



# PARTNERING WITH THE UCS SCIENCE NETWORK

***The science advocacy movement is gaining momentum.*** Scientists are refusing to stay silent in the face of attacks on science, and have shown enormous energy in their willingness to engage with the public and decisionmakers on policy issues that affect our health, safety, and environment. By working in collaboration with our partners, the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) Science Network builds the power of this movement and broadens support for advocacy throughout the scientific community.

At the same time, our work—including our collaboration with partners—must uphold the values of anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion. UCS is committed to ensuring the Science Network is an inclusive community that embraces the full diversity of scientists and their perspectives. We hold ourselves accountable to these values and ask our partners to hold us accountable as well.

## JOINING FORCES FOR SCIENCE ADVOCACY

Achieving systemic and policy changes takes time and people power.

### The Science Network can offer you:

- Tools for amplifying and expanding the reach of your organization and its work
- Collaboration on conference workshops or other trainings, both in-person and virtual
- Shared branding on materials and recognition in UCS communications
- Access to other partners' resources and opportunities to take action
- Connections to other science advocacy and policy groups across the country
- Trainings for your members to build their science advocacy skills

### So that together, we can:

- Mobilize experts to make our voices heard, build collective power, and secure successes on issues we care about
- Offer trainings and tools to support science advocates' engagement
- Host advocacy actions and events
- Build equitable partnerships between scientists and environmental justice and frontline communities

Interested in exploring a partnership with the UCS Science Network? Reach out to Science Network Community and Partnerships Manager Melissa Varga at [mvara@ucsusa.org](mailto:mvara@ucsusa.org).

# PARTNERSHIP SUCCESS STORIES

At the Science Network, not only are we building momentum for science advocacy, but we're also developing broader cultural support for scientist engagement and breaking down institutional barriers to action.

- In 2022 we launched the Science Advocacy Movement Building School, the first attempt of its kind to bring professionals in science organizations and advocacy networks together to learn power-building practices that they can incorporate into their organizations' efforts. Participants from 15 different groups participated in trainings and discussions exploring collaboration on "science advocacy in service of communities" and developed connections that will increase their individual and collective impact.
- Through our Science Rising campaign, we partnered with the Students Learn, Students Vote coalition in the leadup to the 2022 midterm elections to create a Science and Civics Guide that offers discipline-specific examples of science and civic engagement. We also developed a "train the trainer" program with input from several Science Rising partners. This work seeks to build upon the positive momentum we saw in 2020, when STEM-related majors increased their voting rates by double digits (according to the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement.)
- Together with the National Science Policy Network we conducted a workshop series on "Power Mapping: An Advocacy Framework for Advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in STEM." By exploring the status of DEI initiatives at four professional societies, attendees developed skills to pursue change within their own institutions.
- We are also collaborating with partners to increase scientist engagement through scientific conferences:
  - At the 2022 SACNAS National Diversity in STEM Conference, we hosted a workshop with Engineers and Scientists Acting Locally, Ciencia Puerto Rico, and Puerto Rico Science Policy Action Network on "Speaking up for Science and Policy in Your Community."
  - With the American Geophysical Union at its 2022 fall meeting, we led a workshop on "Building Coalitions Around Science Policy: How to Get Scientists Involved in Advocacy."
  - With early career scientists from STEPUP (Science and Technology in Public Policy) at Boston University, we conducted a workshop on science advocacy—and how to bring your identity to advocacy—at the Out in STEM conference.
- The American Geophysical Union joined as a partner of our Team-Based Organizing initiative to help scientists develop key advocacy and community organizing skills.
- The National Society of Black Engineers presented UCS with an award for our years of collaboration and support of its members.

**"THANK YOU [UCS SCIENCE NETWORK] FOR BEING IN THIS SPACE AND HELPING OTHERS SEE THE VALUE OF PARTNERSHIPS IN STEM AND ADVANCING SOCIAL JUSTICE"**

**— CYNTHIA PRIETO-DIAZ  
500 WOMEN SCIENTISTS LEADERSHIP TEAM**



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