

# Member Awards 2010

Council was extremely proud to present Awards in the following categories at the 2010 Annual General Meeting held in Melbourne. These Awards recognise the considerable contributions our members make to the profession and to the Association. Council's appreciation goes to the many people who have taken the time to research and prepare the nominations that assists the Association in recognising some of our outstanding colleagues.

## Elinor Wray Award

Instituted in 1981 to honour the founder of speech pathology in Australia, the Elinor Wray Award is granted for outstanding contribution to the profession of speech pathology. The contribution of the nominee is essentially clinical or project oriented and will encompass one or more of the following areas: Innovations in diagnostic, assessment or treatment procedures, Promotion of speech pathology to government, the community or to other professionals, Research, Student training. Council was pleased to recognise two outstanding recipients of this award.

**Teena Caithness** is a deserving recipient for her extensive work in the field of disability. Owing to her drive and vision, the Inclusive Communication and Behaviour Support Training Program (ICABS) has resulted in significant changes to the way group home staff work with people with life-long disabilities who have complex communication needs and behavioural issues. Designing the NSW program, Teena negotiated internal funding and, along with her team, delivered training to over 990 residential support workers and other staff. The changes Teena and her team pioneered have been felt across the entire disability sector and have created a more sustainable and consistent approach to working with people with complex communication and behavioural needs.



Recognised with the NSW Premier's Public Sector Award for Fairness and Opportunity in 2009, Teena's hard work and dedication have not only promoted the needs of people working with severe communication difficulties, but speech pathology as a whole.

**Debra Phyland** is recognised in speech pathology, vocal pedagogy and medical fields as a leader in the area of voice care and management. Actively seeking new challenges and frontiers for the profession, Debra has pioneered the role of the speech pathologist in preventative care of the voice in the performance industry, the importance of which was recognised when she was awarded Sir Winston Churchill/William Fitzpatrick Fellowship in 2002.



Debra's wealth of knowledge and dynamic teaching style has inspired her students and practising clinicians alike, through her lectures, workshops and presentations.

Consumers have not been the only beneficiaries of Debra's significant clinical expertise, but the profession as a whole has benefited from her teaching and promotion of Speech Pathology to the professions of musical theatre, drama and opera, as well as the general public and media.

## Recognition Of Service

The Recognition of Service award is granted by the Association to members in recognition of ongoing, valuable and voluntary service to the Association at either a National or Branch level. Council was pleased to recognise two outstanding recipients for this award.

**Dr Emma Power** was an inspiring and dynamic Branch President for NSW from 2004 to 2007. During this time, she raised the profile of the branch both locally and nationally, developing a branch orientation kit (subsequently adopted by other branches), implementing a sub-committee structure within the branch, growing student participation and enhancing member involvement from a cross-section of workplaces and geographical areas.



In addition to her achievements as Branch President, Dr Power has also served as president and secretary of the NSW Allied Health Alliance, as well as member of the SpeechBITE™ advisory committee and Scientific Review Panel of the 2007 to 2010 Speech Pathology Australia National Conferences.

**Jill Curtis** has served the Association in many capacities since becoming a member in 1984, being actively involved in both the Tasmanian and South Australian Branches, as well as contributing nationally through her input to various working parties and papers, including the Speech Pathology Australia Autism Advisory Group. Holding the Professional Standards portfolio in Tasmania for many years, Jill has provided invaluable knowledge, skill and expert advice to the portfolio and the Branch.



She has been instrumental in lobbying efforts in Tasmania, working tirelessly to improve access to Speech Pathology services for people with communication and swallowing difficulties in Tasmania. As Vice President of the Tasmanian Branch, Jill provides extensive support to the Branch President and members of the Executive and is always willing to propose, develop, and implement new ideas.

## Fellowship

Fellowship of Speech Pathology Australia is a public professional honour awarded to a person with considerable experience, responsibility and standing within the speech pathology profession. Council was pleased to recognise two outstanding recipients for this award.

**Dr Chyrisse Heine** is a prominent and internationally recognised speech pathologist and audiologist. Her immense knowledge base and skill in the areas of auditory processing disorders, aural rehabilitation, dual sensory loss, school readiness, classroom acoustics and assistive listening devices, speech processing and cochlear implants, in addition to teaching, research and practice management are widely recognised both within our own profession, and within the profession of audiology. A member for many years, Dr Heine has demonstrated leadership and a commitment to the Association, serving in key roles such as convenor of the Speech Pathology Australia Overseas Qualifications task group, editor for the Association ACQ publication and guest editor for the International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology.



**Professor Sheena Reilly** is exceptionally well recognised nationally and internationally, having worked in both the United Kingdom and Australia as a speech pathologist and researcher. Last year she was recognised as a fellow of the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists. Contributing to the Association as an executive board member of the International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology,



Prof Reilly has provided leadership to the Association through her willingness to provide expert advice and media input in the field of paediatric speech pathology.

Prof Reilly's breadth of professional knowledge and skill in the area of paediatric speech pathology is astounding and her research is well recognised, both in Australia and abroad. She has made a sustained and exceptional contribution to the profession and the Association over an extensive period of time.

Dr Heine has been honoured with a number of awards including Audiology Australia's Certificate of Outstanding Service for developing stronger bonds between Audiologists and Speech Pathologists, and for her work in Auditory Processing Disorders and is a widely published researcher and lecturer.

## Student Awards

The following students were acknowledged for their academic and clinical excellence:

- **Charles Sturt University**  
Bachelor **Thizbe Wenger**
- **Curtin University**  
Bachelor **Courtney Fraser**
- **James Cook University**  
Bachelor **Philippa Smith**
- **La Trobe University**  
Bachelor **Brydon O'Neill-Guy**
- **Macquarie University**  
Masters **Jennifer Crane**
- **University of Newcastle**  
Bachelor **Joanne Steel**
- **University of Queensland**  
Bachelor **Simone Howells**
- **University of Queensland**  
Masters **Katrina Partynski**
- **University of Sydney**  
Bachelor **Berna Gurisik**
- **University of Sydney**  
Masters **Anna McIlwaine**