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**2021 Annual General Meeting of Australian Society of Plant Scientists**

**Minutes**

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| **DATE:** | Friday 26th November |
| **TIME:** | 12:00-14:00 AEST |
| **VENUE:** | https://anu.zoom.us/j/82478887105?pwd=cFRsckVibXMwTGJ0KzhaV0R2cWJtdz09 |
| **PRESENT:** | Alex Johnson, Annamaria De Rosa, April Hastwell, Beth Loveys, Brett Williams, Caitlin Byrt, Canberra Bunker, Eloise Foo, Frances Sussmilch, Harvey Millar, James Woolnough, Janet Wheeler, Jay Bose, Jenny Mortimer, Joanna Melonek, John Evans, John Golz, John Patrick, Josh Mylne, Judith Lichtenzveig, Kim Johnson, Mark Waters, Martha Ludwig, Matthew Gilliham, Matthew Tucker, Megan Shelden, Mike Haydon, Peter Ryan, Peter Solomon, Ros Gleadow, Rosemary White, Sabrina Davies, Sam McGaughey, Sergey Shabala, Simon Williams, Ulrike Mathesius, Valerie Hecht, Yinglong Chen (48 from Adelaide) |
| **APOLOGIES:** |  |

**ASPS Minutes and Actions**

| **No.** | **Item** | **Comments** | **Actions** | **Timeframe** |
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| **1.** | **Welcome and Apologies (PR/SW)** | All introductions. |  |  |
| **2.** | **Confirm minutes from 2020 (PR)** | SEE POSTED MINUTES | RG move /SS second |  |
| **3.** | **Presidents Report (PR)** | **REPORT TABLED**  **CONGRATULATIONS to ASPS Award Winners** –  Joanna Melonek (UWA) – Peter Goldacre  Kim Johnson (La Trobe) – Jan Anderson  Xiaoyang Wei (Newcastle Univ) – Robertson Travel Award  Kim Johnson and Monika Doblin (La Trobe) – Education & Outreach  Ximeng Li (WSU) – FPB Best Paper Award  Christine Beveridge (UQ) – R.N.Roberston Lecturer  A healthy round of submissions this year and a very competitive field. Local and overseas assessors were extremely complimentary. While there were low numbers for the Robertson Travelling Award (due to Covid) and for the Education and Outreach Award we did have very deserving winners for these. We need to encourage applications this year.  **Discussion point**  **FUTURE MEETINGS**  **COMBIO 2020** was rescheduled to 2022. Planning for a face-to-face meeting through Sally Jay company in the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre 27-30 September.  - ASPS reps are Ros Gleadow (Monash) and John Golz (UoM). Staffan Persson returned to Europe and PR has been sitting in on the sessions.  **13th International Congress of Plant Molecular Biology (IPMB2021)** planned for 2021 is now 23-27 October 2022 in Cairns. Chair is Josh Mylne (Curtin Univ). ASPS is allocated a session at that meeting and Mike Haydon was invited to Chair it.  **- ASPS will provide student travel support (and poster awards)** to both ComBIO and IPMB2022.  **- ASPS 2023 proposed to be in Tasmania** - Late November (25-28)  **- ASPS 2024** – Open for discussion   * Suggestions (KC) of being involved in ESA meetings. * Hybrid – (replicate 2022?) local meetings at multiple locations… (alternative years)   Goldacre award wording regarding time frame – currently limits papers that have been published in the last 3 years.  Propose to change – post PhD within 10 years. Vote | A busy year for ASPS despite the lockdowns. Activities captured in presidents report. Highlights include the Science week activities. Not all funding obtained for Science week was spent. The plan is to spend these funds on outreach activities.  PR/MG second – no time limit on papers (10 years).  Change wording around FTE (allow for career breaks)  We can update wording about contribution to those papers. | SW/KJ to update wording around Goldacre and Jan Anderson.   * Remove time limit * Ensure career breaks are considered * Suggestion around design, execution and writing |
| **4.** | **Treasurers Report (MH)** | AUDIT COMPLETED. REPORT TABLED  Outcome from the hybrid meeting  Membership  Additional support from ASPS for ComBio/IPMB in 2022 in form of student travel awards. |  |  |
| **5.** | **Website & Communications**  **(CB/JW)** | REPORT TABLED |  |  |
| **6.** | **Global Plant Council (RG)** | REPORT TABLED |  |  |
| **7** | **Science and Technology Australia (RB/PR)** | Regarding SMP, first and foremost, I am very thankful to ASPS for their generosity in granting me the opportunity to attend the event. I believe enabling members to attend this event provides the perfect opportunity for early-career plant scientists to initiate cross-discipline and cross-sector collaborations. These diverse collaborative networks are an essential foundation necessary for ensuring we can address the big questions faced globally, such as food security. While the opportunity to network was dampened this year due to the online format, this issue will likely not persist into future year. Further, the opportunity to hear from STEM professionals and politicians always provides a valuable perspective, and insight on how fundamental research can be translated to beneficial outcomes for society. Attending SMP is a great opportunity provided by ASPS and I strongly encourage fellow members to apply. Kind regards, Joseph Pegler | Science Meets Parliament 2022 occurs 28 Feb to 4 Mar – seek nominations to attend  Rachel’s term to end next year...  Joe and Diana | Seeking nominations... SW to send email to members and will include some words from previous attendees... |
| **7.** | **Plants in Action (RM/UM)** | Obtaining DOIs for chapters - we have the budget, will seek to get this done. | ECRs to lead potentially –  Vote on DOI – PR/CB approved | UM to follow this up in 2022 |
| **8.** | **FPB Editor (SS)** | REPORT TABLED  FPB on the rise in terms of IF.  Move towards a society journal.  Executive strongly believes the society fosters relationship with FPB, to do this we suggest we drop relationships with MDPI and JoMSP… Vote | Send an email re this issues | SW/KJ to prepare a google poll to gather information from members (Feb) |
| **9.** | **Discussion of nomination of new officers (PR)** | Thank you to outgoing representatives Simon Williams (secretary), Eloise Foo (Plant-microbe interactions), Beth Loveys (Education and Outreach), and Megan Sheldon (Cell Biol)  Nomination for President Elect – Martha Ludwig (UWA)  Nomination for Secretary – Kim Johnson (LaTrobe)  Nomination for discipline Cell Biol – Crystal Sweetman (Flinders)  Nomination for discipline Plant-microbe interaction – Stephanie Watts-Fawkes (UoA)  Nomination for discipline Education and Outreach – Lucas Cernusak (JCU)  Nomination to WSC team – Scott Boden  Diversity and inclusion policy document introduced 2020  Need for an officer/division rep to continue to advocate for this document to ensure we act on this policy? Vote  Nominate - Eloise Foo to become the diversity and inclusion officer (division rep) | PS tabled / JE second  Majority  PR/JE – vote yes  PR/SW – vote yes | SW to complete the nomination forms for all. Dec |
| **10.** | **Members (Life/Corresponding)**  **(PR)** | Shortlisted nomination of life and corresponding members  Life members – Brian Attwell, Tony Ashton, Christine Beveridge  Corresponding members – Rainer Hedrich | Life members  PR/SW  Corresponding  SS/RM | PR to email nominations to see if they agree (Dec)  KJ to organise with Janet for this information to be added to the website (Jan) |
| **11.** | **Any other business** | Diversity and inclusion – funding for carers attendance  Update wording constitution… presented next year | Eloise to work with executive... | Eloise to redraft the document (if needed) and introduce a trial year with a set budget with PR and MH  Update student travel documents to include IPMB (MH) |
|  |  |  | Meeting Closed |  |