



American Society of Acupuncturists 712 H Street,
Suite 1189
Washington, D.C., 20002

2024

Charter: ASA Research Committee

I. Purpose

Improving research opportunities, access to funding (grants), and academic rigor for acupuncturists performing research to promote awareness of all advancements related to acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Promoting awareness of acupuncture research findings.

ASA goal overall is to do this on the national level

Support ASA research initiatives

Provide vetted research summaries for the benefit of ASA and other committees (advocacy and insurance for examples).

II. Composition

The Research Committee (RC) shall be initially composed of 5 ASA members that are vetted by the Nominating Committee (NC) for a term of two years and maximum of three terms.

Applicants must submit a committee application to be reviewed by the NC, the RC Chair, and Board Liaison.

Appointment will be based on the applicant's individual skills and current needs of the Research Committee.

The NC has the authority to make changes and recommend candidates to fill vacancies on the RC.

The RC will have at least three members and a maximum of seven.

RC membership terms shall be staggered when possible to maintain continuity of ASA institutional knowledge and experience.

The RC Chair shall be determined by the members of the BOD and vetted by the NC.

The RC Chair will work closely with the liaison to the Board to establish process and structure.

III. Committee Members

Preferred Experience

Previous research and/or education experience
Comfortable writing and developing documentation.
Experience working in interdisciplinary teams

Desirable Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities (SKAs)

Knowledge of scientific research
Grant writing experience
Communicates effectively and credibly in both oral and written context
Knowledge of ASA processes as well as academic processes.
Grant administration experience
Human Subjects Training (CITI)

Professional and Personal Attributes

Demonstrates personal and professional integrity
Awareness and respect for different viewpoints across various disciplines and associations
Cooperative, yet decisive.

Responsibilities

Raises awareness around acupuncture research within the profession and throughout the medical/ academic community.

Maintains and encourages rigorous standards for the writing of Institutional Review Board (IRB) applications, the publication of research, , and education processes around research.

Performs studies on the acupuncture workforce and facilitates the distribution of metrics relevant to the professional practice of acupuncture. (In collaboration with NCCAOM)

Interface with the Society for Acupuncture Research (SAR)

Seeks grant funding and coordinates grant projects

Considers ways that research can support legislative activities

Interfaces with the other organizations working in acupuncture and TCM to support our members: ACAHM, CCAHM, NCCAOM.

IV. Meetings

The RC shall meet at least nine times per year.

Minutes will be taken at each meeting.

V. Order of Operations

Questions or concerns within the RC shall be brought to the RC Chair and the ASA Board Liaison.

Matters requiring the Board's attention shall be brought to the Board of Directors (BOD) by the Board Liaison.

If any member of the RC has unresolved concerns about the RC Chair or other members, they may bring them to the Board Liaison and vice versa.

VI. Current Positions

Chair: Lisa Conboy

Members: Sam Allen, Beth Howlett, Judy Schlaeger, Tuesday Wasserman,
Martha Graziano, Kathy Taromina

Board Liaison: Nell Smircina

ASA Advocacy Committee Liaison: Amy Mager

Society for Acupuncture Research (SAR) Liaison: Sandro Graca

Expert Consultants: as needed

VII. Aspirations

A. Projects in 2024 might include:

Determine available models of IRB oversight; choose; establish best choice for ASA/CITI

Plan and Submit at least 2 funding applications which are ASA collaborations

Survey schools/members; research ideas, gaps in education

Create educational modules training research skills for members

Survey schools/members research ideas

Work with ACAOM & CCAOM to further research in the profession

Improve quality of acupuncture research performed and reported

Support acupuncturists to produce Practice-Based Research,

Implementation Research

Work more with other ASA committees such as mentorship and student committee