

Strategic Plan: 2007-2012

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF BIOMECHANICS

Purpose

This Strategic Plan is a formal document to communicate the objectives and planned directions of the American Society of Biomechanics. It is meant to serve as a link between the present and a consensus vision of the Society's future. The plan is a series of multiyear goals and associated strategies which the Society is currently achieving or will initiate in order to reach our shared objectives.

Mission Statement

The mission of the American Society of Biomechanics (ASB) is to encourage and foster the exchange of information and ideas among biomechanists working in different disciplines and fields of application, biological sciences, exercise and sports science, health sciences, ergonomics and human factors, and engineering and applied science, and to facilitate the development of biomechanics as a basic and applied science.

Vision Statement

The ASB will be recognized as the leading source of information and knowledge on biomechanics.

Goal Statements

1.0 Goal – Annual Meeting

Organize and conduct at least one meeting annually.

Strategies

- 1.1 Offer opportunities for dissemination of current research in biomechanics
- 1.2 Seek balanced conference participation across member disciplines
- 1.3 Offer incentive for student participation
- 1.4 Provide opportunities for social interaction
- 1.5 Encourage international participation for enhancement of the ASB annual meeting
- 1.6 Invite international biomechanics experts to participate in the ASB annual meeting
- 1.7 Ally with and participate in various international biomechanics meetings
- 1.8 Provide an opportunity for collaborative meetings with colleagues

2.0 Goal - Membership Recruitment and Participation

Expand the membership base of the ASB to include those professionals who are qualified and committed to the mission of the ASB, while retaining quality of the membership. Increase opportunities for member participation in the activities of the ASB.

Strategies

- 2.1 Encourage membership of other specialists in the ASB according to the guidelines and criteria for membership that will expand the scope of biomechanical analysis
- 2.2 Create varied pathways to membership that will demonstrate the value of membership to various applicants
- 2.3 Seek gender and ethnic diversity
- 2.4 Provide information to new ASB members about opportunities for participation in the organization
- 2.5 Increase member participation on committees
- 2.6 Foster a leadership selection process for the ASB
- 2.7 Promote increased international membership
- 2.8 Implement a Fellow level of membership status

3.0 Goal – Student Involvement

Actively support the professional growth of students in the society.

Strategies

- 3.1 Foster the membership of students within the society
- 3.2 Expand the participation of students within the society
- 3.3 Expand and enhance programs to support student research
- 3.4 Increase opportunities for students to present their research findings
- 3.5 Provide mentoring to students
- 3.6 Develop ways to stimulate student interaction with other students and society members
- 3.7 Provide professional experience opportunities for students
- 3.8 Facilitate transfer of student membership to regular membership in the society
- 3.9 Offer career planning tools

4.0 Goal - Communication

Articulate and communicate to all appropriate audiences the nature and scope of the ASB and what its members do.

Strategies

- 4.1 Use various delivery vehicles, such as the Internet, Newsletter, and annual meeting, to describe the scope of activities that ASB members undertake and the clients they serve
- 4.2 Expand the scope and dimension of the ASB Website to encourage greater participation through the internet
- 4.3 Develop methods for disseminating software resources for biomechanical analysis
- 4.4 Stimulate debate regarding current issues in biomechanics

5.0 Goal – Education and Outreach

Develop and support a comprehensive educational program designed for members, other scientists, students and the public.

Strategies

- 5.1 Strengthen current educational programs of the ASB
- 5.2 Develop new educational offerings that will meet the varied needs for providing biomechanical analysis to professionals such as biologists, ergonomists, engineers, health educators, physicians, physical therapists, kinesiologists, and other professionals
- 5.3 Promulgate curricula for undergraduate and graduate training programs in the various disciplines of the ASB
- 5.4 Partner with appropriate support groups and develop educational programs to meet the needs of specific populations
- 5.5 Conduct regular and systematic self-assessment activities of the various ASB educational programs, including but not limited to the annual meeting, to assure that member needs are being met
- 5.6 Develop speaker support materials that members can use to educate students about biomechanics
- 5.7 Develop educational programs that are designed to increase the public's awareness of biomechanical analysis and the activities of the ASB
- 5.8 Provide a list of academic and professional biomechanics education programs

6.0 Goal – Standardization and Best Practices

Identify and foster the development of standards and best practices that will enhance maturation of biomechanical analysis.

Strategies

- 6.1** Recommend a uniform terminology and presentation format
- 6.2** Promote practices that support information and data sharing
- 6.3** Identify, evaluate, and adopt appropriate existing standards
- 6.4** Actively collaborate with other professional societies and organizations on the development of national and international standards

7.0 Goal – Ethical Conduct

Provide codes for the responsible conduct of research.

Strategies

- 7.1** Educate ASB members about the proper conduct of research in the following areas: research involving human subjects; research involving animals; data acquisition, management, sharing, and ownership; mentor/trainee responsibilities; publication and authorship; peer review; collaboration; and conflict of interest
- 7.2** Adopt a Code of Ethical Conduct for the professional practice of biomechanics
- 7.3** Educate members about the Code developed in Section 7.2

8.0 Goal - Research

Foster, promote and coordinate basic science and applied research.

Strategies

- 8.1** Recognize research accomplishments of ASB members
- 8.2** Encourage research activities that will expand role of biomechanical analysis
- 8.3** Promote the research activities of the ASB and biomechanics in general to members, patients, industry, and the general public in order to encourage greater financial contributions for research efforts
- 8.4** Develop mechanisms that will encourage research centers to collaborate and/or participate in ASB research activities
- 8.5** Disseminate information on research funding opportunities

9.0 Goal-Financial Viability

Assure that ASB maintains a sound financial base.

Strategies

- 9.1** Maintain sufficient financial reserves to withstand the cancellation of an annual meeting
- 9.2** Establish a financial reserve for cost-based society initiatives
- 9.3** Develop endowments for expansion of named lectureships, traveling fellows, and existing student programs
- 9.4** Identify new revenue-producing opportunities that will support ASB research and educational initiatives
- 9.5** Conduct a periodic review of the adequacy and appropriateness of the annual dues structure
- 9.6** Develop and institutionalize a formal budgeting process. Establish guidelines for industry grants and management of expenses
- 9.7** Monitor, on an annual basis, the performance of the Society's various investments
- 9.8** Maintain an effective mechanism to review ASB expenses
- 9.9** Assure appropriate protection of ASB funds

10.0 Goal – Advocacy

Advocate initiatives designed to foster scientific awareness, outreach, and generate support for biomechanics.

Strategies

- 10.1** Develop reports to increase public awareness on the effective use of biomechanical analysis
- 10.2** Raise awareness of funding agencies regarding ASB priorities for research funding
- 10.3** Encourage ASB members to study public policy initiatives
- 10.4** Foster development and dissemination of relevant ASB position statements related to public policy