

2023 ELECTION

American Society of Plant Biologists

Enid MacRobbie Corresponding Membership Award

WATARU SAKAMOTO

Okayama University, Japan

For 20 years, Dr. Sakamoto has been a professor at the Institute of Plant Science and Resources at Okayama University, Japan. He has made commensurate contributions to plant biology research and integrated many techniques into his work, including plant physiology, anatomy, genetics, and molecular biology. Dr. Sakamoto has a long record of contributions to the literature on chloroplast biology, particularly protein quality control. He has pioneered the characterization of variegation in leaves, work that led to the concept

of chloroplast proteostasis. Additionally, Dr. Sakamoto's studies on suppressors of leaf variegation demonstrated the importance of protein homeostasis in chloroplasts. His work is being extended to various aspects of chloroplast homeostasis through DNA maintenance and thylakoid remodeling. Dr. Sakamoto has published his research in high-impact journals, and, notably, 20% of his papers have been published in ASPB journals. Dr. Sakamoto has contributed to the international plant science community, particularly to ASPB and the Japanese Society of Plant Physiologists (JSPP). He served as the JSPP Secretary from 2002 to 2004 and Secretary General from 2014 to 2016. He also served as a Monitoring Editor for *Plant Physiology* for 10 years and is now the Editor-in-Chief of *Plant and Cell Physiology*.