

BBI – The Australian Institute of Theological Education

Lifetime Achievement Award

Preamble

A Lifetime Achievement Award is deemed the most significant accolade **BBI – The Australian Institute of Theological Education** can bestow on an individual. The Award distinguishes unique individuals who merit special recognition for their contribution to theology and associated disciplines. The Award is given to outstanding scholars for a life-time of achievement, consonant with the “Theology-Connected” objectives of BBI. (See BBI Mission, Appendix 1 and “Theology Connected”, Appendix 2)

In bestowing the Lifetime Achievement Award, BBI recognizes those individuals whose academic and pastoral accomplishments have made an exceptional contribution to: The church, the theological academy and wider society. Recipients of the Award will also have achieved national and international recognition for academic excellence in research and publications as well as inspiring a generation of theological graduates. In nominating a particular individual who has demonstrated transformational theological education, BBI makes a public declaration of its mission and adherence to Gospel values. In selecting candidates for the Award, BBI seeks to highlight the potential of Theology-Connected to advance fruitful dialogue between faith and contemporary culture.

Criteria

Factors to be considered in recommending an individual for the Award also include one or more of the following:

- academic eminence and distinguished achievement in teaching, research or publications;
- demonstrated achievement in making theology: relevant, rigorous, catholic and inclusive – “Theology-Connected”
- an outstanding contribution beyond the expectations of the person’s particular field of endeavour which has influenced the thinking or general well-being of the wider community;
- distinguished service to the theological academy of longstanding and exceptional merit;
- demonstrated transformational (personal and institutional) theological education;
- international or national prominence and impact that has been recognised as such by others working in the theological academy or church agencies or institutions such as education and health care.
- service to the local, national and international church

General Policies

Eligibility and Exclusions

The Lifetime Achievement Award recognises conspicuous, continued involvement in one or more of the following:

- Support of the mission, interests and welfare of BBI, or of a particular part of the Institute's activities;
- Support of Catholic identity and mission;
- Promotion of academic, pastoral and human formation;
- Academic excellence in research, teaching and publications;
- Promotion of Ecumenism;
- Enlarging educational opportunities to enter BBI programs among individuals with limited prospects of so doing for reasons which they could not overcome;
- Australians and non-Australians may be considered for the Award.
- Generally speaking, active or newly retired members of staff, voting members of the Board of Directors, and Australian politicians currently in office should not be considered for the Award.
- Normally, the Award is not given posthumously or in absentia.

Nomination Process

- The Academic Dean will each year call for nominations for the Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Each nomination should have a nominator and a seconder, and should be supported by sufficient documentation to demonstrate the merit of the case, and to assist in the preparation of a citation.
- Nominees for the Award must not be consulted before nomination or at any time prior to the person being advised of a decision.
- All nominations, deliberations, investigations and recommendations relating to a nomination must be treated as strictly confidential.
- The Academic Dean will take apposite nominations to the Academic Board, who will review and consider nominations, and make a recommendation for conferral of the Award.
- The Academic Board reserves the right not to make an Award each year.