

THE RANZCP NSW BRANCH MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Synopsis

The NSW Branch Committee deems it appropriate to recognise this NSW Branch Meritorious Service Award ('the Award'), which may be presented on an annual basis to a **Fellow of the RANZCP ('the College') in NSW. In addition an agency or individual who is not a College Member**, who has made significant, sustained and distinguished service and/or outstanding contribution to the practice of psychiatry in a clinical, academic or administrative capacity in NSW may also be recognised and receive an Award

The NSW Branch Committee is responsible for this award. The Award shall comprise an engraved medallion and certificate presented at the Annual Meeting of the NSW Branch by the Chair of the Branch.

Criteria

- A) A Fellow of the College in NSW who has provided significant, sustained and distinguished service and/or outstanding contribution to the practice of psychiatry in any one or more of the following areas:
- Clinical care in the public or private sectors
 - Teaching, training, supervising or mentoring junior doctors, medical students or other mental health clinicians
 - Participation in College NSW Branch activities such as examinations, Branch Committee roles or administrative roles for the College NSW Branch
 - Research in psychiatry pertaining to NSW
 - Administrative roles within Mental Health in NSW
 - Advocacy for consumers or carers within the NSW mental health system
 - Activities that enhance the public image of psychiatry or improve public understanding of mental disorder

In weighing up the relative merits of a range of nominated individuals, the selection panel may consider whether:

- B) The nominee's achievements have been conducted substantially in NSW; and
- C) The nominee has already received significant public recognition for their achievements.
- D) **The award should always be made to a Fellow of the College based in NSW.** However, on occasion when deemed appropriate, an additional award may be presented to an agency or individual who is not a College member, who has made a significant, sustained and distinguished and/or outstanding contribution to the improvement of the practice of psychiatry or mental health in NSW.

Process of Nominating for the Award

The Award is to be given upon review of written nominations received from Branch membership, and the following process is to be adopted:

- (i) A call for nominations for the Award is made using reasonable communication methods to bring to the attention of NSW Branch members, such as the NSW Branch Newsletter and broadcast emails to NSW members
- (ii) The call for nominations provides information about the Award, such as its aims, criteria for nominating, opening and closing dates and access to a nomination form
- (iii) Nominators are asked to include reasons why they believe the nominee is worthy of the award, detailing the nature of their contribution to the practice of psychiatry and mental health in NSW.
- (iv) An abridged CV of the nominated person must be submitted with the nomination form

Process for Assessing Nominations

- (i) The Award subcommittee will be allocated members of the NSW Branch Committee. All members should be exempt from being either nominators or nominees themselves.
- (ii) The Award subcommittee assesses all nominations, initially on the basis of written information received with the nomination. The Award committee is then free to canvass further opinion as is appropriate, such as by contacting the nominator for further information, or contacting other sources about the nominees. The nominees themselves would not ordinarily be contacted, although this could be done if deemed appropriate.
- (iii) The NSW Branch Committee must ratify the recommendation of the Award subcommittee.
- (iv) If for some reason the NSW Branch Committee does not ratify the recommendation, then no Award will be made in that year. Also, if no suitable nominations are received by the Award subcommittee and they elect not to make a recommendation, then again, no Award would be given in that year.
- (v) If, for some reason, the Award winner declines to accept the nomination, then no award is given in that year, and no announcement is made.

Process for making the Award

- (i) The winner of the Award is formally announced in the lead-up to the NSW Branch Annual Dinner, where it is presented by the NSW Branch Chair to the successful nominee (usually held in October).
- (ii) The identities of unsuccessful nominees should not be revealed.
- (iii) The award should consist of a College medallion engraved with the words:

The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists
NSW Branch
Meritorious Service Award 20XX
Awarded to

And a certificate with the wording:

“The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists
NSW Branch
Meritorious Service Award (Year)
is presented to

In recognition of his/her/their significant, sustained and distinguished service and/or outstanding contribution to the Practice of Psychiatry in the state of NSW

Or

In recognition of his/her/their significant, sustained and distinguished service and/or outstanding contribution to the improvement of mental health in NSW

_____ is a worthy and meritorious recipient/s of the NSW Branch Award.
Presented on the occasion of the NSW Branch Annual Dinner
At the venue
October 201X.

Signature:
Chair, NSW Branch
October 201X”