

# The Discipline-based Education Research: Scholars-in-Training (DBER-SiT) Charge

## Committee for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars



Date Adopted: 7/1/2019  
Next Review Date: 1/1/2022

---

### Responsibilities

- **Purpose:**
  - Provide a community and peer support for graduate students and postdoctoral researchers of the Biology DBER community.
  - Advocate for the needs of graduate students and postdoctoral scholars at the National level.
- **Duties:**
  - **Media:** Enhance communication between scholars and promotion of scholar achievements.
  - **Professional Development:** Facilitate opportunities for mentorship and plan workshops to strengthen career readiness of scholars in training.
  - **Funding:** Manage SABER allocated funds for the DBER-SiT Travel Award and connect scholars to additional funding resources.
  - **Bylaws and Elections:** Draft initial bylaws and revise them as needed. Ensure a democratic process for the representation of DBER Scholars-in-training in DBER-SiT leadership roles and presence in the greater SABER community.
- **Reporting:**
  - During the annual DBER-SiT Special Interest Group (SIG) we present DBER-SiT accomplishments that year and solicit feedback for future endeavors.
  - Interim reports and updates are presented on the SABER committee website and promoted through social media (e.g. Twitter).
  - A DBER-SiT leadership role is dedicated as liaison to the national SABER Executive Committee President, Jenny Knight, to communicate plans and coordinate activities associated with the national SABER meeting.
  - The Leadership Team reports to the general DBER-SiT membership and to the SABER Executive Committee

---

### Accountability

The DBER-SiT Leadership Team is elected by the graduate students and postdoctoral scholars within the SABER community and has one ex-officio member appointed from the SABER Executive Committee.

---

## Membership

- **Number of Regular Members:**
  - Leadership team: 8 members
  - Regular members: 100+
- **Determination:**
  - Initially, leadership was established voluntarily, and future leadership is being elected by the community.
  - Drafting bylaws is in process, to be completed and adopted by in 2019-2020
- **Ex officio Members:**
  - Jenny Knight
- **Non-voting Members:** [again, if any]
  - DBER-SiT members who have transitioned into other positions and are no longer graduate students or post-docs. This membership is valid for a period of 1 year or until they become mentors to graduate students/postdocs, whichever comes earlier.
- **Term of Service:**
  - The leadership team will be expected to serve for a minimum of a year and a half (e.g., Sept 2019 - Dec 2020), with the first year (or more) serving to carry out the duties of their elected role and the last 6 months to facilitate transitions with the new leadership team members. Once elected, members of the Leadership Team can serve in their elected positions as long as they are still eligible to be regular members without needing to be re-elected.
  - General members will be part of DBER-SiT as long as they are graduate students or post-docs.
- **Chair:**
  - We do not have a Chair for the Committee, but a Leadership Team consisting of the Co-Chairs from each of the 4 subcommittees and a Liaison to the SABER Executive Committee.