

AUSTRALIAN WATER

ASSOCIATION

MEDIA RELEASE

New South Wales Water Award winners announced

12 March 2018

Some of New South Wales' most outstanding individuals and organisations have been recognised in the NSW Water Awards as they were announced at the 2018 Heads of Water Dinner on Friday evening.

Australian Water Association Chief Executive, Jonathan McKeown has congratulated all award winners for their outstanding contribution to the sector and the wider community.

"On behalf of the Association, I would like to congratulate and recognise the dedication, passion and enthusiasm shown by our members who are truly making a difference to the water sector in New South Wales," Mr McKeown said.

"It is important for the industry to come together to recognise, learn from and be inspired by the individuals and organisations who, in their day-to-day work, are ensuring a secure water future for all Australians."

The NSW Water Awards aim to recognise the outstanding contribution of individuals and organisations in the water industry across innovation, research, infrastructure and the delivery of water projects.

"Whether achieving better customer service through data analytics, building infrastructure to ensure a township is more resilient to variable water supply, or stepping out of professional roles to share their passion with the wider water sector, this year's award winners are all making a positive impact on the industry and its people."

The winners of this year's New South Wales Water Awards will automatically be entered into the equivalent National Australian Water Awards category, which will be presented at [Ozwater'18](#) in Brisbane this year.

Winners:

Program Innovation Award

System Blueprints Program – Sydney Water, AAJV: AECOM-Aurecon Joint Venture, and ENSureJV: GHD-Jacobs Joint Venture

Sydney Water has developed an innovative program of System Blueprints which promotes optimised investment decisions, environmental outcomes and improved customer services. Sydney Water's innovative program is mature and transferable, and through an integrated team approach with its consulting partners, has led to an uplift in asset planning across the industry.

Research Innovation Award

Success in Data Analytics – Sydney Water and Data61 Collaboration – Data61, CSIRO and Sydney Water

Sydney Water and Data61 are collaboratively researching advanced analytics approaches to solving water industry challenges. Through years of effort, the innovative data analytic approaches they developed have successfully achieved better services for customers and have delivered world class network performance.

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Infrastructure Project Innovation Award

Googong Township Integrated Water Cycle – Stantec

In 2006 MWH, now Stantec, was engaged by Googong Township to deliver the wet infrastructure for Googong. In response to the Millennium Drought the town had to be more resilient to variable water supply, so Stantec conceptualised the Integrated Water Cycle and developed a state-of-the-art water recycling plant to achieve 60% potable water savings.

Highly Commended:

Parkes Integrated Water Infrastructure Renewal Project – Parkes Shire Council

Student Water Prize

Robust Sensor Technologies Combined with Smart Predictive Analytics for Modelling Concrete Corrosion in Sewers – Karthick Thiyagarajan, University of Technology Sydney

Karthick's Ph.D. aims to innovate current sewer corrosion monitoring practices. His research delivers a new smart sensing and analytic platform for providing information-rich sparse data to the analytical models for more accurately predicting the rate of concrete sewer corrosion. His sensors have the potential to revolutionise the way utilities protect sewer assets.

Kamal Fernando Mentoring Award

Saravanamuth Vigneswaran, Director, Centre for Technologies in Water and Wastewater, The University of Technology Sydney

Professor Vigi has provided high quality mentoring to his students, water professionals and colleagues for over 27 years. Because of his passion for water, and his empathetic heart, he has been able to nurture and foster water professionals' technical and professional skills by being able to bring out the best in people. His dedication has always ensured those in need of guidance and assistance receive the support required to achieve in their chosen area of interest.

Young Water Professional of the Year Award (sponsored by Monadelphous)

Casey Magee, Senior Process Engineer, GHD

Casey is a passionate water engineer with a proven talent for connecting people and fostering positive and productive teams. As a wastewater process engineer she has helped shape planning and design decisions for municipal treatment plants across Australia. She has continually stepped outside her professional role to broaden her perspective and share her passion with the wider water sector, especially through the Australian Water Association's Young Water Professionals and Engineers Without Borders.

Water Professional of the Year Award (sponsored by TRILITY)

Daniel Lambert, Australasia Water Leader, Arup

Daniel has delivered industry-leading projects, undertaken key industry roles locally and internationally, mentored and supported the development of water professionals, and actively promoted the industry to the media, schools and universities. He has used his skills to deliver both commercial projects, which set new benchmarks for industry as well as tirelessly working in the pro-bono engineering sector for under-privileged communities across the globe. Daniel has been instrumental in the advancement of a significant number of engineers within the water sector and engineering broadly through his active involvement in both formal and informal mentoring programs. His experience and achievements to date make him a worthy recipient of the 2018 NSW Water Professional of the Year.

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Interviews and photos are available. For media enquiries, please contact:

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About the Australian Water Association

With a membership of over 5,000 individual and corporate members, the Australian Water Association is Australia's biggest water network promoting sustainable water management and connecting members through information, networking and recognition.

www.awa.asn.au