## **Purpose Statement**

## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee of the International Zebrafish Society

The IZFS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee aims to increase the participation of zebrafish researchers who come from backgrounds that are underrepresented in scientific research. We celebrate the scientific contributions of IZFS members of all identities. We strive to foster an open and welcoming environment where all members are encouraged to engage in dialogue, question, learn, and contribute to their fullest potential. We endeavor to offer scientific exchange that emphasizes respect for differences in culture, language, and life experience. By engaging with a diverse community of researchers, all members of the society will benefit from enhanced idea exchange and innovation.

This mission can be advanced through engaging with the entire society and its leadership. In addition, specific goals to advance this mission include:

**Raising Awareness:** We endeavour to increase our understanding of the impact of race and ethnicity on the activities of the IZFS within the global research community. Efforts that empower members to engage across social divisions, promote equality and create a society that values diversity will be actively encouraged.

**Diversifying Membership:** We are committed to diversifying the IZFS membership by recruiting and retaining zebrafish researchers that have been historically underrepresented in the scientific workforce. We will promote access and opportunity for all scientists working in the zebrafish field by creating a welcoming environment where diversity is recognised as a strength.

**Recognition:** By recognizing the contributions of scientists who represent a wide variety of identities, the committee aims to highlight the scientific contributions from a diverse group of zebrafish researchers and reward individuals who promote DEI within the zebrafish research community.