

**2019 Annual General Meeting of Australian Society of Plant Scientists**

**Agenda**

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| **DATE:** | Thursday 28th November |
| **TIME:** | 18:00-18:45 |
| **VENUE:** | Victoria rooms, AgriBio, Bundoora |
| **PRESENT:** | Kathleen Soole (KS, President), Vanessa Melino (VM, Secretary), Rosemary White (RW, Treasurer), Janet Wheeler (JW, Communications, Web and email), Kim Johnson (KJ, Development), Mike Haydon (Gen&Mol Biol), William Salter (Communications, social media), Ros Gleadow (RG, Global Plant Council), Caitlin Byrt (CB, Communications chair), Georgia Koerber (Phytogen); Sebastian Pfautsch (Env&Eco), Eloise Foo (Plant-Microbe Interactions), Megan Shelden (Cell Biology), Rana Munns (RM, Plants in Action), Beth Loveys (Education/Communications), Yingxuan Ma (Student), Ronan Charles Broad (Student), Cecilia Blomstedt (Monash), Cecilia Blomstedt (Monash), Rebecca Vandegeer (WSU-HIE), Crystal Sweetman (Flinders Uni), Simon Williams (ANU), Steve Tyerman (UoA), Joh Patrick (Uni Newcastle), Tina Offles (Uni Newcastle), David Collins (Uni Newcastle), Christopher Grof (Uni Newcastle), Matt Hayes (Consultant), Monika Murcha (UWA), Nick Booth (Flinders Uni), Bettina Berger (UoA), Tony Gendall (La Trobe), Peter Ryan (CSIRO), Berit Ebert (UoM), Monika Doblin, (La Trobe), Matt Lewsey (La Trobe), Oliver Berkowitz (La Trobe), Robert Walker (UoM), Ghazanfar Khan (UoM), Ronan Broad (UoM), Ian Searle (UoA), Martin O’Brien (La Trobe/UoM), Madeline Mitchell (CSIRO), James Stangoulis (Flinders Uni), Megan Shelden (UoA), Rana Munns (UWA), David Day (Flinders Uni), TJ Higgins (CSIRO), Brett Williams (QUT), Ros Gleadow (Monash), Harvey Millar (UWA), Alex Johnson (UoM), Caitlin Byrt (ANU), Sneha Gupta (UoM), Eloise Foo (UTAS), Martino Schillaci (UoM). |
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| **APOLOGIES:** | Sergey Shabala (Former President), John Evans (JE, Public Officer), Barry Pogson (Global Plant Council), Tracey Cuin (Whole Plants), Rachel Burton (STA) |
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**ASPS Minutes and Actions**

| **No.** | **Item** | **Comments** | **Actions** | **Timeframe** |
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| **1.** | **Welcome and Apologies (KS/VM)** | All introductions.  |  |  |
| **2.** | **Confirm minutes from 2018 (KS)** | SEE POSTED MINUTES  | RW movedKJ seconded |  |
| **3.**  | **Presidents Report (KS)** | REPORT TABLEDThe first year for our Society to hold its own meeting-thank you to the organising committee of ASPS 2019FUTURE MEETINGSCOMBIO 2020 will be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC), 29/09/20- 2/10/20. Plant Session organisers- Staffan Persson (UoM)/ Ross Gleadow (Monash)ASPS 2021- meeting to be held as part of IPMB but maintain identity via ASPS dinner and AGM. Structure TBD. Representatives from Queensland encouraged to nominate to assist.ComBio 2022 Canberra in the week of 26th of September, Caitlin Byrt nominated as representative for organising committeeFor 2023, we are looking for location suggestion and volunteersASPS provided seed funding in support of three meetings held in AustraliaCONGRATULATIONS to ASPS Award WinnersUpcoming awards for 2020, check the website for datesCONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE PROPOSAL – vote numbers to be presented | KS to email Queensland ASPS members (JW to give KS list of emails). Involve Brett Williams, our new Qld/Genetics/MolBiol rep.2023, Tasmania, Eloise Foo to lead a bid. Discuss at next council meeting.Awardees mentioned.Motion KS to provide $ for each state to bring together ASPS local networking event every calendar event. Seconded by MH. MajorityVM to check vote numbersKS to decide on directionSimon Williams to email reps. to notify of plans to either stay as discipline reps or change to state reps. Email reps and new treasurer (Mike Haydon) to nominate payment method for ASPS supported social event. | **Jan 2020****Oct 2020****19/12/19****20/12/19****Jan 2020** |
| **4.**  | **Treasurers Report (RW)** | AUDIT COMPLETED. REPORT TABLED2019, Funded two R.N. Robertson Travel Awards2018, Attendance of students at ASPS dinner during ComBio Seed Funding to facilitate scientific meetings and community eventsASPS operating costs (website)Support for Science meets ParliamentMembership to Science and Technology Australia and the Global Plant CouncilThe society maintained income relative to expenditureComBio 2018 return of $20, 455.64Request to transfer about half of the $100,000 or so in the ASPS savings account, currently earning 0.5% interest, into the Robertson Fund, currently earning a bit over 3% interest. The Robertson fund has a bit over $93,000 in it, and if we boosted this to $140,000 it would earn enough interest to pay for the Robertson travel grant each year. ASPS also has approx.. $28,000 in its transaction account which the account is set up to receive eWay credit card payments. | RW Motion to transfer $ to RN Fund, MS Seconded, Majority.RG suggested that members can donate to RN Robertson fund as a tax deductionRW template for seed funding to be prepared and emailed to all members by JWSimon Williams to check that this seed funding document was prepared and made available online. All seed funding to be reviewed and approved by executive committee. | **Dec 2019****Jan 2020****Feb 2020** |
| **5.** | **Website & Communications****(CB)** | REPORT TABLED.New representatives of W&C teamPhytogen updateSocial media presence increasedGPC updateProposed that each discipline representative nominates a student mentor to assist with improving our social media presence | Members encouraged to Tag #asps and #GPC when publishPhytogen guest editors requestedCB to confirm that banners are made and sent to each state“Adopt a student program.” CS to email discipline or state reps. about this concept | **Feb 2020****Jan 2020** |
| **6.** | **Plants in Action (RM)** | REPORT TABLED.A contract was signed last month with Scientific Publications (Jodhpur, India) for Hindi publicationASPS monetary support for on-line publication of Plants in Action | UQ hosting book- Suzanne SchmidttDOI for each chapter for recognition | **Feb 2020** |
| **7.** | **FPB Editor (RM)** | REPORT TABLED.Alex Wu was awarded the best paper in Functional Plant Biology  | Increase gender parity in associate editorsMove FPB to open access- price to be negotiated-society discount | **ASAP****TBC** |
| **8.** | **Discussion of nomination of new officers (KS)** | Thank you to outgoing Honorary treasurer Rosemary White Nomination for treasurer- Mike Haydon (MH, UoM)Nomination for secretary- Simon Williams (ANU)Nomination for discipline (Gen&Mol Bio) /state rep.- Mark Waters (UWA) | Motion, seconded, majorityMotion, seconded, majorityBrett Williams, QUT invited to be Queensland rep. and acceptedVM to email him to confirm | **Dec 2019** |
| **9.** | **Members (Life/Corresponding)****(KS)** | Nomination of life and corresponding membersLife: John Evans (ANU), Janet Wheeler (La Trobe)Corresponding: Missey Holbrook (Harvard) and Mark Stitt (MPI) | KS motion, RW seconded, majorityKS motion, RW seconded, majorityJW to include their details on our websiteSimon Williams to check above was done | **Jan 2020****Feb 2020** |
| **10.**  | **Any other business** |  | How to start a parliament lobby- STA- Rachel Burton. KS to include in next STA instalment requestKS to ask Tracey Cuin to contact Australian Academy of Science to discuss how ASPS can better get involved with the national committees. <https://www.science.org.au/national-committee-agriculture-fisheries-and-food> Tim Cavagnaro (University of Adelaide) sits on the National Committee for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and can be contacted. VM to email TC and KS to discuss. KS to follow upEncourage students to apply to ComBio travel grants (student and supervisor)Next meeting- keep posters up | **March 2020****Dec 2020****March 2020** |
|  |  |  | Meeting Closed |  |