

Awards of Excellence

2011



Honouring outstanding achievement in sonography

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The ASA Awards of Excellence honours outstanding achievement in sonography. As the peak body and leading voice for sonographers, the ASA is committed to rewarding excellence and best practice in sonography. Offering a unique opportunity to celebrate our most outstanding sonographers, the ASA Awards of Excellence seek to recognise exceptional contributions to our profession.

On behalf of the ASA's Board of Directors and members, I congratulate the recipients of 2011's inaugural Awards of Excellence on their success and acknowledge their wonderful contribution to the profession of medical sonography.

Faye Temple, President

28 May 2011

Sonographer of the Year – The Pru Pratten Memorial Award

Sonographer of the Year – New South Wales



Awarded to Susan Campbell Westerway

Sue Campbell Westerway is an accredited medical sonographer who has a PhD in Medicine from the University of Sydney. With a major interest in obstetrics, her research work has included formulating the fetal biometry charts for an Australian population, which were adopted by ASUM in 2001.

Involved in ultrasound for 35 years, Sue has seen many changes in technology since 1975 when she began scanning on a Picker B-Mode system with eight shades of grey.

In 1981 she was awarded a Churchill Fellowship, which allowed her to study echocardiography at the Mayo Clinic and the University of California Medical Centre as well as at the National Heart Hospital, the Brompton Hospital and St Georges Hospital in London. On her return she became one of Australia's first applications specialists, travelling extensively to teach all streams of ultrasound to those new to the field. Sue is also qualified in agriculture and was involved in introducing ultrasound to the Australian veterinary field from echocardiography and tendon scans on racehorses to pregnancy testing sheep and cattle.

Sue's clinical involvement now includes specialist Obstetrics and Gynaecology scanning in Sydney and occasional general scanning sessions. With a passion for teaching, Sue is a tutor and examiner for many Australian and international universities and colleges as well as the author of numerous journal articles and a prolific presenter both nationally and internationally.

Sonographer of the Year – South Australia



Awarded to Andrew Wilmot

Andrew Wilmot is an accredited medical sonographer who works as a Chief Sonographer in private practice in South Australia as well as having recently commenced as an applications specialist.

Andrew began his extensive involvement as an ASA volunteer by working with the fabulous team on the SA Branch committee since 2004, firstly as a committee member and more recently as chairperson (to August 2010). It was also in late 2004 that Andrew joined the ASA's Board of Directors. Andrew was elected President of the ASA for three consecutive terms from 2006 to 2009. Advocating on behalf of the profession soon captured his interest and he represented the ASA on the ASAR Council (2005 to 2008) and the Board of Allied Health Professions Australia (2006 to 2010). Andrew was also a nominated member on the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing's 'Working Group for Radiology Site Accreditation' (2009 – 10) and participated on the convening committee for ASA2009 Adelaide.

Musculoskeletal sonography is a passion of Andrew's, and he has enjoyed giving many educational workshops and presentations to sonographers for ASA, ASUM and WFUMB.

Sonographer of the Year -Victoria



Awarded to Greg Lammers

Greg Lammers has been a sonographer since 1989 with time spent working in London from 1990 – 1994. He has held several positions as a Lead Sonographer, Tutor, University Lecturer and DMU Examiner.

Greg has significant involvement in the profession, having served on the ASA's then Federal Council for several years, including as ASA President in 2000/01. Greg also established the ASA's first website in the late 1990s. Always keen to help out, Greg undertook the difficult task of audio-visual co-ordinator at ASA2004 Melbourne and ASA2010 Melbourne.

Over the past 10 years, Greg has specialised in musculoskeletal sonography, with an interest in ultrasound of the peripheral nerve system. He is freely giving of his time, and has lectured at local, national and at international level including for the ASA's Travelling Workshops.

Greg presently works at a newly established musculoskeletal imaging centre, with Imaging @ Olympic Park in Melbourne.

Sonographer of the Year – Australian Capital Territory



Awarded to Sue Caitcheon

Sue Caitcheon started her sonography career by training at Hornsby Diagnostic Ultrasound and North Shore Ultrasound Centre in 1978 and she gained her DMU in 1980. She has been working in Canberra for the past 27 years having moved from her position at Sydney Adventist Hospital where she set up a new department and worked for Dr Richard Picker, Dr Peter Duffy and Dr Bev Barraclough.

Sue moved to Woden Valley Hospital in 1983 to work with Dr Tony Booth, an icon of the time, and also to gain extra experience from hospital work. Sue later left Woden Valley Hospital to work for Dr Graham Utlely where she trained two students who would later replace her when she left to have her first child. When she returned to part time work, Sue again worked for Dr Booth, and then Dr Barry Flynn and Dr Wes Cormick when they joined his practice. This practice later amalgamated with other practices to become Canberra Imaging Group, Sue's current employer.

Sue has always wanted to cement her knowledge and learn much more and perhaps because of this she has worked hard over the past ten or more years to provide education to herself and the sonographers in Canberra and Canberra Imaging Group. Sue has made a significant contribution as co-convenor of ASA2006 Canberra and through running local educational events for ASUM. More recently Sue was instrumental in setting up the ACT branch of ASA, which she continues to chair.

Now as her career is in its closing years, Sue can say with confidence that she chose her life's work well, she has tried to learn from her mistakes, and has made many enduring friendships with sonographers from around Australia. Education of some of the future generation of sonographers is something that Sue can take away at the end of her career with immense pride.

Sonographer of the Year – Tasmania – Not Awarded
Sonographer of the Year – Northern Territory – Not Awarded
Sonographer of the Year – Queensland – Not Awarded
Sonographer of the Year – Western Australia – Not Awarded
Sonographer of the Year – New Zealand – Not Awarded

Trainer of the Year



Awarded to Frank Ryan

Frank qualified as a radiographer in December 1969 after study at RMIT and training at St Vincent's Hospital, Fitzroy, Victoria. It was an education that allowed him to work in the health sphere and a profession that allowed many opportunities throughout his working life. Frank has had the good fortune to work with radiography students for most of his career. Frank has been a sonographer for more than 25 years gaining the DMU in 2000 and a Masters in Medical Sonography in 2003. He has been particularly fortunate to have had the opportunity to pass on his experience of 44+ years in imaging to the future practitioners of the profession. Frank believes sonography will receive recognition as an independent profession in the near future and has focused his efforts towards helping students respect themselves as independent, competent health professionals.

Researcher of the Year



Awarded to Natalie Kelly

Natalie Kelly is one of the senior scientists at Brisbane's The Prince Charles Hospital's Echocardiography Laboratory. She has completed the Masters of Cardiac Ultrasound through the Queensland University of Technology studying Left Atrial Function Following Percutaneous Atrial Septal Defect Closure: A Study Utilising Real-Time Three-Dimensional Echocardiography. This research was awarded the Affiliate Prize at the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand in 2007.

Her main interest is three-dimensional transthoracic echocardiography and has published several times in the Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography as principle investigator -- The Relative Atrial Index (RAI) – A Novel, Simple, Reliable and Robust Transthoracic Echocardiographic Indicator of Atrial Defects – *J Am Soc Echocardiogr.* 2010 Mar;23(3):275-81; Feasibility of Pulmonary Valve Imaging Using Three-Dimensional Transthoracic Echocardiography – *J Am Soc Echocardiogr.* 2010 Oct;23(10):1076-80. Currently she is studying the effects on diastolic function following percutaneous transcatheter aortic valve implantations with the CoreValve ReValving System.

Employer of the Year



Awarded to Red Radiology – Nicholas Bryant

Dr Nicholas Bryant is the Director and Chief Radiologist at Red Radiology. Opened in 2008, Red Radiology was established to enhance the “care factor” experience of patients and referrers, as well as creating a positive team culture that is committed to achieving this service offering. Dr Bryant is a graduate of the University of Queensland; he trained in Radiology at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane before completing a Body Imaging Fellowship at St Paul’s Hospital in Vancouver. Dr Bryant is recognised for his practical approach to general radiology and maintains his interest in ultrasound and ultrasound intervention.

Graduate Sonographer of the Year – Not Awarded

Mentor of the Year – Not Awarded

The ASA Board of Directors congratulates all nominees in the inaugural ASA Awards of Excellence:

Timothy Alchin

Christine Allman

Susan Campbell Westerway

Susan Caitcheon

Erika Cavanagh

Brian Gilling

Natalie Kelly

Greg Lammers

Susanne Lundy

Sarah Jane Langford

Bernadette Mason

Red Radiology – Nicholas Bryant

Susan Reid

Francis (Frank) Ryan

Patricia Richards

Andrew Wilmot

The Board would also like to thank all nominators for their participation in the inaugural Awards of Excellence. We would also like to thank the members of the Judging Panel for their tireless efforts in conducting the judging process.

2012 Awards of Excellence – Key dates:

Nominations for the 2012 Awards of Excellence will open in mid September 2011, and will close at 5.00pm on Friday 17 February 2012.