



AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS

The Australian Science Communicators

is proud to offer the

Unsung Hero Award of Australian Science Communication

The Unsung Hero of Australian Science Communication is an initiative of the Australian Science Communicators. The ASC offers this award to honour a person or group who exemplify science communication.

Nominations are now open for the **2012 Unsung Hero Award of Australian Science Communication**.

Criteria

The criteria for nomination for the **Unsung Hero Australian Science Communication** are as follows:

1. **Nominees** must be resident in Australia and actively engaged in science communication, interpreted broadly to include, but not limited to, pursuits such as:

- teaching,
- broadcasting,
- script and book writing,
- science shows,
- science promotion and
- interpretation of science within cultural institutions.

2. The work for which the nominee is being nominated must have been carried out in Australia.

3. Nominees, whether a person, people or group, should have not yet received significant recognition for their contribution to science and its promotion. This will almost certainly rule out a 'top' or popular science communicator. The nominee should have shown that they regard science communication as an integral part of scientific work.

4. Nominees should have a considerable or prolonged record (at least several years) in science communication.

The award is intended to recognise those whose contribution has been so significant over a period of time that they should by now have been recognised. It is unlikely that this would apply to a candidate whose contribution, however significant, is of short duration.

5. Nominators must give careful consideration to what counts as 'science' - for example, nominees from technological or environmental fields should be nominated not just on the basis of their contribution to those particular fields, but because the scientific side of their work is strong and their communication contributes to a better understanding of the process and practice of science.

Notes:

This award may be made to a candidate whose work is specifically in science education, promotion or communication in one or many fields where the **science component** of their work is highly significant.

Benefits of the award

Ideally, the award may assist the recipient in their work, for example by publicising a difficult issue or by recognising that they have been a 'lone and unpopular voice' in spite of their scientific achievements being strong.

The award may also help a recipient to focus attention on their efforts or give them greater credibility and help them overcome adverse or unfair criticism.

Selection Process

Selection is based solely on the written information provided on the nomination form.

A selection committee of representatives from the Australian Science Communicators will assess all nominations and determine award recipients.

In some instances the selection committee may request further information before making their final decision.

Depending on the number and quality of nominees, the judges may also award a **High Commendation Award**. The criteria for this award are the same as for deciding the winner, but this award will not be automatically given. It should be reserved for a nominee who would be considered worthy of winning the main award.

The Australian Science Communicators reserves the right to make no awards, or High Commendation(s) only, should the judges consider that the quality of candidates does not warrant awards, or should the nominated candidate(s) not satisfy the selection criteria.

Award Nominations

Requirements for Award Nomination

The nominator should first consult with the nominee and referees to ensure the nominee is aware of, and gives consent, to the application.

Each nomination must comprise a fully completed award nomination form. Preferable length: 2 pages.

Nominations close at 5pm on Friday 2 November 2012.

The award will be presented during the Australian Science Communicators Annual General Meeting, 27 November 2012 in Brisbane.

Nomination enquiries to

David Ellyard

Email: david@davidellyard.com

Tel: (02) 9876-4224

Send completed nominations to

Ms Kali Madden

Executive Officer - Australian Science Communicators

PO Box 13, Billinudgel, NSW 2483

Email: office@asc.asn.au to request electronic version of application form and to submit entry



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Unsung Hero Award of Science Communication 2012

Nomination form

Who do you wish to nominate?

Name:

Organisation (their current position):

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

For what particular activity/achievement would you wish to see your nominee honoured (such as teaching, broadcasting, script and book writing, science shows, etc.)?

Brief statement of nominee's activities/employment:

Briefly describe why you believe your nominee to be a "hero of Australian science communication" (include details such as achievements and work in science communication and length of time in this area):

Briefly describe why you consider your nominee to be “unsung” (has the nominee received any previous awards or recognition for their work in the science or science communication field?):

Referees - the following people are familiar with the work of my nominee and will referee my nomination:

Name:

Organisation:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Name:

Organisation:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Name and contact details of nominator:

Name:

Organisation:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

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