

## The NMI Prize

Value of the award: \$2 000

### Important dates:

Closing date for nominations: 5 pm AEST, 30 April 2014

Announcement of award: 20 May 2014

### Scope

The **NMI Prize** is an annual award that acknowledges and celebrates outstanding achievement in measurement research and/or excellence in practical measurements by a young individual working in academia, research or industry in Australia.

This prize is reserved specifically for nominations by young Australians, as a means of promoting measurement science and fostering the application of measurement science and techniques in innovative fields.

Measurement is both a technique and a process that underpins much of life as we know it but is often taken for granted. As an enabling technology, measurement provides the foundation for progress and advancement of human society.

With the increasing advance of science and technology, Lord Kelvin's words are even more pertinent today than when they were first espoused: *'When you can measure what you are speaking about and express it in numbers, you know something about it; but when you cannot measure it, when you cannot express it in numbers, your knowledge is of a meagre and unsatisfactory kind: it may be the beginning of knowledge but you have scarcely in your thoughts, advanced to the stage of science.'*

However, the relevance of measurement is broader than direct applications in science and technology; it underpins decisions in economics and politics and often is the foundation for innovation in many other areas.

NMI believes that it is only by recognising and celebrating achievements in measurement that this important infra-technology will be adequately acknowledged.

### Eligibility criteria

Eligible applicants are individuals up to 35 years of age who have made a highly significant contribution to the science of measurement either as an individual or as a member of a group.

Excellence in measurement may include but is not restricted to:

- *Novel applications of measurement techniques to resolution of industrial 'problems'*  
Applying measurement techniques to resolve possible 'problems' in industry may sometimes require a multi-faceted approach encompassing techniques that cross the traditional boundaries of science and engineering to provide industrial measurement solutions.
- *Research in measurement techniques*

Research and/or application of research in measurement techniques that improve the uncertainty of measurement. Such research may sometimes involve application of a multi-disciplinary approach to provide improvements in the way a measurement is taken, or the accuracy of measurement.

- *Leadership role in measurement fields*  
Leadership at the national, regional or international level in a discipline or activity that involves application of measurement science. It would involve a peer-assessed acknowledgment of the contribution by the individual to measurement activities in the international or regional arena.

### **Terms and conditions of nomination**

1. The nominee must either be Australian or the activity for which the nomination is based must be, or have been, conducted in Australia.
2. The nominee must be 35 years of age or younger at the time of the closing date of nomination.
3. Information provided in the Nomination Form may be used for publicity/promotional purposes.
4. Employees of the National Measurement Institute and their immediate family members are not eligible to be nominated for this award.
5. The winner must be prepared to travel and attend a presentation ceremony to accept the award. The ceremony may either be on World Metrology Day itself or on a future date to be confirmed. Travel within Australia and other associated costs for the presentation ceremony will be met by the National Measurement Institute.
6. Posthumous awarding of the medal will only be made under exceptional circumstances.

### **How to nominate**

A completed Nomination Form together with supporting documentation must be lodged by 5.00 p.m. AEST of the closing date for entries. The preferred mode of lodgement is via e-mail ([communications@measurement.gov.au](mailto:communications@measurement.gov.au)). Please ensure that the information provided in the Nomination Form is accurate, up-to-date and complete as no changes will be entertained once the form has been submitted.

Supporting documentation shall consist of:

- a. a brief description of the activity, including its aims/objectives and results to date (two pages maximum).
- b. a brief explanation of how the activity represents excellence in measurement by addressing the eligibility criteria above (two pages maximum).
- c. a maximum of three independent assessments from people familiar with the nomination, commenting on how the submission represents excellence in measurement by addressing the eligibility criteria above (one page maximum for each assessor). Note: Judges will be relying upon assessor's comments to provide additional depth and perspective on the nomination.

If further clarification of the above information is needed, please contact [communications@measurement.gov.au](mailto:communications@measurement.gov.au).