



June 2022

Dear ,



I've been in the chair's role for about six months now and there has never been a dull moment. I've learnt a lot about citizen science and how important it is to society, let alone science. I'm meeting and working with some wonderful people and enjoying the support and understanding of the ASCA management team and past leaders.

I'm loving the diversity that is citizen science. It is a broad and flexible concept that can be adapted to different disciplines and situations, and it can make a difference on many levels. For example, in the space of one week in May, I was lucky enough to participate

in three separate conferences focused on quite different fields of interest: botanic gardens and their volunteers, biosecurity (pest plants and animals) and human health. The unbridled enthusiasm for citizen science at each of these events was thick in the air.

My distinct impression is that Governments are really starting to appreciate the enormous potential of citizen science. The Threatened Species Strategy Action Plan 2021-2026 released by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment in February 2022 casts citizen science in a leading role; the new Government in SA is working to implement an election commitment to invest substantially in citizen science; and the recently launched Decade of Biosecurity (2021-2030) will be relying on people to be the eyes and ears in surveillance and monitoring of invasive species. The trick is to nurture and channel the enthusiasm to make the most of these opportunities for the betterment of science and society. This all translates to a leadership role for ACSA to make sure citizen science plays the integral part it deserves.

---

### **2022 ACSA Seed Grants now open!**

Do you need a little bit of extra cash for a citizen science initiative you have always wanted to do? Would you like to publish your citizen science research in an open access journal for maximum public benefit but can't quite afford the fees?

ACSA is pleased to announce Seed Grants 2022 are NOW OPEN, closing 29 July 2022.

Seed Grants of \$1000 each will be awarded to two ACSA members to seed their professional growth or their project's growth in line with ACSA's strategic goals of Participation and Practice.

This is our fifth round of Seed Grants and previous recipients have used their grants to achieve some

pretty impressive and far-reaching outcomes. We can't wait to see what's next.

This year we are offering 2 separate grants; Grant 1 is for an initiative or professional development to advance a project & Grant 2 is for publication of a paper in an open access journal.

Full details, including how to apply for a Seed Grant 2022 and the T&Cs can be found [here](#). We encourage all members to apply. Not a member yet? [Join us!](#)

**2021 Seed Grant Recipient:** MYOCommunity Applied Mycology [read blog](#).



---

### **ACSA membership to align with financial year**

Over the next little while we will be transitioning the ACSA membership program to align with the financial year, rather than having a rolling membership program. Synchronising membership has a number of benefits including administrative efficiencies and the simplification of automatic renewals. Plus it will allow us to easily manage our brand new members-only Facebook group (see below for details).

All new memberships and renewals that commence from now will have an expiry date of 30 June 2023 (or 2024 if you select a 2 year term). Which means...if you join ACSA now you get **the rest of June free!**

To learn more about the changes, and how they apply to existing members or new members, please click [here](#).

---

### **Launch of ACSA-members Facebook group**

We are excited to launch our brand new ACSA-members Facebook group this month. This group will replace both the members-only newsletter and the current (largely inactive) Google Group. We'll be hosting live monthly catch ups, panel discussions, Q&A sessions, posting citsci job opportunities, sharing news and information as it comes in and hopefully we'll see a lot of networking and collaboration going on!

Membership of the Facebook group will be tied to ACSA membership, meaning you will have access to the group for as long as you are a financial member of ACSA. Current financial members should have recently received an invite to join the group - let us know if you haven't got yours yet.

We understand that not everyone is on Facebook, and we acknowledge this limitation, but at this point in time it was considered the best platform for our purpose. We welcome any feedback you may have on this group once it's established and operational.

---

### **CitSciOz21 content now available for ALL**

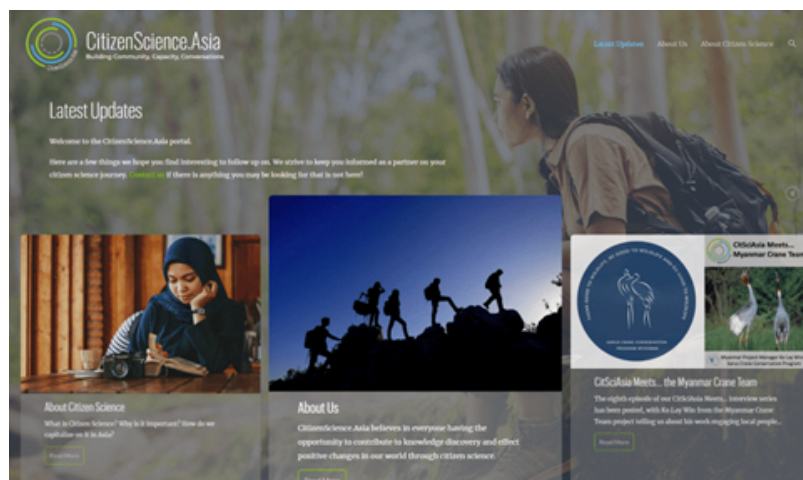
Can you believe it's already been 6 months since CitSciOz21? Neither can we...but it means that all the conference content - talks, workshops, keynotes and symposiums – is now available on our [YouTube channel](#) for general viewing!

Our amazing social media guru Michelle Neil has created the [CitSciOz21 playlist](#) with more than 60 individual presentations now online, so jump on in and revisit or check them out for the first time!

---



## Citizen Science Snippets



Look the part with our fantastic citizen science hats, caps and t-shirts. Perfect for your next bioblitz, bird count or even school pick up. All proceeds go towards our mission – to support, develop and advocate for citizen science in Australia.

**Buy now**

For some cosy winter-time reading, dive in to the first quarterly list of citizen science publications for 2022, abstracts of which are now available on our website with doi links to the published articles.

**Q1 CitSci publications**

Have you seen the recently launched website of CitizenScience.Asia? It looks great! You can read more about the history of our sister association, and their plans to build connections, capacity and conversations into the future.

**CitizenScience.Asia**

---

## Upcoming Events

- **June 19:** Sustainability and Science Showcase @qldmuseum. Hear about the latest research and learn tips for being more sustainable [find out more](#)
- **June 23:** Join ACSA-Qld online with guest speaker Thomas Mesaglio - learn how you too can contribute to iNaturalist data while on your next nature wander [register](#)
- **August 20:** ACSA-WA "Pathways to Citizen Science" Forum, University of Western Australia. Updates via [ACSA-WA Facebook page](#)
- **October 5-8 2022:** ECSA Conference, Berlin. "Citizen Science for Planetary

Health" [more information](#)

- Check out our Facebook page for more details of upcoming events [here](#).

---

## Calling for Q2 Publications

Have you published recently? We are looking for publications relevant to the field of citizen science in Australia from April - June 2022.

Please send an email to [acsa.pubs.list@gmail.com](mailto:acsa.pubs.list@gmail.com) with the following details and we'll include your publication in our next list:

- title
- author's name and addresses (or affiliations)
- abstract
- the journal/proceedings/book with a link to the published document



---

Australian Citizen Science Association  
c/o Faculty of Science, Partner Engagement and Outreach  
Room 231, Level 2 Carlaw Building F07  
University of Sydney 2006, AU  
ABN: 68 618 948 271

[Unsubscribe](#)