Travel Engagement Awards (TEA) for early career membership involvement and public outreach

The Early Career Development (ECD) and Public Information and Publicity (PIP) committees are pleased to announce Travel Engagement Awards (TEA), which are made possible through a joint ECD-PIP Synergizing Activities Among Committees (SAAC) grant awarded by the Board of Directors. This year, TEA stipends will provide support ($300 each) to six early career members who will be charged with facilitating further society engagement through both individual involvement with existing SFS programs and a joint project that they will conceive and develop with other TEA award winners.

How to Apply: Each TEA winner will be expected to (1) attend the annual meeting, (2) engage in one personal outreach activity that will benefit the ECD, PIP, and society as a whole (e.g., serve as an ECD-PIP liaison, join the PIP Twitter team, make a contribution to In The Drift or other social media outlets about experiences related to the annual meeting), and (3) serve on a short-term Communications, Outreach, and Education (COE) subcommittee (supervised jointly by the ECD and PIP) along with the other two TEA recipients in order to conceive and implement a communications and outreach activity to promote society interests. Members of COE will have extensive latitude to design the outreach activity, but it must facilitate engagement between the ECD and PIP throughout the year and culminate in a deliverable that occurs within the 2019-2020 calendar year leading up to and including the 2020 SFS annual meeting. For example, the COE subcommittee could contribute an article to Headwaters, engaging the ECD and PIP throughout the process for editorial support. Another possibility would be to develop a workshop activity in conjunction with the ECD and PIP for the 2020 SFS meeting. Yet another possibility would be to work with the ECD and PIP to develop a survey to gather data targeting the needs of different demographics within SFS. Award winners will agree to meet with several delegates from the ECD and PIP committees at the annual meeting in Salt Lake City in order to be introduced to other TEA recipients, brainstorm ideas for their joint activity, and establish an implementation plan that will involve integration with the ECD and PIP throughout the year. Additionally, award winners will have the opportunity to serve on the ECD or PIP committees for the 2019-2020 calendar year, should they be interested in further engagement. To apply, please e-mail a one-page statement to sfsearlycareer@gmail.com illustrating (1) your need for financial assistance to attend the 2019 SFS meeting in Salt Lake City, (2) a personal SFS outreach activity you intend to engage in during the 2019-2020 calendar year, and (3) your vision for working with other COE subcommittee members to develop a project that will benefit or promote the interests of SFS. Applications must be received by Wednesday, May 15th, at 5:00 p.m. (EDT).

Award Selection: Applications will be evaluated based on three primary criteria: (1) established financial need, (2) potential impact of proposed individual and COE group activities, and (3) eligibility. To be eligible for TEA, you must be an early career society members (within 10 years of your terminal degree) and have a current SFS society membership. The ECD and PIP will set up an awards selection subcommittee to objectively evaluate each application. TEA winners
will be notified on Friday, May 17th, and awards will be distributed at the SFS meeting in Salt Lake City.