ASPS 2021

Adelaide – Brisbane – Canberra –
Hobart – Melbourne – Perth – Sydney

ASPS 2021
AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF PLANT SCIENTISTS
25th November 2021

Queensland Node

Gardens Theatre Foyer, X Block, QUT Gardens Point Campus

8:00-8:30am **Check-in**

8:30am **Welcome** (Brett Williams, QUT)

8:50 **Session 1** – Plant Responses to the Environment (Linh Thi My Hoang (QUT) & Celine Mens (UQ))

Michael Udvardi – Legume genomics: from models to crops for Australia's sub-tropics

Stephanie Kerr – Characterising the function of key flowering genes in tree crops

Xitong Chu – Spatiotemporal changes in gibberellin content are required for soybean nodulation

Nipuni Thanthrige– Transgenic expression of AtBAG4 in chickpea improve drought stress tolerance without affecting nodulation and nitrogen fixation

Ha Thi Thuy Nguyen – Exploring Australian wild rice for salinity stress tolerance in cultivated rice Oryza sativa L.

Parastoo Karimian - The dimer of death; Identifying a role for G-proteins in plant cell death signalling

10:30am **Morning Tea**

11:00am **Session 2 – Biotechnological Applications in Agriculture** (Pauline Asami (UQ) and Sudipta das Bhowmik (QUT))

Peter Crisp – Stable unmethylated DNA demarcates expressed genes and their CIS-regulatory space in plant genomes

Felipe de Felippes – A new plant terminator element inhibits small RNA generation and improves gene expression by decreasing read-throughtranscription

Lee Hickey – Designer crops come of age

Karen Massel – Grain quality in *Sorghum bicolor* using gene editing approaches

Mark Jackson – Genome editing of interfering proteases greatly improves the biological range of *Nicotiana benthamiana* for the expression of peptides in plants

Satomi Hayashi – Investigating the roles of the RNA Dependent RNA Polymerase family in plant defence and development in *Nicotiana benthamiana*

Yasmine Lam – Expanding the limits of roots: manipulating root architecture in sorghum and barley using CRISPR/Cas9 gene-editing

12:30-1:00pm **Lunch**

1:00-3:15pm **ASPS joint Awards session (Online Webinar)**

Goldacre Award Seminar: Joanna Melonek (UWA) - Unlocking the genetic secret of cytoplasmic male sterility and fertility restoration in cereals

Jan Anderson Award Seminar: Kim Johnson (La Trobe) - Developing a passion for cell walls

FBP Best paper: Ximeng Li (Western Sydney) - Water regulation of cotton plants and its response to climate change

Education and Outreach: Kim Johnson and Monika Doblin (La Trobe) - A taste of tomorrow

RN Robertson Lecture: Christine Beveridge (UQ) - Network thinking for shoot architecture and path to impact in food production

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3:15-3:45pm **Afternoon Tea**

3:45-4:30pm **Lightning Talks (Moderators: April Hastwell (UQ) & Brett Williams (QUT))**

Natsumi Maruta – Structural and functional characterisation of a plant innate immune receptor

Annie Nguyen – Drivers of biodiversity in eastern Australia's volcanic forests

Hao Long – Investigation of Bcl-2 3' UTR mediated plant stress tolerance

Onkar Nath – Genomic insights into the Hass Avocado

Alexandria Mattison – Identifying CLE peptide candidates involved in legume-pathogen interaction signalling

Shanice Van Haeften – Exploring variation in key traits to improve mungbean productivity

Abhishek Bajpai – Testing the activity of cyclotides against soil nematodes

Estelle Grundy – Functional characterisation of a novel resistance gene involved in symbiotic nitrogen fixation

Charlotte Rambla – Rapid manipulation of root traits in elite wheat cultivars

4:30:4:45pm Closing and Thank you (April Hastwell (UQ)

6:00pm til late Evening Mixer/Dinner, Ship Inn, Southbank

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