

Conflict of Interest Policy, SICB Awards and Nominations

Adopted by SICB Executive Committee, Fall 2023

The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology recognizes that all candidates for an award given by the Society, or any Committee or Division of the Society, or candidates for a nomination for a position within the Society, should have a fair and equitable opportunity to win an award or receive a nomination.

All reasonable efforts will be made by each award-granting or nominating body to avoid actual (and when possible, potential) conflicts of interest in the evaluation of candidates. **At a minimum, no candidate should be judged by a current or former advisor, a close collaborator, or a colleague from their own department.** If a reasonable person familiar with the relationship between the committee member and the candidate might believe there to be a conflict of interest in the committee member evaluating the candidate, SICB requests that the committee member recuse themselves from evaluation of that candidate.

Situations will likely arise where a committee member has a conflict of interest with respect to a candidate for an award or position. If that committee member has a decision-making role regarding the award or position, that committee member should recuse themselves from evaluation of that candidate, and if needed, that committee member should be replaced by another appropriate officer or member of the division or committee in that role.

It is the responsibility of the Chair of the award or nominating committee to notify the SICB Secretary of any direct conflicts of interest, to oversee the implementation of this policy in their committee, and to record the resolution of any conflicts of interest within their committee.