

# AusIMM Awards Information and Guidelines

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This document provides information on the annual AusIMM's Awards Program. It outlines the background to the awards, award titles and criteria, and the nomination and assessment processes.

## BACKGROUND TO AUSIMM AWARDS

The AusIMM Awards have been recognising contributions to the Institute and professional excellence in the resources sector for more than 80 years. First formally awarded in 1935, AusIMM Awards celebrate outstanding contributions to best practice professionalism. The awards help to promote and raise the overall standard of professional practice and send a clear message to our communities that we are committed to the highest standards.

All AusIMM members are eligible to nominate and to be nominated for one or more awards. We encourage members to nominate individuals or groups to recognise and celebrate achievement of the highest professional standards and/or service to the Institute. AusIMM members may nominate non-members for consideration for some awards. This provides the AusIMM the opportunity to recognise contributions to our Institute or industry from those in related sectors e.g. in the past, non-member scientists, politicians etc. not in the industry directly, have been recognised for their contributions to the Institute and/or industry.

## AWARDS CATEGORIES, TITLES AND CRITERIA

The awards are structured under three categories:

*Category 1 - Highest honours*

*Category 2 – Professional excellence*

*Category 3 – Institute or resources sector service.*

**TABLE 1 – THE AUSIMM AWARDS CATEGORIES AND TITLES**

CATEGORY 1:	CATEGORY 2:	CATEGORY 3:
Highest Honours	Professional Excellence	Institute or Resources Sector Service
Four awards recognising outstanding senior or high level service.	Seven awards recognising professional excellence.	Three awards recognising outstanding service to the Institute and/or resources sector by AusIMM members.
<b>Institute Medal</b>	<b>3 Professional Excellence Awards</b>	<b>3 Institute or Resources Sector Service Awards</b>
<b>President's Award</b>	<b>1 New Professional Award</b>	
<b>Honorary Fellowship</b>	<b>3 Technical paper Awards</b>	
<b>Beryl Jacka Award</b>	<i>(i) <b>Best Paper Prize</b> for a paper delivered at an AusIMM conference.</i>	
	<i>(ii) <b>GB O'Malley Medal</b> for a resources industry relevant postgraduate student paper.</i>	
	<i>(iii) <b>AusIMM Student Paper Prize</b> for a resources industry relevant undergraduate student paper.</i>	

## CATEGORY 1 - HIGHEST HONOURS

Category 1 awards recognise outstanding leadership or service to the minerals sector or Institute.

### **Institute Medal**

The **Institute Medal** is the most prestigious award and highest honour conferred by the AusIMM. It is awarded in recognition of eminent leadership of the Institute and/or the resources sector. It was first awarded in 1935.

This award may be presented to anyone who has provided eminent leadership to the resources sector.

### **President's Award**

The **President's Award** recognises notable achievement within the Institute and/or the resources sector in a specific sphere of activity. It was first awarded in 1974.

This award may be presented to any senior and influential professional who has made a notable contribution to, or achievement within the Institute and/or the resources sector.

### **Honorary Fellowship**

**Honorary Fellowship** recognises exceptional achievement, service or contribution to the resources sector. Honorary Fellowship was first conferred in 1962.

This grade of membership may be conferred on any senior and influential professional who has performed notable, active and sustained service to the Institute or made a major contribution to the resources sector.

### **Beryl Jacka Award**

This award is named in honour of Beryl Jacka, a stalwart of the Institute for 40 years and AusIMM Secretary 1945-1976. The award recognises extraordinary and sustained service to the AusIMM. It was first awarded in 1993.

This award may only be presented to an AusIMM member who has demonstrated extraordinary and sustained service to the Institute.

## CATEGORY 2 – PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Category 2 awards recognise professional excellence and leadership.

### **Professional Excellence Awards (x3)**

These awards recognise professional excellence demonstrated by any resources sector professional (individual or group) for significant contributions to the development and/or application of professional knowledge and practice and/or leadership. These awards were added to the AusIMM awards program in 2016, building upon a tradition of specialist professional excellence awards.

These awards may be presented to resources sector professionals working in any discipline(s) or field(s), at any career stage and working for any type of organisation within the resources or related sectors. Disciplines or fields that may be recognised include but are not limited to engineering, health and safety, technical innovation, community and environment, metallurgy, geosciences, consulting and leadership.

Where a successful nomination relates to Health and Safety, the award presented will be the **Jim Torlach Award**. This award was created in 2001 in honour of James (Jim) Torlach, a long standing AusIMM member dedicated to the pursuit of Health and Safety professional excellence. The award recognises AusIMM members who have made outstanding and sustained contributions to the enhancement of health and safety in the industry.

Where a successful nomination relates to Consulting, the award presented will be the **Charles Marshall Award**. This award was created in 2018 in honour of Charles Marshall, a long standing AusIMM member dedicated to the pursuit of Consulting professional excellence. The award recognises AusIMM members who, as consultants, have made outstanding and sustained contributions to the resources sector as Chartered Professionals who are respected in the industry and have embodied and reinforced sound and ethical consulting behaviour.

### AusIMM New Professional Award

The New Professional Award recognises the contribution by a new professional to the resources sector through operational, academic, service or other notable achievement. It was first awarded in 2004.

This award may be presented to any new resources sector professional (generally within six years of graduation, but at the discretion of the Awards Committee).

### Technical Paper Awards

These awards recognise technical excellence in published papers.

The **Best Paper Prize** (first awarded in 2011), may be presented to a resources sector professional who has prepared and published a technical paper through an AusIMM conference during the year.

The **GB O'Malley Medal**, this award was created in 1987 in honour of GB O'Malley, a long standing AusIMM member dedicated to the development of resources sector education. The award recognises the best peer-reviewed paper prepared by one or more students as lead authors.

The **AusIMM Paper Prize** was initiated in 2022 in recognition that postgraduate and undergraduate papers required separate consideration.

NAME OF PRIZE	CRITERIA	NOMINATION/SELECTION PROCESS
<b>Best Paper Prize</b>  <i>Directed to encourage contributions and recognise excellence.</i>	To be eligible, paper must have been; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>presented at an AusIMM Conference.</li> <li>peer reviewed.</li> </ul> AusIMM membership preferred	The Conference Committee for each AusIMM Conference will select the best three papers to be nominated.  The Committee may choose the nominated papers directly and/or poll attendees.  Nominations to be made directly to the Secretary of the Awards Committee.

		The paper will be reviewed by the Paper Review Panel of at least three AusIMM members (of whom at least two are Fellow or Member grade members).
<b>G B O'Malley Medal</b>  <i>Directed to encourage and recognise excellence in postgraduate research of relevance to the industry and raise the Institute's profile in academia.</i>	<p>Paper must be published in any peer-reviewed journal or published through a peer-reviewed conference proceedings.</p> <p>Must provide novel insights into an area of relevance to the minerals industry</p> <p>Non-members are welcome.</p>	<p>Any student supervisor may nominate their student's paper.</p> <p>Nominations to be made directly to the Secretary of the Awards Committee through <a href="mailto:award@ausimm.com.au">award@ausimm.com.au</a></p> <p>The paper will be reviewed by the Paper Review Panel of at least three AusIMM members (of whom at least two are Fellow or Member grade members).</p>
<b>AusIMM Student Paper Prize</b>  <i>Directed to encourage and recognise excellence among undergraduate students and raise the Institute's profile among students and academia.</i>	<p>Must be a final year (four-year undergraduate course) or honours year (three year undergraduate course) dissertation or thesis etc</p> <p>Papers must be complete documents, not posters or PowerPoint presentations etc.</p> <p>Must provide insights into an area of relevance to the minerals industry</p> <p>AusIMM membership preferred.</p>	<p>The student's supervisor must nominate the paper for consideration within a year of its submission.</p> <p>Only one nomination per course or discipline per year.</p> <p>Nominations to be made directly to the Secretary of the Awards Committee through <a href="mailto:award@ausimm.com.au">award@ausimm.com.au</a></p> <p>The paper will be reviewed by the Paper Review Panel of at least three AusIMM members (of whom at least two are Fellow or Member grade members).</p>

## CATEGORY 3 – INSTITUTE OR RESOURCES SECTOR SERVICE

Category 3 awards recognise outstanding service to the Institute or the resources sector by AusIMM members.

### Institute or Resources Sector Service Awards (x3)

These awards build upon the former Branch and Society Service and AusIMM Service Awards.

These awards may be presented to any Institute member or to a group of members. These awards recognise consistent and significant contribution to the ongoing success of the Institute and/or the resources sector. The contributions these awards recognise might include (but are not limited to) the operations of a Community of

Interest (Branch, Society, Committee, Taskforce, Network etc), an AusIMM event or publication, and building better understanding and respect between resources sector professionals and the broader community.

## AUSTRALIAN HONOURS

During the process undertaken by the Awards Committee, it may become evident that a nominee may fit with criteria established for Australian Honours. This is a different and potentially laborious process but necessary for the recognition of significant contributors. Accordingly, where a nominee is agreed to be worthy of Australian Honours consideration, a sub-committee may be formed to pursue this nomination outside of the AusIMM Awards Committee and its normal processes. This committee may be led by the AusIMM but may include non-members where relevant.

## NEW ZEALAND HONOURS

These would be led by NZ branch representatives with support from the Awards Committee and AusIMM Management.

## OTHER NATIONAL HONOURS

The Awards Committee and AusIMM Management would support such initiatives but could not take a leading role.

## AUSIMM AWARDS RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. Nominations for all AusIMM Awards close on **30 September** each year. To be accepted, submissions including the contributions of all referees as well as the original nomination, are required by that deadline.
2. Our industry is relatively small and accordingly it is expected that nominators and/or referees will commonly have past or current professional and personal relationships with the nominee. Nominators and referees are asked on the forms to describe their relationship with the nominee for the sake of transparency and to ensure no potential **Conflicts of Interests** occur.
3. The completion of an [online nomination form](#) is the **preferred format** for submission of nomination. Please email [awards@ausimm.com.au](mailto:awards@ausimm.com.au) for assistance.
4. Self-nominations will not be accepted.
5. The nominator must be an AusIMM member, referees preferably so. (Except student paper prizes.)
6. All nominations are strictly confidential, and it is a requirement that nominees are not informed of their nomination.
7. All accepted nominations will be considered by the Awards Committee. If required, a request for more information may be made of the nominator and/or referees.
8. The Awards Committee will make recommendations regarding the Award recipients to the Board by mid-November, for the Board's consideration at its December meeting.
9. No name or names of people other than those recommended by the Awards Committee for an Award shall be reported to the Board.

10. The Awards Committee and AusIMM Board are able to exercise discretion in awarding more or fewer than the awards noted in each category where there is a particularly high or low number or quality of nominations in a given year. This includes the option of no awards in any category.
11. All unsuccessful nominations shall be reviewed at the beginning of the following year's process and may be retained for further consideration or discarded.
12. The presentation of the AusIMM Awards will be made at the Awards Dinner usually held in conjunction with AusIMM's Annual Congress the following year.

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