

The Mark Sheldon Prize

Terms of Reference



Authorising Body:	Board
Responsible Committee(s):	Awards and Recognition Committee
Responsible Department(s):	Membership and Events
Document Code:	TOR The Mark Sheldon Prize

Description

The Mark Sheldon Prize was established in 2000 by the family, friends and colleagues of the late Dr Mark Sheldon, a pioneer psychiatrist who until his death in 1998 strove to provide psychiatric services to remote Aboriginal communities.

Dr Mark Sheldon was devoted to the welfare of Indigenous people in remote communities, and was interested in original research to further their welfare. The prize named in his honour recognises noteworthy contributions (which might include service provision or research) to Indigenous mental health in either Australia or New Zealand.

Eligibility Criteria

The Mark Sheldon Prize is awarded by nomination.

The Prize may be given to RANZCP trainees or early career psychiatrists (e.g. for meritorious work or research in Indigenous mental health undertaken as part of the RANZCP training program). The Prize is also open to more senior RANZCP Fellows and Affiliates, and eminent community members who have made significant contributions to Indigenous mental health.

The following criteria may be considered when judging a nomination for the Prize:

- merit
- overall contribution to psychiatry
- focus on psychiatric aspects of health of an Indigenous population
- overall contribution to the wellbeing of an Indigenous population.

Form of Award

The Mark Sheldon Prize will be in the form of a medallion and certificate presented to the successful nominee. The recipient is invited to attend the College Ceremony at the RANZCP Congress where the award will be presented. The cost of Congress registration will be covered within the award. A link to Dr Sheldon's dissertation (aams.org.au/mark_sheldon/) will also be provided within the winner's letter.

Frequency

The Prize is presented annually, if there is an appropriate nomination.

Nomination Process

The Mark Sheldon Prize is given by nomination only. Nominations may be made by any member of the RANZCP, and must set out the reasons for the nomination.

Nominations must be submitted to: awards@ranzcp.org.

Nominees for the Mark Sheldon Prize are also strongly encouraged to submit an abstract for Congress, within the Indigenous mental health stream.

Selection Panel Composition

The Chair of the Awards and Recognition Committee will chair the Selection Panel. The Selection Panel should also include the Chairs and at least one other member from both the RANZCP Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee, and Te Kaunihera.

At least one member of the Selection Panel must be from Australia and at least one from New Zealand.

In the case of a declared conflict of interest, the Chair of the Selection Panel should advise possible alternate arrangements. In the case where the Chair of the Selection Panel declares a conflict of interest, and it is not possible/feasible to make alternate arrangements, the decision should be deferred to the rest of the Selection Panel.

A majority of the Selection Panel will need to agree that one of the submitted nominations is sufficiently meritorious, for the Prize to be awarded that year. If necessary, the Chair shall have both a deliberative and casting vote.

Revision Record

Contact: Executive Manager, Membership and Events

Date	Version	Approver	Description
July 2015	1.0	Manager, Membership Services	
December 2018	1.1	Awards and Recognition Committee	Updated entitlements.
September 2019	1.2	Awards and Recognition Committee	Updated presentation entitlements. Nominee is strongly encouraged to submit an abstract.
July 2020	1.3	Awards and Recognition Committee	Eligibility expanded to include Affiliate members.
2022			NEXT REVIEW