

Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) North America Annual Meeting Roles and Responsibilities of a Program Committee Member

The Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry North America (SNA) annual meeting brings together environmental professionals to advance the society's [mission](#). The meeting is planned in a manner that is consistent with SETAC's [principles and values](#). Further, the meeting organization evolves based on the society's [strategic goals](#) and priorities. The meeting is an important scientific and community-building event for our membership under the oversight of the board of directors (board). The organization of SNA annual meetings is a true collaboration between the SNA board, the SNA executive director and staff, and the SNA annual meeting program committee (program committee). The charge to the program committee is to prepare the scientific and community-building programs of the annual meeting under the oversight of the board, consistent with the [annual meeting guidelines](#).

Annually, SNA issues an open call for program committee members soliciting individuals from the region where the meeting will take place who have the demonstrated leadership at SETAC. The board then appoints a committee of 16 members. The committee members are selected to represent balance by sector (academic, business, government, association), diversity of expertise, regional representation, and individual diversity consistent with SETAC's principles and values.

Members of the program committee are expected to represent scientific excellence and exhibit high levels of scientific integrity and ethical responsibility. They are also expected to demonstrate living SETAC's [principles and values](#) and have a commitment to volunteerism. Committee members get great visibility in the environmental science community in North America. Committee members grow their network and develop leadership skills while serving the society.

The program committee as a whole consists of two or three co-chair(s) and around 16 members who divide into either the scientific or the social subcommittee. Typically, each of the subcommittees are chaired by one of the meeting chairs and the third chair coordinates the shared duties of the entire committee such as coordinating and managing the volunteers during meeting.

The scientific subcommittee is responsible for the development, organization, and evaluation of the scientific program (plenaries, session, symposia) for the SNA annual meeting. This subcommittee is composed of the program committee chairs, and other members in such a manner as to ensure balance in scientific expertise. The community subcommittee is responsible for planning social and networking events (e.g., socials, excursions, student-mentor event, meeting guide program for first time attendees) and often includes members who have close ties to the area where the meeting will be held.

Program Committee members are expected to commit to volunteering during the 12–18-month period prior to the meeting to help develop a robust program. Committee members commit to 2-4 hours per month for 10 months the year of the meeting, depending on level of engagement. Scientific subcommittee members also commit to around 8 hours in March for session review and 30-40 hours in late June for abstract review. Finally, all committee members are expected to volunteer during the meeting.