



The New Zealand
Psychological Society

Tē Rōpū Mātai Hinengaro o Aotearoa

Hunter Award

Guideline Document

Updated August 2010

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A brief history of the award

The Hunter Award was established in 1972 in memory of Sir Thomas Hunter who was the first professor of psychology appointed in New Zealand. He also established the first psychology clinic, modelled on the clinic established by Lightner Witmer, the founder of clinical psychology. The Hunter Award is an award of distinction reflecting long-term, potentially life-time, achievement in either scholarship and research and/or in the professional practice of psychology. It is the first award ever offered by the NZPsS.

Aims of the award

The Hunter Award recognises and encourages excellence in scholarship, research, and professional achievement in psychology. It is recognised that exceptional individuals may qualify under both the scholarship/research criteria and the professional practice criteria.

Nature of the award

The Award is offered every three years, with the scholarship/research award alternating with the professional practice award. The recipient of the Hunter Award receives \$1000 and is invited to present the "Sir Thomas Hunter Address" at the NZPsS conference in the following year (or as soon as possible thereafter), and is invited to submit a paper based on the award to either of the NZPsS publications *Journal of Psychology* or *Psychology Aotearoa*.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for the Hunter Award, nominees must be current members of the NZPsS and have been a member for a minimum of five years prior to nomination.

The Awards Committee will consider nominees in terms of their being recognised as having a sustained history of notable and distinguished scholarship, research and/or professional achievement in psychology. The impact of their work in scholarship, research, and professional practice in the scientific and/or professional community, and possibly in the wider community in Aotearoa/New Zealand or elsewhere, will be a major factor in evaluating nominees.

Nomination process

Nominees are invited through NZPsS publications and the NZPsS website. The closing date for nominations will be advertised. Nominators need to be full members of the NZPsS and must have the nominee's written consent for the nomination.

Nominators need to

- Supply a letter to the NZPsS National Office naming the person being nominated for the Hunter Award and outlining the nature and extent of the achievements upon which the nomination is based.
- Submit a current curriculum vitae of the nominee, and signed consent from the nominee to their nomination.

- Provide names of two referees who may be approached by the Awards Committee to provide a confidential reference (referees do not need to be members of the Society).
- Either provide copies of the nominee's representative scholarly and research publications representing significant impact and achievement, and/or provide a statement with supporting evidence of significant and impact and achievements in their professional practice. This material may be supplied in electronic form.
- Note that if the nomination is successful, the nominee will be asked to indicate if they are willing to be named in the media in any reports of the NZPsS awards.

To assist the Awards Committee it is important that all information provided is full accurate and complete.

All communication regarding the Hunter Award should be addressed to

Membership Administrator
New Zealand Psychological Society
PO Box 4092
Wellington 6140

Email: membership@psychology.org.nz

Selection Process

Nominations for NZPsS Awards are reviewed by an Awards Committee appointed by the Executive of the New Zealand Psychological Society.

The Awards Committee will make a recommendation to the Executive. The decision of the Executive to confirm the recommendation or to decline it is final.

Timetable and presentation of awards

The timetable for the Hunter Award is as follows

- Nominations close on the advertised date
- Under normal circumstances, nominators and nominees will be advised in writing of the outcome of their nomination by mid-June.
- The Awards will be announced/presented at the NZPsS Annual Conference by the President of the NZPsS
- Recipients will be identified and honoured in Society publications and on the NZPsS website

Communication Issues

The NZPsS may wish to communicate information on the awards to the media to increase public awareness about excellence in psychology practice, teaching and research. This will only occur with the permission of successful nominees.