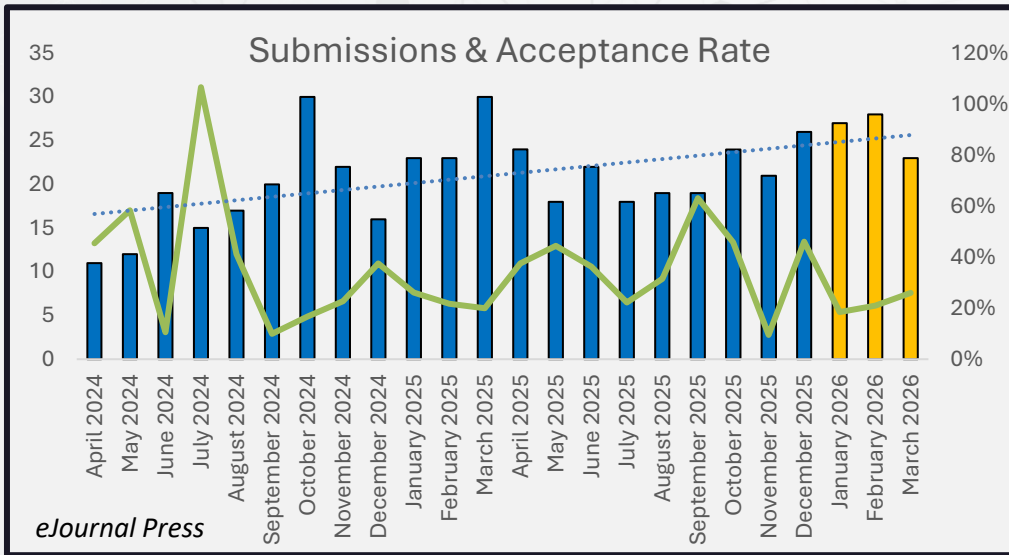
Research Letters submissions have been plateauing over past several quarters, indicating a need for additional marketing outreach or invitations.

Projected impact factor for 2025 is 4.3 (5,633 citations in 2025 to 1,324 citable items published in 2023 and 2024), up from 4.2 in 2024.

A background graphic consisting of a network of interconnected nodes and lines, resembling a molecular or biological structure, rendered in light gray. The nodes are of varying sizes and are connected by thin lines, creating a complex, web-like pattern that fills the upper and lower portions of the page.

FASEB BioAdvances: Key Metrics

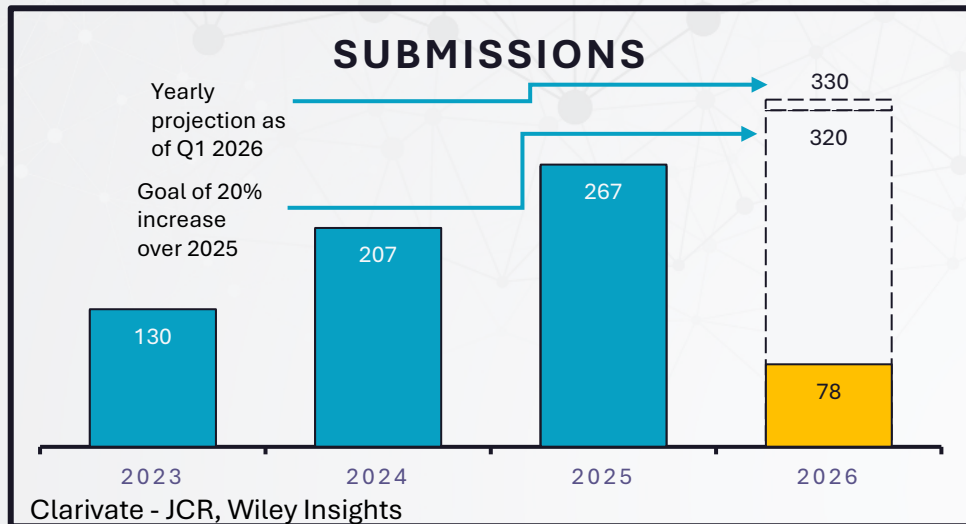
FASEB BioAdvances 2026 Q1 Dashboard



Submissions and articles published grew slightly in Q1 (3% and 13%, respectively, over this period in 2025).

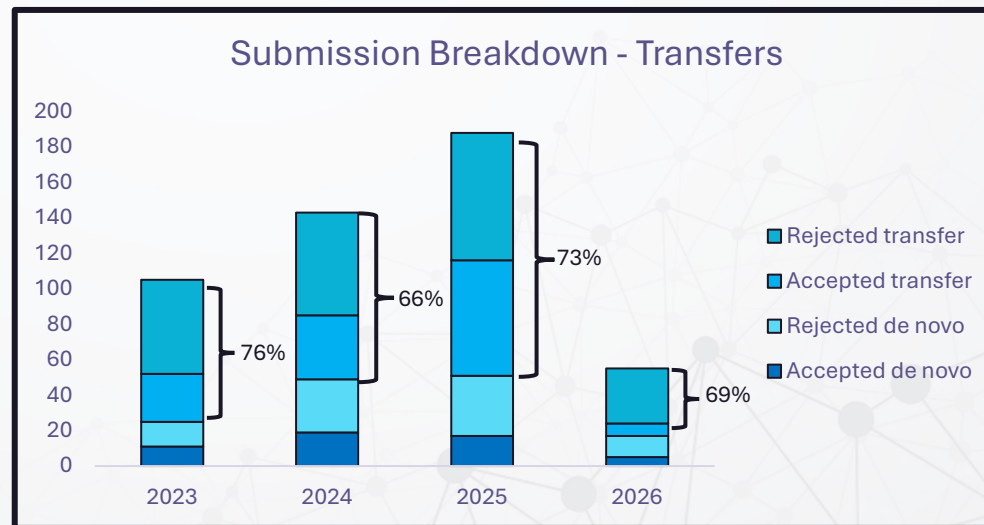
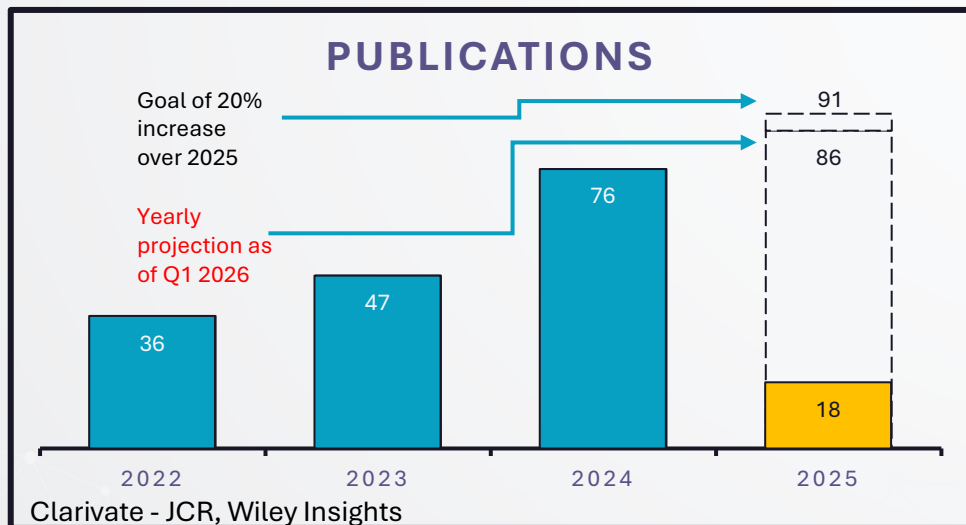
The period of time from submission to first decision dropped by 8 days, but the time period from acceptance to online publication jumped up by 5 days in Q1 from 2025.

FASEB BioAdvances 2026 Q1 Dashboard



We are on track to meet our goal of 20% increase in submissions in 2026 set in the 2026 operating plan, and published article output is currently only projected to grow by 13.8%.

Projected impact factor for 2025 is 2.3 (192 citations in 2025 to 82 citable publications published in 2023 and 2024), up from 2.0 in 2024.



Projected 2025 IF:

2.3

DRAFT FASEB Comments in Response to Proposed Framework for NIH-Wide Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2027 – 2031

*Background: The [Request for Information \(RFI\)](#) – similar to the two prior iterations used for establishing NIH-Wide Strategic Plans – is relatively high-level. The resulting plan is not intended to address everything NIH does but should focus on the agency’s central themes, with details to be covered by individual Institute and Center strategic plans. **Responses are limited to 500 words per Priority Area.***

Priority Area 1: Research Areas

- Goal 1: Advance Foundational Knowledge of Human Health and Disease
- Goal 2: Prevent Disease and Promote Health Across the Lifespan
- Goal 3: Advance and Optimize Interventions, Treatments, and Cures

Draft FASEB Response

Overall, FASEB agrees that the proposed goals within Priority Area 1: Research Areas align with the NIH mission. However, we are concerned that the emphasis on applied or translational research in two of the three goals signals a potential shift in future funding priorities. NIH’s long-standing commitment to supporting research investigating the underlying mechanisms of human biology has furthered scientific understanding and identified new strategies for treating and curing diseases, recent examples being the expanded utility of GLP-1s and development of immunotherapies. To ensure NIH continues to support a robust discovery pipeline, we urge the agency to maintain the current ratio of grants supporting foundational research versus those supporting clinical applications at approximately 60 – 40 and guided by scientific merit.

FASEB views this Priority Area as an opportunity to promote the role of basic research in informing evidence-based, validated methods in diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease. Efforts funded across NIH’s 27 Institutes and Centers highlight the value of studying biological questions from different perspectives and among different populations. Thus, we recommend that all three goals within this Priority Area highlight the need to assess research findings and test interventions in diverse populations to fully understand their long-term implications. Similarly, we encourage incorporation of language of how the strategic plans of individual Institutes, Centers, and Offices will be integrated into this Priority Area to facilitate collaborative and complementary efforts.

Animal models remain essential to basic research across many fields, enabling investigators to study the full complexity of living systems in ways that current alternative methodologies cannot replicate. FASEB urges NIH to sustain support for the full range of research models and to ensure that decisions about their use are grounded in scientific evidence. The development of safe and effective therapies depends on a robust preclinical research continuum. FASEB urges NIH to protect all scientifically relevant preclinical research tools — including nonhuman primate studies — and to ensure that complete replacement of animal research occurs only for systems in which validated novel alternative methods (NAMS) can perform as well or better than the accepted animal models.

[343 of 500 words]

Priority Area 2: Research Capacity

- Goal 1: Develop and Sustain an Interdisciplinary Research Workforce
- Goal 2: Build, Improve, and Sustain Research Resources and Infrastructure

Draft FASEB Response

FASEB agrees with the proposed prioritization of research capacity building within the agency-wide strategic plan, and the Federation has a long history of supporting efforts to develop and sustain a research workforce committed to rigorous experimental design and prepared to utilize a range of approaches and tools to solve scientific questions. Decades of investment in research capacity – spurred by partnership between NIH and research and patient communities – established the U.S. as a leader in biomedical research. Stalled investments jeopardized this status in the early 2000s; however, this leadership is at an even greater risk following the implementation of policies that abruptly altered the research landscape. Many of the programs previously in place to foster development of the next generation of researchers – particularly those in regions with fewer research resources – were eliminated in the past year due to nonalignment with administration priorities. Thus, part of this priority area must include efforts to retain and rebuild trust with a generation of early-career researchers who are unsure whether there is a place for them and their research in the NIH funding portfolio.

FASEB also urges NIH to protect and strengthen shared research infrastructure, including the National Primate Research Centers and other animal research/care facilities, and to ensure that any changes to federal support for research resources are grounded in

scientific evidence and developed in transparent consultation with the research community. Proposals to repurpose or defund critical research infrastructure in the absence of validated alternatives would stymie American biomedical progress and compromise animal welfare.

Similarly, FASEB supports responsible integration of NAMs into the research enterprise and recommends NIH ensures that investments in emerging methodologies complement, rather than displace, the infrastructure and oversight systems that ensure ethical, high-quality animal research.

[285 of 500 Words]

Priority Area 3: Research Operations

- Goal 1: Enhance Scientific Stewardship and Decision-Making
- Goal 2: Foster Transparency and Accountability to Improve Public Trust in Science

Draft FASEB Response

On the surface, FASEB agrees with the intention of including Research Operations as part of an agency-wide strategic plan. However, given the experience of the past year, during which numerous critical checkpoints intended to ensure proper stewardship and transparency of research supported by American taxpayers were ignored or even eliminated, we are skeptical of what steps the agency would take in this current iteration to fulfill these goals. The active reduction of federal advisory committees coupled with significant delays in appointing experts to serve on Institute and Center Advisory Councils – Congressionally mandated as part of NIH’s two-part peer review process – is antithetical to the goals in this priority area.

While Goal 2 is rightfully focused on fostering transparency and accountability to improve public trust in science, what is missing is a comparable goal focused on building the same with the research community. This gap has been particularly notable in the past year during which agency-wide communications were consolidated, significantly reduced, or even absent. The community certainly appreciates efforts to streamline communications, particularly when it simplifies processes associated with grant applications; however, NIH can best serve the research community when it is viewed as a partner. Several significant policy changes affecting issues ranging from multi-year funding and peer review processes to animal research were implemented over the past year without formal opportunities for

public input – actively decreasing transparency in decision making. Therefore, FASEB urges NIH to utilize structured, transparent mechanisms — including public comment periods — for engaging the research community on policy changes that affect research methodology, infrastructure, and oversight.

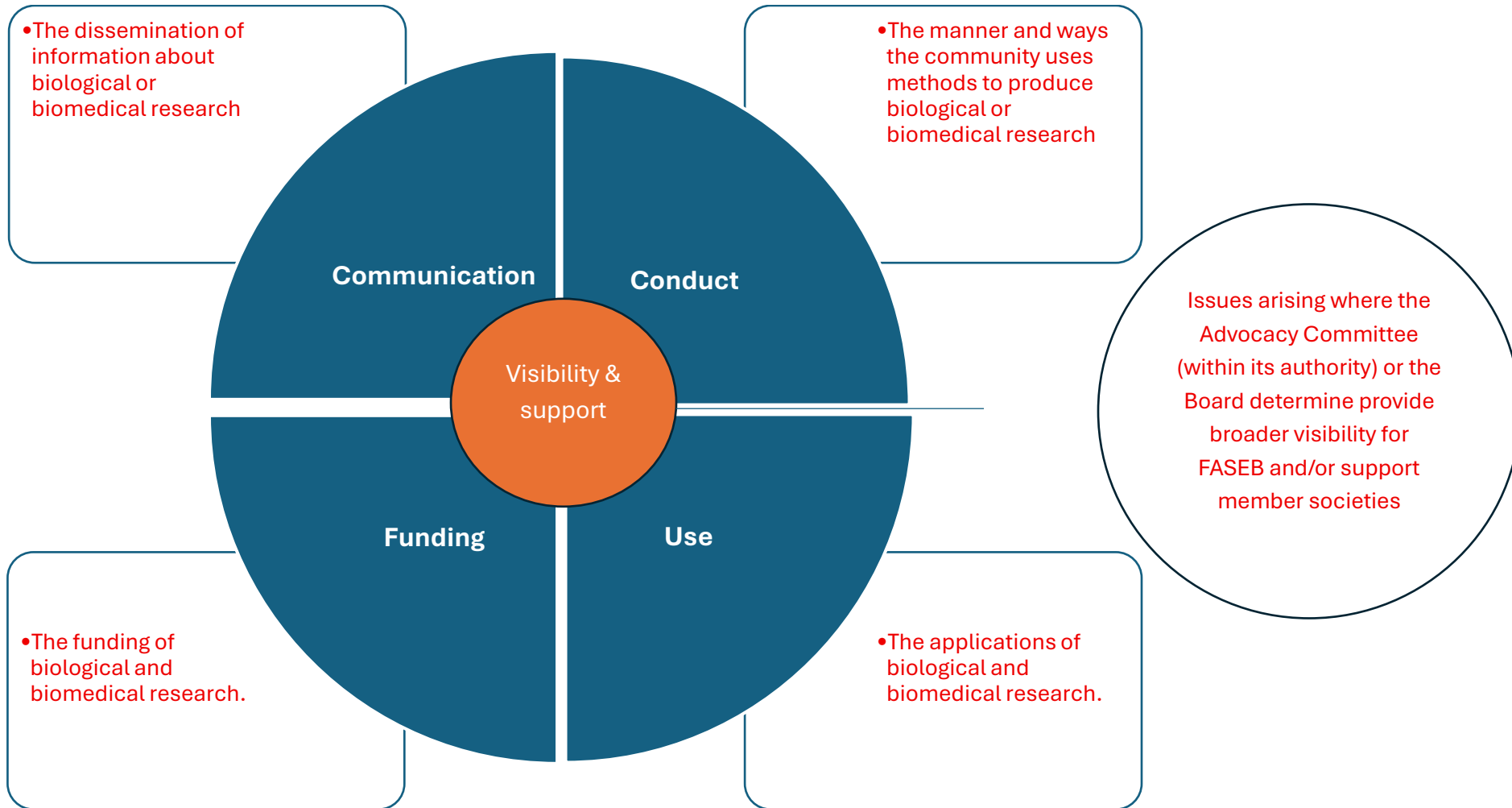
Evidence-based decision-making must govern any transitions in research methodology. FASEB supports NIH investment in the development and validation of new approach methodologies (NAMs); however, methodological transitions should be required only where scientific readiness has been clearly established. Decisions to de-prioritize or restrict animal research before validated alternatives are available risk compromising scientific rigor and slowing progress toward NIH's public health mission.

Similarly, public trust in science depends on accurate, evidence-based communication about research methods and their limitations. Thus, FASEB urges NIH to ensure that all public communications and policy decisions regarding research models — including animal research and NAMs — reflect the current state of the science and are free from ideological or political influence.

[371 out of 500 words]

Criteria for FASEB Advocacy Priorities

FASEB will focus its advocacy activities on efforts that support the funding, communication, conduct, and use of biological and biomedical research while also increasing the federation's visibility with policy makers and the public.



Revised criteria agreed to at the March 19, 2026 Board meeting.

Summary of Advocacy Priorities Flip Charts March 2026 Board Meeting Exercise

FASEB Advocacy Priority AGENCIES

Highest Number of “Votes” (5+)

- NIH
- NSF
- BARDA
- VA Office of Research and Development
- EPA Office of Research and Development
- USDA Agricultural Research Service + National Institute of Food and Agriculture
- Department of Energy Office of Science + National Labs
- US Army Medical Research and Development Command (DoD Biomedical Research)
- White House Office of Science and Technology Policy

Lowest Number of “Votes” (1-2)

- DARPA
- NIST
- Office of Naval Research
- AHRQ
- NASA
- NOAA
- USUHS

FASEB Advocacy Priority ISSUES

Highest Number of “Votes” (5+)

- Combatting Science Misinformation/Disinformation
- Support for Next Generation of Researchers (Graduate Students)
- F&A/Indirect Costs
- Support for International Students
- Supporting Early Career Researchers
- Use of Animals in Research
- Multi-Year/Forward Funding
- Publications Environment
- Vaccines
- NIH Reform (Structure of Agency)
- Research Integrity/Research Misconduct

Lowest Number of “Votes” (1-3)

- Reducing Administrative Burden
- International Collaborations
- Artificial Intelligence

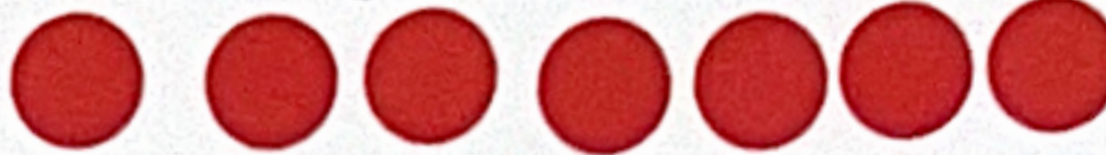
Which of the following federal science **AGENCIES** should be priorities for FASEB's advocacy activities?

- Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
- Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA)


- Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)
- Dept. of Homeland Security: Directorate for Science and Technology (S&T)


- DOE: National Laboratories
- DOE: Office of Science (DOE SC)



Environmental Protection Agency Office of Research and Development




Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA)

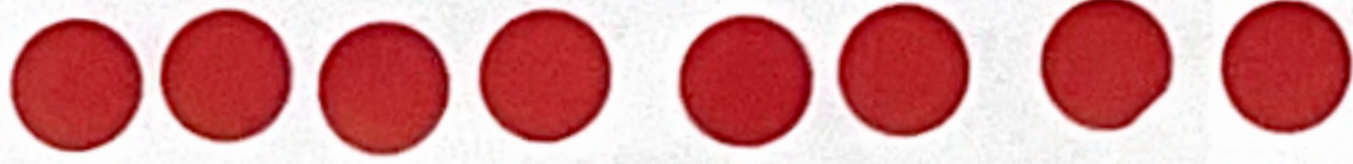

 National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)


 National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

 National Institutes of Health (NIH) 

National Nanotechnology Initiative

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) 

 National Science Foundation (NSF) 

Office of Naval Research (ONR) 

Which of the following federal science **AGENCIES** should be priorities for FASEB's advocacy activities?

Office of Science and Technology Policy

Smithsonian Institution Research Centers and Programs

U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command (USAMRDC) - funds Dept. of Defense biomedical research

Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS)

USDA: Agricultural Research Service (ARS)

USDA: Economic Research Service (ERS)

USDA: National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

USDA: United States Forest Service Research and Development (R&D)

Veterans Administration Office of Research - funds Medical and Prosthetic Research Program

Department of Defense (DOD)

Feedback from the FASEB Publications Committee

The Publications Committee generally agreed that FASEB is positioned to expand into subject areas such as cancer, cardiovascular science, and disease and disease prevention without creating significant overlap with FASEB member societies. This could enable FASEB to compete more directly with the large number of commercial titles currently publishing in these areas. The committee emphasized that any expansion should consider competitive positioning, manuscript flow, and FASEB's reputation for quality.

A consistent theme was the need to better understand rejected manuscript outcomes. The committee wants to ensure that FASEB is not rejecting manuscripts of value, as well as analyzing the geographic distribution of outcomes to ensure no bias existed. Members also asked for a better understanding of how many manuscripts were rejected after peer review and whether articles later published elsewhere may have been strengthened by the FASEB review process, particularly in light of in which journals they were eventually published.

Among the topical areas discussed, cancer presented the strongest quantitative opportunity. The committee noted that many existing cancer journals are narrowly scoped which could create space for a broader journal with a clearly defined scope. Members mentioned that submissions from China appeared strong in this area which is relevant since a high percentage of submissions originate from China for *FASEB Journal*. A potential scope could focus on the basic biology of cancer, including cell signaling, metabolism, and genetic mechanisms, creating a home for mechanistic cancer research that bridges cell biology, genetics, and disease in a way that multidisciplinary journals may not.

Neuroscience was considered as a potential topical area but viewed as more challenging. Members noted this space includes substantial competition from journals affiliated with the Society for Neuroscience, the International Society for Molecular Neurodegeneration, and the Alzheimer's Association. Any journal in this area would need a clearly differentiated scope. One suggestion was to explore a co-launch with a non-FASEB society partner.

A disease and disease prevention journal received support and was mentioned more than once as a promising direction, avoiding conflict with member societies. A cardiovascular journal was viewed as another area worth exploring further.

By contrast, a new journal based on manuscript types, such as Reviews, Letters, or Data Reports, was not favored in the near-term. Concerns included the business plan, limited enthusiasm for the formats themselves, the likelihood of lower citation performance, and the need for further experimentation within the current FASEB portfolio to determine author interest in these manuscript types.

Finally, the committee flagged the importance of portfolio strategy. Members emphasized that any newly launched journal should complement rather than weaken *FASEB BioAdvances*, particularly given the potential for manuscripts that might otherwise flow to *FASEB BioAdvances*. A future proposal should address how a new title will

complement *FASEB BioAdvances*, including its anticipated effect on manuscript transfer patterns, as well as financial projections and evaluation criteria (a rubric) for board review.

FASEB New Publications Launch Evaluation Rubric

FASEB Cancer

Instructions: Rate each item on a scale of 1-5, where:

5 = Strongly supports launch

4 = Supports launch

3 = Neutral

2 = Raises some concerns

1 = Strongly opposes launch

Calculate section subtotals and an overall score.

1. Strategic Alignment & Mission Fit (Weight: 25%)

1.1 Alignment with FASEB Mission

Does the new publications product directly advance FASEB's core mission and values?

A new FASEB journal focused specifically on cancer would directly advance FASEB's core mission to advance biological and biomedical research by providing a dedicated, high-visibility platform for important discoveries in cancer biology, translational oncology, and therapeutic innovation. Cancer remains a persistent medical dilemma with growing, but limited therapies and remains one of the most significant challenges in biomedical science intersecting with many disciplines represented across FASEB member societies, including molecular biology, genetics, metabolism, and systems biology. By curating rigorous, high-quality research and fostering interdisciplinary exchange, the journal could help accelerate the dissemination of knowledge that informs progress in cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. In doing so, it would strengthen FASEB's role in bringing scientific communities together and advancing research that improves human health.

A cancer journal would also reflect FASEB's core values of scientific integrity, inclusivity, collaboration, and advocacy by creating a publishing venue that prioritizes transparent peer review, reproducibility, and global representation. The journal could serve as a platform to amplify underrepresented voices, including early-career researchers and scientists from regions where cancer burden is rising but research visibility remains limited. Many high-profile cancer-specific journals do not publish content related to any other areas of biology, limiting their readership to only those working in cancer. A FASEB cancer journal would have a broader focus, and would provide opportunities for cross-society collaboration, special issues, and policy-relevant content that informs funding priorities and public health strategies.

This relevance is already evident in FASEB's existing scientific activities. Nearly 20% of FASEB's Scientific Research Conferences relate to cancer and associated disease mechanisms, demonstrating that researchers already look to FASEB to disseminate their findings at meetings. At the same time, FASEB's advocacy work, including sustained attention to NIH and NCI funding, positions the federation to connect publishing with broader research and public health priorities. Together, these strengths make a cancer journal a natural extension of FASEB's mission and an opportunity to advance the mission further through the publications portfolio.

FASEB New Publications Launch Evaluation Rubric

Rating: 5/5

1.2 Fills a Gap in Current Portfolio

Does the new publications product address an underserved area not covered by existing BioCore or FASEB member society publications?

Yes. While some topical overlap exists (see Section 2.4 for additional details), the data suggest that FASEB member societies and BioCore currently capture only a small fraction of the broader cancer research market. Across the thirteen Web of Science meso-citation topics analyzed,¹ the FASEB member society portfolio published 7,018 original research articles between 2021 and 2025 compared with 231,654 original articles across the field overall, or about 3.03% of the total output. This indicates the FASEB member society portfolio does not broadly cover the field and there is a meaningful space for expansion. A new broadly scoped cancer journal would help address the gap in coverage and strengthen FASEB's presence in an area where many of the articles are captured by commercial publishers.

Rating: 8/10

1.3 Enhances FASEB Reputation

Will the new publications product strengthen FASEB's standing in the global community?

A new FASEB cancer journal would strengthen FASEB's global standing by building on areas where the federation already has a strong reputation while expanding into new target regions. Cancer research is one of the most visible and internationally active areas of biomedical science, and FASEB already draws a highly global author base, with more than 80% of submissions to *The FASEB Journal* originating from Asia. A dedicated cancer journal would help create new opportunities to strengthen FASEB's presence in Europe and Latin America, with opportunities for board appointments, special issues, and collaborative initiatives with FASEB member societies. It would also align with existing organizational strengths, including strong researcher participation in cancer-related Science Research Conferences and sustained advocacy for NIH and NCI funding in the US. Together, these factors make a cancer journal a natural way to increase the visibility, relevance, and global reach of the publications portfolio.

Rating: 5/5

Section Score: 18/20

¹ Molecular & Cell Biology – Cancer & Development; Liver & Colon Cancer; Soft Tissue, Bone & Nerve Cancers; Breast Cancer Screening; Prostate Cancer; Lung Cancer; Cancer Drugs; Molecular & Cell Biology – Cancer, Autophagy & Apoptosis; Oncology; Molecular & Cell Biology – Immunotherapy; Molecular & Cell Biology – DNA Damage; Lymphomas; and Asbestos & Mesothelioma

FASEB New Publications Launch Evaluation Rubric

2. Scholarly Need & Market Demand (Weight: 25%)

2.1 Demonstrated Gap

Is there clear evidence of publication needs that a federation/society journal could better meet for the community?

There appears to be a meaningful opportunity for a non-profit, society focused cancer journal to make a real impact in this competitive space. Many of the identified competitive cancer publications are offered by commercial publishers, which charge significant publication fees creating a gap for a journal that is more directly aligned with the needs and values of the research community. A society-led title could differentiate itself not only through strong editorial leadership, but through thoughtful use of research integrity tools that support rigorous review, strengthen trust in published findings, and improve author confidence in the publication process.

Rating: 4/5

2.2 Author Pipeline/Demand

Is there a sufficient pool of potential authors and quality submissions? Will they be attracted to FASEB?

Based on 231,654 publications in this area between 2021 and 2025 (Web of Science), the market appears large enough to support a new journal. Over the same period, 1,395 oncology submissions were received by *The FASEB Journal*, making oncology its sixth-largest topical area and demonstrating that FASEB already attracts authors in this field. A new cancer journal would be expected to grow submission volume by creating a stronger transfer pathway for oncology-related manuscripts already entering the portfolio while also attracting new direct submissions from authors seeking a journal focused specifically on cancer research. This would expand FASEB's presence in the field and improve its ability to retain strong content currently being published elsewhere, often in higher impact journals. It would also give FASEB a stronger basis to market itself as a trusted, society-led home for cancer research.

Rating: 5/5

2.3 Competitive Landscape

Does the competitive analysis support launching a new publications product now?

To determine potential competitors for a FASEB cancer journal, we reviewed journals indexed in the SCIE category of "oncology" with an impact factor greater than 3.4 and more than 200 publications annually, and then manually refined the set to identify the most relevant competitors and estimate potential manuscript capture in year 1.

The competitive landscape (Table 1) suggests there is a credible opportunity for a FASEB Cancer journal in the 7-8 impact factor range. (To estimate a realistic impact factor range for the proposed journal, we analyzed the publication outcomes of rejected manuscripts from *The FASEB Journal*

FASEB New Publications Launch Evaluation Rubric

and used the impact factors of those destination journals to inform the projection.) At the lower end of the market, many journals are commercial (BMC or MDPI) but are affiliated with European societies and offer discounted publishing charges to members. FASEB will need to compete not only with its strong marketing but a clearly differentiated author value proposition.

FASEB appears well positioned to compete by combining direct submissions with transfers of cancer-related manuscripts already submitted to *The FASEB Journal*. A society-led title, paired with strong research integrity tools, community alignment, and a mid to high first impact factor would offer authors a very competitive alternative.

Table 1. Potential competitor journals and proposed capture in year 1.

Potential Competitor Journals	Publisher	2024 JIF	Citable items for JCR 2024	Potential Capture
Current Oncology	MDPI	3.4	585	20 (3.3%)
BMC Cancer	BMC	3.4	1,551	26 (1.7%)
Cancer Science	Wiley	4.3	327	5 (1.5%)
Cancers	MDPI	4.4	4,182	139 (3.3%)
International Journal of Cancer	Wiley	4.7	415	7 (1.7%)
Cancer	Wiley	5.1	300	--
Cancer Cells International	BMC	6.0	406	--
European Journal of Cancer	Elsevier	7.1	329	--
Journal of the National Cancer Institute	OUP	7.2	204	--
Oncogene	Springer Nature	7.3	287	--
FASEB Cancer	TBD	[7.6 - 8.2]	--	--
Cancer Letters	Elsevier	10.1	560	--

Rating: 5/5

FASEB New Publications Launch Evaluation Rubric

2.4 Community Impact

Does the plan impede BioCore or any of FASEB's member societies?

Across a range of molecular and cell biology and cancer-related subfields, we analyzed five years of publication outputs from FASEB member society journals to assess potential overlap. The goal was to keep impact on a given society below 10% of its published output. In a limited number of notable cases, projected overlap exceeded that threshold. The draft scope was further refined to avoid direct competition and to ensure clear differentiation from member society journals, removing pathology, histochemistry, developmental biology, and genetics from the scope, and focusing more specifically on mechanism, epidemiology, and translational science. If *FASEB Cancer* receives submissions that are outside its defined scope, full member societies may work with the Chief Publications Officer to establish an API-enabled manuscript transfer pathway in 2027. This approach is intended to not simply avoid competing with member society publications but to support their growth by creating clearer pathways for relevant manuscripts to remain within the federation's portfolio. Although the final editorial scope will be determined by the Editor-in-Chief, a draft proposed scope that does not compete with FASEB member societies is proposed:

FASEB Cancer publishes research spanning the biological and biomedical continuum of cancer, with a focus on molecular mechanisms, cellular and systems biology, epidemiology, and clinical science. The journal seeks to occupy a distinct space in the oncology literature: studies centered on histopathological diagnosis, genomics, or developmental biology fall outside its scope, as these are well served by dedicated journals in those fields. We particularly welcome work that bridges basic cancer biology with therapeutic and population science.

FASEB Cancer would be positioned with a broad scope to serve as a transfer nexus for cancer-related content already entering the FASEB portfolio and compete for submissions from other broadly scoped commercial cancer journals, rather than to draw content away from more specialized member society titles.

Rating: 8/10

Section Score: 22/25

FASEB New Publications Launch Evaluation Rubric

3. Financial Viability (Weight: 25%)

3.1 Revenue Potential

Are projected revenues realistic?

Revenue projections are viewed as reasonable based on the initial discussions initiated with Wiley to date. Following formal Board approval, the financial assumptions will be further refined.

Rating: 5/5

3.2 Cost Management

Have all launch and ongoing costs been captured and are they modest/achievable while also growing the federation's contributions?

Annual modeled expenses include editorial honoraria, travel, and editorial support; peer review platform and research integrity tools; advertising, promotion, sponsorship, and graphic design; Managing Editor and Senior Marketing Manager support including benefits and travel; and the cost of soliciting 10-20 articles annually with waived page charges. The federation's contribution reflects the journal's annual net contribution after direct expenses but before longer-term strategic investment in the product and reflects a nice return.

Rating: 5/5

3.3 Break-Even Timeline

Is the timeline for break-even acceptable (typically 3-5 years)?

The journal is expected to reach breakeven in its third full year, which is considered an acceptable timeline for launch investment.

Rating: 5/5

3.4 Financial Risk

Can the publications budget absorb potential losses during the development and launch period without drawing from FASEB's reserves?

The publications team budgeted for the launch of a new product this year and can absorb the investment in 2026 without drawing on FASEB's reserves. Staff have the capacity to support key launch activities including the Editor-in-Chief search, peer review system setup, onboarding the editorial board, and content solicitation. Overall, the potential benefits of launching a new title, including attracting new authors, retaining manuscripts, expanding revenue, and diversifying the portfolio, outweigh the risks of deferring this opportunity.

Rating: 5/5

FASEB New Publications Launch Evaluation Rubric

3.5 Funding Sources

Are the authors who would publish here well-funded? Is that funding growing or declining over time?

Cancer-related publications to *The FASEB Journal* are supported by a diverse international funding base, led by major public research funders across China, the United States, Europe, Japan, Canada, and Korea².

While funding for cancer research in the US remains stable, ongoing policy changes make investment uncertain. Internationally however, cancer research investment remains strong, particularly in China and Europe (where there are dedicated [Healthy China 2030](#) and [Cancer Mission](#), respectively). This positions FASEB well, as the majority of manuscripts received are international and the journal won't be reliant on a single national funding environment.

Rating: 5/5

Section Score: 25/25

4. Operational Capacity & Resources (Weight: 15%)

4.1 Staff Resources

Does the team have capacity, or can additional resources be secured and shared with other needs to manage costs & resources?

The proposal assumes 20% effort from our Managing Editor and 33% effort from our Senior Marketing Manager in year 1, declining to 16% in subsequent years. Editorial support from a vendor is included in the budget, as are research integrity tools, although any additional effort from the Associate Director of Research Integrity is not currently reflected. The team has capacity to support the journal as proposed, but if growth outpaces expectations or staff contribution rises materially, additional resourcing may be warranted.

Rating: 5/5

² Top 10 Funders: National Natural Science Foundation of China (34.8%), NIH (11.8%), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (2.4%), German Research Foundation (1.9%), Canadian Institutes of Health Research (1.5%), National Research Foundation of Korea (1.5%), US Department of Veterans Affairs (1.1%), American Heart Association (0.9%), National Science Foundation (0.9%), Research Foundation of Finland (0.9%).

FASEB New Publications Launch Evaluation Rubric

4.2 Editorial Leadership

Is the plan sufficient to secure strong editorial leadership?

Given FASEB's strong reputation and the promise of a solid working relationship with Loren Wold, the journal should be well positioned to recruit a strong Editor-in-Chief. The budget assumes three Associate Editors at launch, with two additional Associate Editors added as the journal grows. These editors would be research-active scientists whose expertise reflects the depth and breadth of the cancer field and who serve as ambassadors of both the discipline and society-led publishing. All editors would be compensated on a per-manuscript basis for their work.

Rating: 5/5

4.3 Infrastructure & Systems

Are publishing platforms, peer review systems, workflows ready or easily adaptable?

The journal will leverage existing infrastructure across the FASEB portfolio to support a more seamless launch. Although the peer review system will transition in Q3-Q4, data migration is expected to occur with sufficient lead time. The journal will benefit from access to an established reviewer pool with cancer expertise, helping provide a strong editorial and peer review foundation from launch.

Rating: 5/5

4.4 Vendors/Publishing Partners

Will you be able to secure a financially attractive relationship with a publisher necessary to achieve the goals outlined?

Discussions with Wiley are already underway regarding a potential partner-publishing arrangement with an attractive royalty structure.

Rating: 5/5

Section Score: 20/20

5. Innovation (Weight: 10%)

5.1 Adaptability

Is the new publications product positioned to evolve with changing community needs?

As a society-led journal, we are well positioned to make changes in service of the community. We will monitor shifts in the field, including emerging areas of cancer research and what authors and readers need most. The journal will have a strong research integrity infrastructure from launch that will allow us to adapt to changing expectations around transparency, peer review, AI use, and trust.

FASEB New Publications Launch Evaluation Rubric

Rating: 5/5

5.4 Innovation

Does the new publications product provide some innovation?

FASEB Cancer will be designed as a modern, community-centered journal that reflects how cancer research is increasingly conducted, communicated, and applied. In a crowded publishing landscape, its innovation will not lie in a single feature, but in a cohesive approach that unifies multi-format scientific communication with a deeply collaborative, translational focus hosted by a trusted society with a long history of publishing highly innovative scientific content.

A central area of innovation will be the journal's commitment to integrated, multi-format dissemination, with a particular emphasis on video abstracts as a core component of the author experience. The journal will move beyond the traditional article format by actively encouraging authors to submit short, accessible video summaries alongside their manuscripts, enabling researchers to communicate the significance of their work in a more engaging and widely consumable format. These video abstracts will not be treated as just optional add-ons, but as a strategic tool to enhance visibility, accessibility, and shareability across digital platforms.

These approaches are intended to establish a strong foundation for innovation, while allowing flexibility for future development. Central to this strategy is a commitment to multi-format dissemination that extends the impact of published research beyond the traditional article. The Editor-in-Chief will play a key role in further shaping and advancing this vision.

This approach will be complemented by curating thematic special collections or issues that spotlight emerging areas of cancer research with integrated promotion across formats. Selected articles and collections may be further amplified through coordinated press and outreach strategies. Additionally, the journal may pilot webinars tied to special collections or issues, providing a forum for authors to present and discuss their research in a more interactive setting.

These concepts are intended as examples rather than fixed launch commitments; a key goal of the Editor-in-Chief search will be to identify a leader with a strong vision for the journal and the ability to translate that vision into a differentiated editorial and community strategy.

Rating: 7/10

Section Score: 12/15