**ASPS Inclusion and Diversity report 2022**

ASPS now has a dedicated Inclusion and Diversity rep (Eloise Foo).

ASPS Inclusion and Diversity policy was formulated, feedback sought and is now live on ASPS website. This policy sets out our commitment to diversity and inclusion in our programs, activities and the places we interact; how we will achieve those objectives; and how we will measure those achievements. This includes how to run meetings.

## [ASPS Carers’ Support Travel Grant for ComBio2022 Award](about:blank) is now live.

Since interstate conference attendance is often difficult for ASPS members who are primary carers of young or high needs children, the Society has set aside funds to mitigate this situation and allow the professional development of these members to continue. These funds will provide return air fares to the conference location for a support person to accompany eligible ASPS members with dependent preschool age children (0-4 years) or children with high needs. The award is open to general members and students whose child-caring duties would normally prevent them from travelling due to their circumstances or because alternative child-minding options are unavailable. Note that the accompanying carer need not be a parent or legal guardian. Support will be awarded on first in first served basis and will vary from year to year depending on the Society finances, meeting location and the number of applications. The Treasurer will apply a formula in calculating individual entitlements and take these factors into account.

ASPS Indigenous Travel Grant has been proposed. The Society has set aside funds to support Indigenous presenters to travel to our sponsored conferences. Draft is currently being circulated with intention to roll out in 2024.

ASPS provided a response to issues on equity raised by IPMB 2022 Cairns in A letter of apology and commitment to building a better plant science community. ASPS is striving and preparing actions for a future where DEI is always a priority and inappropriate behavior is not tolerated. ASPS is working with the IPMB board, the APSB and The Global Plant Council to address the issues raised surrounding IPMB2022, and welcomes suggestions and input from our members.