

ASL policy for funding external activities

This policy regards the funding of activities not within the normal scope of ASL (ie not annual congresses or member meetings) but which are of interest to ASL and involve ASL members. Activities organised by and for state-based members as ASL local events are not covered by this policy.

Preamble

ASL has increasingly been receiving requests to fund activities, termed ‘external activities’, that are related to limnology in Australia but are not aimed at communication among ASL members. Instead, these external activities relate to the production of books, films, websites, or other media relevant to Australian limnology, or to sponsorship of workshop or conference activities that are not specifically for ASL members. Conceivably, ASL will receive requests in the future to fund other activities than these. This policy will guide the ASL executive and committee as to whether the Society should fund particular external activities. The policy is specifically aimed at activities that do not have a purpose focussed on communication between ASL members.

These criteria will also serve as a guide to ASL members seeking funding for an activity.

Criteria for funding external activities.

1. The objectives of ASL, as stated in the constitution, are to promote communication between persons interested in limnological research in Australia and to promote study of Australian inland waters. Study of inland waters means research, publication or dissemination of research on brackish or freshwater ecosystems, their components or surrounds and includes catchments, and activities within catchments, where relationships with and impacts on waterbodies or their components can be clearly demonstrated. It may also include studies of the history of human interaction with aquatic ecosystems. Any application for funding of external activities must demonstrate how it meets the objectives of the Society.
2. Unless the ASL executive deems the circumstances exceptional, or funds are for services that benefit ASL, funding will not normally be given to any activity that does not involve members of the Society.
3. Funding will not be given to any political party, lobby group, or commercial enterprise, whether private or listed company.
4. Funding will not be given to support the core activities of any government agency, whether local, state or Commonwealth unless funds are for provision of a service that benefits ASL.
5. Funding will not be given to pay an income or stipend to a private individual or individuals.
6. Applications for activities benefiting student members of the Society will have a higher priority for funding.

7. Consideration will be given to the scope of projects. Proposals that demonstrate benefits to, or involvement of, ASL members across Australia will have priority over those benefiting a particular location only.
8. Consideration will be given to any on-going costs related to funding an activity. Proposals where there is an ongoing cost to the Society will receive a lower priority.
9. Where the proponent(s) are members of the ASL executive or committee, they will exclude themselves from discussions and the decision regarding whether the activity will receive funding. In this case, proponents may answer questions regarding the nature of the proposal, but take no part in the decision making or discussion of funding or the level of funding.
10. Recipients of funding must acknowledge the contribution of ASL to the project in a visible way. For example, in a written acknowledgments section or the inclusion of the ASL logo on materials produced.