The AusIMM Award Recipients 2009

Institute Medal
Zimi Meka FAusIMM

With more than 25 years Australian and international experience in his field, Zimi Meka has a remarkable capacity for developing new opportunities through technical innovation and culturally sensitive business practices. Zimi has demonstrated this as the CEO and co-founder of Ausenco Limited, which specialises in designing, constructing and commissioning mineral processing plants throughout the world, including some in difficult and remote locations.

President’s Award
Derek Carter FAusIMM(CP)

Derek Carter has taken a leading role in demonstrating the exceptional prospectivity of South Australia through his formation and guidance of the Minotaur group of companies. This work has highlighted not only the Gawler Craton through the discovery of the Prominent Hill orebody (now an established world class copper-gold operation), but also the geothermal potential in the Flinders Ranges (by Petratherm) and accessing copper/nickel opportunities in the little explored and remote Musgrave Block (by Mithril). Derek was the initiator of Toro Energy, which is engaged in the development of the Wiluna uranium deposits. Through these activities, and his earlier discovery of the Los Santos tungsten orebody in Spain, he is universally recognised as an innovative and successful explorer.

Derek is also a leading light in championing the causes of greenfields exploration and the value of the work of junior explorers; he currently chairs the Federal Government’s Minerals Exploration Advisory Group and is involved in various industry bodies in South Australia.

Honorary Fellow
Don Morley HonFAusIMM

Don Morley has been a member of The AusIMM for more than 40 years and was President in 2000. Don was a Councillor from 1992 to 1996, Honorary Treasurer from 1987 until 1996 and a Director in 2000 and 2001. He received the Beryl Jacka Award in 1997.

Don played a significant role in managing the Institute's finances through difficult times and also was heavily involved in the major changes which were made to The AusIMM's structure. In a long and distinguished career, he was an Executive Director of WMC and served on industry bodies, such as the World Gold Council and as Treasurer of the International Council of Mining and Metallurgical Institutions (CMMI).
Honorary Fellow
Eric Garner AM HonFAusIMM(CP)

Eric Garner has provided distinguished and continued service to The AusIMM over many years. His contributions have included lengthy terms as a Councillor representing overseas members; Chair of the Membership Applications Committee; Chair of the Complaints Committee; and involvement in and valued advice to various Membership task forces, the Board and Chief Executive, and in negotiations with the ACCC and the revision of the Institute by-laws in 2004.

Honorary Fellow
Dr Brian White HonFAusIMM(CP)

Brian White has been a stalwart member of The AusIMM for more than 30 years. During this period he has continuously contributed at a significant level through his membership of numerous Branch committees and with other important Institute roles, including the Chartered Practising Status Working Party. Brian has also worked tirelessly at a grass roots level, particularly in the area of tertiary education, to further the standing of The AusIMM.

Brian received the Beryl Jacka Award in 1998 and has maintained a very active involvement in the Institute’s affairs. He continued as a Councillor until 2000, served as a Director of the Board and became a member of the Interim Joint Board of AusIMM/IEAust in 2001. He has chaired the University Liaison Committee and was actively involved with the Australian Student Mineral Venture (ASMV) Executive Committee for many years from its outset. Brian is a current member of the Awards Committee, the Ethics Committee and the Mining Society Committee, and an erstwhile member of the Complaints Committee.

Beryl Jacka Award
Peter McCarthy FAusIMM(CP)

Peter McCarthy has demonstrated exceptional leadership in advancing the values of professionalism and technical excellence throughout his career. He has both contributed to and led a range of initiatives aimed at representing the industry through his participation on a large number of AusIMM Committees. These roles have included membership of the Audit and Risk Management, Awards, JORC, Education Task Force, EEF Board of Trustees, Remuneration and Succession Planning Committees and Chair of the Heritage and Emerging and Strategic Issues Committees, and a past MICA Board member. Peter has served as an AusIMM Board Member since 2003 and as AusIMM President in 2007 and 2008.

MIOTA
Neil Schofield MAusIMM

After completing a Master’s degree in geostatistics at Stanford University, Neil Schofield specialised in the application of geostatistics to resource estimation and grade control simulation. As a result of this work, he produced simulation-based software, MP©, specifically designed to optimise ore selection in mining operations.

Neil was responsible for the first recognised application of conditional simulation to grade control optimisation in Australia. This was at the Marvel Loch and Yilgarn Star gold mines in Western Australia in the early 1990s. These mines significantly increased ore production with no loss of grade within several months of the introduction of what developed into the MP© grade control system. Importantly, the operations moved quickly from being mine-limited to mill-limited. With the acceptance of dedicated RC grade control drilling and the application of MP©, short to medium term mine planning was considerably improved, as was the definition of stockpile grades.
MP© has been applied in numerous mines for a range of commodities and has resulted in a positive and measurable impact on profitability. It generates ore block shapes that are easily interfaced with popular mining software packages and assumes no advanced geostatistical knowledge.

Neil also produced the resource modelling software, GS3, which is based around the method of multiple indicator kriging. This has assisted numerous clients with recoverable resource estimation as well as automated variographic modelling.

Jim Torlach Health and Safety Award  
Dr Basil Beamish MAusIMM

Basil Beamish has shown inspirational leadership and commitment throughout his professional career including service to the Queensland coal industry as a Mines Rescue Team vice-captain and captain, during which time he led teams which won national mines rescue competitions and a Healy Cup (1983) in the Queensland competition. Basil’s work also resulted in increased awareness of the health and safety risks associated with spontaneous combustion and coal seam gas through regular presentations at AusIMM conferences and industry workshops in Australia and New Zealand.

From his significant contribution to combating the outburst hazard problem in underground operations as a key member of a mining research team at Collinsville Coal Mine in the 1980s to his current role as Senior Lecturer in Mining Engineering at the University of Queensland, Basil has been a leader in advancing fire and explosion prevention and mining education.

Branch Service Award  
Don Henderson FAusIMM(CP) (Southern Queensland)

The Branch Service Award is bestowed upon Don Henderson for services to the Southern Queensland Branch. Don has been an outstanding Branch Chairman on two occasions and the current strength of the Branch owes much to his vision, dedication and hard work over many years.

Don has been an AusIMM member for more than 40 years since his university days. He was Chairman of the Branch in 1994 and 2007 and each term was preceded by a couple of years as Vice Chairman. He instituted the August Student Seminar concept in 1994; assisted in the introduction of the ASMV in Southern Queensland; encouraged support for students, including those attending QUT; changed the location of technical talks which has seen a big increase in attendance and encouraged a high standard of technical sessions.

Branch Service Award  
Terrence (Terry) Howard MAusIMM (Newman Combined Group)

The Branch Service Award is bestowed upon Terry Howard in appreciation of his careful stewardship and involvement over an extensive time with the Newman Combined Group, and for his contribution as a Councillor of The AusIMM. Terry kept the Combined Group functioning during a time when many regional and country groups had become defunct or fallen victim to ever more mobile memberships. He maintained a sustainable business model and adequate reserves that have allowed the Branch to deal with the uncertainty of operating in the high cost environment of Newman, WA.

Branch Service Award  
Robert James (Jim) Morrison FAusIMM (North Queensland)

The Branch Service Award is bestowed upon Jim Morrison for his long term involvement with the NQ Branch and Charters Towers sub-branch Committee. Jim is always willing to assist whenever and where-ever he can. During his lengthy service with the NQ Branch
Committee, Jim has organised social activities such as camping weekends and tours; assisted and arranged technical sessions and the Sir George Fisher Lectures; and was a key organiser of the 2008 NQ mining conference in Charters Towers.

**AusIMM Service Award**  
**Trevor Ireland FAusIMM(CP)**

The AusIMM Service Award is bestowed upon Trevor Ireland in recognition of his long and meritorious service to The Institute, including as Chairman of the Adelaide Branch for the periods 1997-1999 and for 2003-2006, and in particular, for his outstanding contribution to the planning and successful stewardship of the 2004 PACRIM Conference.

**AusIMM Service Award**  
**Miriam Way, Director of Conferences and Events, The AusIMM**

The AusIMM Service Award is presented to Miriam Way in recognition of outstanding service and dedication to, and support of, the aspirations of the Institute. Miriam is a supportive and communicative colleague to her peers and members alike, always focused on the best interests of the Institute. Miriam has not only met, but exceeded the expectations placed upon her in what continues to be a challenging and vital role, and has maintained the strongest relationships with members, colleagues and external partners. For these reasons, Miriam Way is most fittingly, the first employee to be a recipient of The AusIMM Service Award.

**New Professionals Award**  
**Helen O’Keefe OAM GAusIMM**

The New Professional Award is bestowed on Helen O’Keefe, a member of the Perth branch and former committee member, representing the committee at an AusIMM Congress.

Helen was also a committee member of the AusIMM Kalgoorlie Student Chapter and the WASM Student Guild. She was involved in the WASM Wombats Mining Team, leading several victorious teams as a student, competing as an alumni member and helping host the 24th International Intercollegiate Mining Competition as Event Secretary. Helen has attended conferences and mine tours across Australia and the USA and actively participated in Mines Rescue. She has been involved in numerous mining-community liaison activities including Coolgardie Day, St Barbara’s Day and mining demonstrations and promotions in Kalgoorlie-Boulder. She was recently awarded an Order of Australia Medal for her work in promoting the mining industry in the community.

Helen has been involved in large scale mining operations such as the KCGM Super Pit and BHP Billiton’s Olympic Dam and provided technical expertise in many diverse projects across the world whilst working for major mining consultancies such as Snowden and Runge. She now works as an independent consultant, assisting a diverse range of clients from large multi-national mining houses to small junior companies.

**G B O’Malley Award**  
**Jenny-Rebecca Stein SAusIMM**

Jenny Stein was the lead author of the paper “Stratigraphy and lithology of basal sediments of the eastern Southland lignite basin”, presented to the 2009 AusIMM New Zealand Branch Annual Conference. Jenny won the prize for the best paper prepared and presented at the Conference. Jenny is a student at the University of Otago, Dunedin, NZ and is a student member of the NZ Branch of The AusIMM. The judges considered her paper provided a clear report on a robust piece of research and her presentation was most professional.
Best Paper Prize
C J Carr, P Christen, G R Power and D R Ashley

The AusIMM’s Publications Committee recommended the paper entitled “Evaluation of Underground Mining Options at Xstrata Copper’s Ernest Henry Copper-Gold Mine” for the inaugural AusIMM Best Paper prize. The paper was published in Project Evaluation 2009 Conference Proceedings. The Publications Committee considered a final group of 30 papers (from a total of 500) across the diverse professional and technical areas covered by AusIMM Conferences in 2009. Finalists were of a very high standard, with the winning work judged to contain all the elements expected of a professional paper, including technical excellence, industry relevance, and a high standard of content, structure and presentation.

The Consultants Society (MICA)
MICA Medal
Dr Brian White HonFAusIMM(CP)

In recognition of Dr Brian White’s significant contribution to MICA and The AusIMM over many years, including Chairman of MICA, Vice President of The AusIMM, and Beryl Jacka Award recipient in 1998. Brian has been active in many Institute branches and committees, particularly Students and Young Professionals, Ethics, Education and Chartered Practising Status. The award also recognises his dedication in furthering the reputation and standing of MICA as the pre-eminent association representing minerals industry consultants in Australia and the Asia Pacific.

Sir Willis Connolly Memorial Medal
Laureate Professor John Ralston

Professor Ralston is currently the Director of the Ian Wark Research Institute and Laureate Professor of Physical Chemistry and Minerals Processing at the ARC Special Research Centre for Particle and Material Interfaces, University of South Australia. John was presented with his award at the St Barbara’s Day Luncheon in Melbourne Victoria on 3 December 2009.

The Sir Willis Connolly Memorial Medal is awarded to a person who through his ability to communicate has advanced the professionalism, industry or management of science, engineering or technology. This is a joint award between The AusIMM and the Barbarians – a group established by those associated with brown coal in Victoria who have had close ties to the industry in West Germany.

Sir Frank Espie/Rio Tinto Leadership Awards

The 2010/2011 Sir Frank Espie/Rio Tinto Leadership Award holders are Ben Crooks SAusIMM and Michael Webb-Martin SAusIMM both studying a Bachelor of Engineering (Mining) at Western Australian School of Mines, and James Gilmour SAusIMM studying Bachelor of Engineering (Mining) at the University of Queensland.

The most outstanding scholarship winners currently receive a Sir Frank Espie / Rio Tinto Leadership Award, which will entitle them to $14,000 per year. This scholarship was generously endowed by the Espie Family, in memory of Sir Frank Espie. Sir Frank demonstrated outstanding leadership, dedication, and technical management to the mining industries of Australia and Papua New Guinea, and was a distinguished leading member of The AusIMM.

Applicants must be Australian citizens or students with a permanent resident visa status. Students must be entering their penultimate or final year of study in an AusIMM-recognised undergraduate degree (including Honours) at an Australian University.
**Atlas Copco Scholarship**
Nathan Campbell SAusIMM
Nathan is currently enrolled in his third year at the Western Australian School of Mines in Kalgoorlie.
This scholarship allows the winner to spend a week of work experience with Atlas Copco in Australia, followed by two weeks with Atlas Copco in Sweden. It is open to all student members of the AusIMM who are in their penultimate or final year of a recognised minerals-related course. For the one week with Atlas Copco in Australia the winner of the scholarship will get a feel for Atlas Copco's mining equipment and will also experience firsthand Atlas Copco's alliances with the Australian mining industry.

The first week in Sweden is spent at the production facilities in Orebro, with Atlas Copco's R&D marketing teams. After this total product overview, the winner will spend the second week visiting Swedish mine sites.

The scholarship is open to AusIMM Student members studying at Australian, New Zealand and Papua New Guinean universities in the final two years of their Bachelor's Degree in technical courses of relevance to the minerals industry.