

**Board of Editors in the Life Sciences
Board of Directors
Commitment to Serve 2025**

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITY I AM UNDERTAKING IN SERVING AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF EDITORS IN THE LIFE SCIENCES' BOARD OF DIRECTORS, I HEREBY PLEDGE TO CARRY OUT IN A TRUSTWORTHY AND DILIGENT MANNER ALL THE DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS INHERENT IN MY BELS LEADERSHIP ROLE.

MY ROLE

I acknowledge that my primary role as a member of the BELS Board of Directors is to contribute to the development of the organization's mission and to participate in governing the implementation of that mission.

My secondary role is to fulfill the functions of office delineated in the organization's bylaws. The implementation of this role is expressly limited to those activities and functions not directly or indirectly delegated to staff, committees and task forces.

MY DUTIES

As a BELS Board member, I pledge to willingly carry out the following duties with integrity, due care, and enthusiasm:

1. To establish as a high priority my attendance at all meetings of the Board, and Committees on which I serve.
2. To come prepared to contribute to the discussion of issues and business to be addressed at scheduled meetings, having read the agenda and any background support material relevant to the meeting.
3. To represent the organization in a positive and professional manner at all times and in all places. To serve as an ambassador for BELS with staff and other members of the organization.
4. To observe the parliamentary procedures outlined in Roberts Rules of Order and exhibit mutually respectful conduct in all meetings I attend.
5. To avoid conflicts of interest between my position as a Board member and my personal and professional life. If such a conflict does arise, I will declare that conflict before the Board, will refrain from participating in the discussion and will refrain from voting on any such matters in which I have a conflict of interest.
6. To be conscious of and avoid any conversations that could be construed as potential anti-trust violations.
7. To maintain strict confidentiality of all business discussed at meetings of the Board of Directors, disclosing to others only such information the Board authorizes as appropriate for membership or public dissemination.
8. To support in a positive manner all actions taken by the Board of Directors even when I am in a minority position on such actions.
9. To make every attempt to attend and assist at any BELS-related Meetings and Events.
10. To actively recruit members to serve on the BELS committees which I chair, hold meetings on a regularly scheduled basis, and make progress reports to the Board.
11. To refrain from implementing strategies or taking actions that have not been (1) reviewed and approved by the Board or (2) expressly delegated for action to the Committee within Board prescribed guidelines.
12. To evaluate BELS programs and services on an annual basis.
13. To approve and monitor budget and allocate resources.

If, for any reason, I find myself unable to carry out the above duties as best as I can or am unable to attend 80% of the scheduled Board of Directors meetings, I agree to discuss with the President my future obligations in serving on the BELS Board of Directors.