



TACF 2018 SCIENCE REVIEW

August 21-22, 2018

Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center
One Partnership Circle, Abingdon, VA 24210

Dear Participants,

We are grateful to all of you for your participation in the 2018 external review of the research and breeding programs of The American Chestnut Foundation. Since 1983, the work of TACF has resurrected hope that the American chestnut can eventually be restored as a foundation species in the eastern deciduous forest. We have made significant changes to our breeding program since external reviews in 1999 and 2006. Your review will be instrumental in helping us chart our course toward eventual restoration of the species. In addition to an oral report at the end of the review, it is our hope that you will provide us with a written report within two weeks of the visit.

Please visit the [TACF Science Review Site](#). Here you will find the following materials for the review:

- The Science Review Agenda
- The final reports from our 1999 and 2006 Science Reviews
- A recent paper by myself and others on the state of the breeding and transgenic work in American chestnut
- TACF's breeding and selection plans for 2015-2025
- Our "3BUR document"
- TACF's most recent strategic plan.

Visiting Review Panel Participants

Dr. Nicholas Wheeler, North Carolina State University, Adjunct Professor Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources

Dr. Richard Sniezko, Center Geneticist, Forest Service Dorena Genetic Resource Center

Dr. John Davis, University of Florida, Associate Dean for Research, Associate Director of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station

Dr. Steven Strauss, Oregon State University, College of Forestry

Dr. Sally Aitken, University of British Columbia Faculty of Forestry, Professor and Associate Dean - Research and Innovation

Nick Wheeler has agreed to chair the review team.

TACF Participants

Dr. Kim Steiner (Penn State University), TACF Senior Science Advisor, Past-Chair of the TACF Board of Directors,
Dr. Brian McCarthy (Ohio University), Chair of the Science & Technology Committee, Chair-Elect of the TACF Board
of Directors

Mr. Steven Barilovits (retired electrical engineer, systems design), Chair-Elect of the Science & Technology
Committee, member of the TACF Board of Directors

Dr. William Powell (SUNY-ESF), member of the Science & Technology Committee, Director, American Chestnut
Foundation Research and Restoration Project

Ms. Lisa Thomson, TACF President and CEO

Dr. Jared Westbrook, TACF Director of Science

Ms. Sara Fitzsimmons, TACF Director of Restoration

Ms. Laura Barth, TACF Horticulture and Pathology Specialist

If you have any questions regarding travel, accommodations, The Science Review site or materials, please do
not hesitate to contact Cherin Marmon-Saxe, TACF Executive Coordinator, at (828) 281-0047 or email
cherin@acf.org.

If your schedule allows, we would like to meet for dinner on Monday August 20th. You will find details on the
[agenda](#).

We look forward to meeting you and want to thank you again for participating in The American Chestnut
Foundation 2018 Science Review.

Sincerely,

Kim Steiner
Professor of Forest Biology and
Founding Director, The Arboretum at Penn State