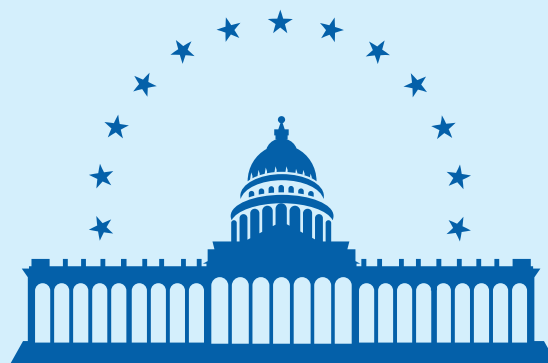




Helping students from low-resourced environments earn Ph.D.s

Ryan Feathers, Cornell University
Science advocacy case study

Supported by the ASBMB Advocacy Training Program



Overview

Feathers wanted to help undergraduates from diverse backgrounds pursue STEM Ph.D.s. He established an organization to make information on fully funded doctoral degree programs more accessible.

Activities

- Developed a webpage for the organization.
- Created guides on writing a personal statement, finding fellowships and funding, and finding research experiences.

Results

- Established the Graduate School Admissions Information and Support (GAINS) organization.
- In addition to offering guidance on admissions, funding and undergraduate research, GAINS also offers a mentorship program for incoming Ph.D. students.

Want to learn more about the ASBMB ATP?

Read a feature in [ASBMB Today](#).

Get help from the [ASBMB](#)

Contact us at advocacy@asbmb.org.



About the advocate

Ryan Feathers is a postdoctoral scholar at Princeton University. He earned his Ph.D. at Cornell University while studying the biochemical mechanisms that drive cargo transport inside cells. He completed his undergraduate studies at Oklahoma State University, which is where he discovered a passion for science education and outreach. He was a member of the 2022 cohort of the ASBMB Advocacy Training Program, in his words, “to become a better advocate for scientists from diverse backgrounds and promote increasing accessibility to graduate education.”