British Phycological Society 71st AGM University of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne Awards & Training Sub-Committee Report by Professor Jason Hall-Spencer

The A&T Committee oversees the BPS bursaries and awards programmes. It is Chaired by the Immediate-Past President. All the current BPS Council Ordinary Members help to judge applications (3 plus Chair look at each round of applications). So far in financial year 2022-2023, thirty-five applications were successful, totalling £42,037 of the nominal budget of £60,000. Awardees were from both the UK and overseas, reflecting the international composition of our membership. Two new schemes, a COVID recovery scheme, and an Algae-Video bursary scheme ran in December 2021. The Algal-video scheme has continued in 2022. Council agreed to increase the value of Project and Conference Bursary awards in 2022 to reflect increased costs and to increase the attractiveness of our awards.

Equal opportunities monitoring for Awards and Training applications was adopted in 2021. The majority of applicants (and awardees) self-identified as white, heterosexual, and female, but there was some diversity in our application pool. Success rates for applicants was around 80% with no differences in success rate between applicants identifying as male or female. The Society will continue to collect these EO data over future rounds.