

Bernice Slutsky

After finishing my Ph.D. in Molecular Biology at the University of Iowa and working in laboratories in Belgium and Michigan State, I left the laboratory and spent the rest of my career in the Washington D.C. area. I worked for the US Government and the private sector, applying my scientific background to policies affecting scientific innovation, primarily in agriculture. My work centered around the interconnection among science, the law and public policy. Throughout my career, I participated in or led advisory panels, boards and negotiating teams that included a diversity of interests in often controversial topics, such as biotechnology, trade, environment and food safety. Over the last 20 years, I was increasingly involved in international policy efforts and organizations, encompassing an even broader set of backgrounds and views. I semi-retired in 2019 as a part time consultant, continuing to chair an international program on scientific innovation and international policy in agriculture. I fully retired in 2023.

Why I Wish to Serve the SP Community

I was appointed to the SPPOA Board last year and have been serving as the Chair of the Membership Committee. I would like to remain on the Board for several reasons. In particular, I would like to continue the implementation of the membership drive we began last year. Having the broadest SPPOA membership possible is fundamental to effectively representing the diverse groups of Sea Pines property owners, including full-time residents, part-time residents who do not rent and those who primarily rent their homes. It is important that the SPPOA address the needs of all these groups and that they have a tangible understanding of the benefits of being a member of the SPPOA. The SPPOA plays a pivotal role for SP property owners and has made clear that communication and openness is key through its established priorities and workstreams. Increased membership engagement will be a central component of effectively serving as a point of information flow to property owners. Membership engagement will serve as an avenue for gathering views of property owners and communicating those views to CSA and to other relevant entities both inside and outside of Sea Pines.