

David Sanders (BS, Molecular Biophysics/Biochemistry, Yale), Associate Professor of Biological Sciences/Purdue University, conducted his Ph.D. research in Biochemistry with Daniel E. Koshland, Jr., then editor of *Science*, at UC Berkeley. David Sanders originated the “Molecule of the Year” feature in *Science* and discovered a biochemical reaction that underlies how bacteria sense and respond to environmental changes. During postdoctoral research at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research (MIT), he began studies on the entry of viruses into cells with a focus on infection inhibition and gene-therapy applications.

He was the discoverer of a biochemical reaction that leads to the entry of cancer-causing retroviruses into cells. At the Purdue Markey Center for Structural Biology he made fundamental contributions to Ebola virus cell-entry knowledge and is the author of US patents on novel gene-therapy delivery techniques.

NSF CAREER Award recipient and American Cancer Society Research Scholar, he was a principal investigator on a HHMI Experiment Grant for reform of the undergraduate premedical curriculum.

His Ebola virus research led to participation in the USDTRA's Biological Weapons Proliferation Prevention Program. His responsibilities included inspecting the Vector laboratory (Siberia), which was the site of biological-weapons development in the USSR era.

Interviewed by media around the world about his research and the role of science in public policy, he is often invited to speak on ethics, biodefense, evolution, gene therapy, vaccination, and viruses in public forums.

He served as Chair of the Purdue University Senate (2016/2017) following three terms as Steering Committee Chair. Elected Chair of the College of Science Grievance Committee and then the University Grievance Committee.

He is a member of the FASEB Science Policy Committee. A vocal proponent of science and science-informed solutions to societal problems, he has been recognized as an advocate for scientific-publication reform and as a campaigner for ethical conduct in science.

Academia faces challenges from social, economic, and political forces. The AAUP must continue to be one of the most vocal advocates for higher education. As elected Chair of the Steering Committee, and Vice-Chair, and Chair of the Purdue University Senate I have worked with my colleagues to promote racial, national-origin, and sexual diversity and rights protection. We have successfully fought against misguided reconfigurations of tenure and promotion criteria and calendar alterations. I have been the voice for the nearly universal faculty opposition to the takeover of Kaplan University by Purdue University. Kaplan University does not have protections for academic freedom that any of us would recognize and its attempted incorporation into Purdue University is an ominous sign.

My campaign for better facilities for teaching and research is bearing fruit in both the College of Science and the College of Veterinary Medicine. I have been a promoter for both the critical role of science in the formulation of public policy and for the centrality of education and research in the arts and humanities. In addition, I have been an active participant in the discussions about how the right to free speech should and does manifest itself on college campuses.

I have also been engaged in debates about the future of academic publication. It is my belief that the AAUP should take the lead in providing opportunities for conversation on this issue.

I would greatly appreciate your support for my candidacy for AAUP At-Large National Council member. I believe that my experience and commitment will prove to be great assets for the work of the Council in representing the interests of the members of the AAUP.