

John Tansey

Professor and Chair, Chemistry Department, Member of the Program in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Otterbein University.

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Statement of Interest

I am pleased to submit my statement of interest for ASBMB Council.

I currently serve as Professor and Chair of the Chemistry Department at Otterbein University. My professional career has focused on advancing excellence in biochemical education, inclusive undergraduate research, and academic leadership, areas that align closely with ASBMB's mission and strategic priorities.

My service to ASBMB spans more than a decade and reflects a sustained commitment to education, accreditation, and community engagement. I currently serve as Chair of the Programmatic Accreditation Committee, a role I have held since 2020, following my involvement with the committee since its inception in 2013. In 2016, I co-led a task force to redesign the accreditation application and accompanying metrics to reflect lessons learned from early review cycles. This work required thoughtful consideration of the wide range of institutional contexts represented within ASBMB and reinforced the importance of transparency, fairness, and consensus-building in governance.

Beyond accreditation, I have served on the Education and Professional Development Committee and the Science Outreach and Communication Committee, and I have taught The Art of Science Communication course on four occasions. For more than a decade, I have served as a lead judge for the Undergraduate Poster Competition at ASBMB Annual Meetings. As faculty advisor, I have guided my institution's ASBMB Student Chapter to national recognition as Chapter of the Year four times. I have also contributed to the ASBMB Certification Exam through question development and scoring review, published in JBC, reviewed manuscripts for JLR, attended numerous ASBMB national and education-focused meetings, and am recognized as an ASBMB Fellow.

Education and Training

- Postdoctoral Fellow, (Intramural Research Training Award) Laboratory of Cellular and Developmental Biology, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health 1997 to 2002.
- Ph.D., Department of Biochemistry, Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, 1997.
- B.S. (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology), University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts, 1991.

Awards and Honors

- Fellow of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 2024
- Education Associate (formerly Education Fellow) of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology 2015-present
- Otterbein University nominee for the Carnegie Foundation ‘U.S. Professor of the Year’ 2013
- ‘Master Teacher/Teacher of the Year’ Otterbein University 2012
- ‘Best New Teacher’ Award, Otterbein College 2004
- ASBMB-UAN or Student Chapter ‘Most Outstanding Chapter’ Award 2012, 2014, 2018, 2023 Faculty Advisor
- American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Undergraduate Faculty Travel Award, April 2003, 2009, 2015
- American Academy for the Advancement of Science, Member since 2024
- American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, member since 2002
- American Chemical Society, member since 2003
- Fellows Award for Research Excellence, NIH (FARE 2001, FARE 2000, May 2000, May 1999
- Avanti Polar Lipids Founders’ Award, 30th Annual Southeastern Lipid Conference, October 1995.
- Graduate Fellowship, Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Wake Forest University, 1991-1992.

Relevant Experience

- Chair of the ASBMB Programmatic Assessment Committee, 2020-present
- Member of the ASBMB Programmatic Assessment Committee, 2013-present
- Member, ASBMB Scientific Outreach and Communications Committee (SOCC) 2019-2024
- Taught ASBMB’s “The Art of Science Communication” 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
- ASBMB Education Associate (formerly known as Education Fellows), 2015 to present
- Member, Otterbein University Board of Trustees, 2021-2024
- Organized and hosted the ASBMB workshop “Developing and Sharing Best Practices: From Concept to Classroom” February 2016, Otterbein University
- Co-organized ASBMB Implementing Vision and Change: Concept-Driven Teaching Strategies in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Kentucky Wesleyan University, May, 2014
- Member of the ASBMB accreditation and exit exam ad hoc working group. 2023-2024
- Faculty advisor to the Undergraduate Affiliate Network and now Student Chapter of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (2012-present)
- Attended and presented at the ASBMB Student Centered Education meetings, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2023