

Academy medals and lectures

Central to the purpose of the Academy is the encouragement of excellence in science. Awards for distinguished research are made to early-career researchers, under the age of 40, and to career researchers for contributions made during their working lives.

The 2009 Academy awards for scientific excellence were awarded to the following researchers:

Career awards

Matthew Flinders Medal and Lecture

Professor Bruce McKellar FAA, University of Melbourne, for research in particle physics, including weak interactions in the nucleus.

David Craig Medal

Emeritus Professor Leonard Lindoy FAA, University of Sydney, for research on the chemistry of molecular recognition and the extraction of metal ions from mixtures.

Hannan Medal

Professor (Edward) Norman Dancer FAA, University of Sydney, for research in nonlinear analysis and nonlinear differential equations.

Jaeger Medal for research in Earth sciences

Professor Malcolm McCulloch FAA, Australian National University, for the study of the solid Earth and environmental issues.

Thomas Ranken Lyle Medal

Professor Victor Flambaum FAA, University of New South Wales, for research on the violation of fundamental symmetries and unification theories of elementary particles.



Bruce McKellar, the Matthew Flinders Medallist for 2009

Early-career awards

Fenner Medal for research in biology

Associate Professor Sean Connolly, James Cook University, for research on the processes influencing population dynamics, ecological interactions and biodiversity.

Ruth Stephens Gani Medal

Dr Marnie Blewitt, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, for research on the epigenetics of X-inactivation, and the control of stem cell function.

Gottschalk Medal

Dr Carola Vinuesa, Australian National University, for research on the regulation of the immune system and the causes of autoimmune diseases.

Inaugural Anton Hales Medal

Associate Professor Jeffrey Walker, University of Melbourne, for research on the remote sensing of soil moisture and data assimilation.

Dorothy Hill Award

Dr Daniela Rubatto, Australian National University, for research on metamorphic petrology, growth of the Earth's crust and mountain building.

Le Fèvre Memorial Prize

Dr Stephen Blanksby, University of Wollongong, for research on gas phase ion chemistry and mass spectrometry and its application to lipidomics.

Moran Medal

Dr Melanie Bahlo, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, for research in theoretical population genetics, genetic epidemiology and gene mapping.

Pawsey Medal

Dr Stuart Wyithe, University of Melbourne, for research on cosmology and the understanding of the likely structure of the early universe.

Academy Medal

The Academy's Council awarded the Academy Medal to the outgoing Executive Secretary, Professor Sue Serjeantson. The medal recognises outstanding contributions to science by a person outside the Fellowship who has, by sustained efforts in the public domain, significantly advanced the cause of science and technology in Australia or who has made a substantial contribution to the Academy. The Academy Medal was established in 1990 and has been awarded on only five other occasions.



Photo: Terri Shine

Sue Serjeantson being presented with the Academy Medal

Lindau awardees

Seven young Australian researchers attended the Meeting of Nobel Laureates in Lindau, Germany, from 29 June to 4 July. The topic for the meeting in 2008 was physics, with the delegation being led by Professor Ron Ekers FAA. The Academy provided funding support for travel, and the Lindau committee provided accommodation and registration. The delegates attended *Science at the Shine Dome* from 7 to 9 May, where they attended a briefing session about the Lindau meeting and had the opportunity to meet each other, Professor Ekers, past delegation leaders and other senior scientists.

More information on awards is available at: www.science.org.au/awards.htm