



Dean's Awards Ceremony

2022 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND
COMMUNICATION ARTS

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

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Acknowledgement of Country

With respect for Aboriginal cultural protocol and out of recognition that its campuses occupy their traditional lands. Western Sydney University acknowledges the Darug, Eora, Dharawal (also referred to as Tharawal) and Wiradjuri peoples and thanks them for their support of its work in their lands (Greater Western Sydney and beyond).

Message from the Dean

School of Education



In the last 12 months, we have continued to learn about the importance of Education to our communities – and most importantly, the essential role that teachers and educators play in supporting the learning and development of so many people across early childhood education, schools, universities and the many places where learning occurs.

In this context, an opportunity to honour students from the School of Education who have attained high levels of academic achievement and excellence in their studies in 2022, is very significant.

Awards like these are important because it reminds us that supporting the development of excellent teachers, educators and educational leaders is one that reaches beyond the walls of Western Sydney University. These moments allow us to celebrate and acknowledge the generous support of our partner donors who value academic excellence in higher education, especially at Western Sydney University, and in the teaching profession.

The School of Education is proud to recognise you, this year's recipients of an award for Academic Excellence. Students who receive these awards are drawn from our programs across the School including both our initial teacher education programs and our specialist post graduate programs which offer ongoing professional education for educators from a wide range of settings and occupations. It is an honour to recognise you as a colleague in the teaching profession for your excellence and the efforts that you are making to impact the lives of learners across all sectors of education.

Please accept my sincere congratulations for your achievement and my best wishes for your future in the wonderful world of education – where every day offers a chance to make a difference to someone!

Professor Michele Simons
Dean, School of Education

Message from the Dean School of Humanities and Communication Arts



Congratulations on your outstanding academic achievements. You can be very proud that you have taken the opportunity afforded by the University to achieve excellence in your study. The University's Dean's Medal Awards and Prize evening allows us to celebrate your accomplishments, and to acknowledge the generous support of our prize donors.

The evening is a recognition of the hard work and dedication that set you apart from your peers. It also acknowledges the support of your family and friends, and of the academic and professional staff who are so strongly committed to the centrality of the student experience. Your commitment and focus will serve you well as you apply the skills and knowledge in a world that presents unique challenges, ones not even conceptualised when you initially embarked on your studies.

Superior teaching informed by exceptional research, grounded in Western Sydney's commitment to our region, provides the ideal environment in which students can be provided the opportunity to learn and excel.

It is this combination of teaching and research that has led to our programs being ranked among the best in the world.

As Western Sydney University alumni, you should know that you will be highly regarded by employers who consider our graduates to be among the best prepared for future employment.

The School of Humanities and Communication Arts is particularly proud of our students' achievements, and we recognise this with the Dean's Medals for Academic Excellence. We are also very grateful for the generosity of our prize donors, who join with us in celebrating your academic achievements.

On behalf of my colleagues in the School of Humanities and Communication Arts, I wish you every success and I look forward to hearing about your future careers.

Professor Matt McGuire
Dean, School of Humanities
and Communication Arts

Message from the Dean School of Social Sciences



I would like to congratulate you on your achievement of a Dean's Award in the School of Social Sciences. We know that all our students work extremely hard to achieve degrees and high grades, but you have gone beyond this, to stand out further as the outstanding achievers in your cohort, and the current and future leaders in our society.

The School of Social Sciences is made up of the disciplines of Anthropology, Humanitarian and Development Studies, Criminology, Social Work, Sociology and Therapy Studies and Counselling. The School is recognised as a global leader in research in these areas and makes a significant contribution to the university's ranking as one of the top 2% of universities in the world. We are particularly proud of the contribution we make to the university's number one in the world impact ranking for our work on the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The School has a strong emphasis on social justice and sustainability in research and curriculum and trains the future professionals

and future leaders of Western Sydney. We know that you will all play a crucial role in the future success of the region and further promote and share the values you have learned in your time in the School.

Many people contribute to the Dean's Awards and I would like to thank all who have donated prizes: the friends and family of Dani Gilroy, Michael Cusack and Natalie Bolzan for enabling them to be remembered and their work and values to be honoured. I'd also like to thank the Hon Dr Helen Sham-Ho OAM, the Presentation Sisters, the Rotary Club of Padstow, Mr Sasko Veljanov and Dr Irena Veljanova, and Mrs Daisy Soldatic for their generous support of the work of the School.

I congratulate you again on your achievement and wish you well in your future work or study. We greatly value our relationships with our alumni and ask you to stay connected both to the School and to the University.

Professor Brian Stout
Dean, School of Social Sciences



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AWARDS

Beth Southwell Memorial Prize



Donor

Beth Southwell Memorial

Associate Professor Beth Southwell was an inspiring educator, committed to opportunity and excellence. Beth grew up in the Tamworth area and studied at the University of New England where she was awarded for her outstanding academic achievements. Beth was the first Australian to achieve a doctorate in mathematics education, travelling to England to achieve her qualification. Her research also took her to Papua New Guinea. In Sydney Beth was one of few mathematics education researchers until the 1990s when the field began to develop, thanks, at least in part, to her commitment. While many of Beth's peers went on to hold senior positions in universities, Beth's passion for excellence in mathematics teaching kept her working in this field to the last.

As a lecturer and tutor at Western Sydney University, Beth always presented her students with the most current approaches to mathematics education. For many years, she was influential in syllabus reviews and with the Mathematics Association of NSW, encouraging continuing professional development. Beth's sense of humour and enjoyment spread to her tutorial classes which were both active and theoretical. She stood firmly for high-quality mathematics teaching and high expectations, and against testing regimes She advocated constructivist learning, alternative authentic assessment, the beauty of mathematical patterns and relationships and the values of mathematics education. Beth cared for her students, giving them extra assistance out of class, and teaching in programs for mature age students to assist their entry to university. Beth worked for Western Sydney University's antecedent institutions from 1972 until her passing in 2007.

Prize

Beth Southwell Memorial Prize

Criteria

Awarded to the student in their final year of the Masters of Teaching (Secondary) with the highest GPA in the unit Secondary Mathematics.

Recipient

Kyle Stanford

Betty and Neil Hunt Award for Excellence in Primary Teaching

Donor

Betty and Neil Hunt

Following eight years as a lecturer at Sydney Teachers College, Neil Hunt was appointed to the foundation staff at Westmead College in 1969. When Nepean College of Advanced Education was formed, Neil was a member of the first College Council and appointed as Head of the Visual and Performing Arts Department. Later, he was appointed Sub Dean of the School of Teacher Education. During this time, he was an active member and President for two years of Penrith branch of the Council for Educational Administration and later was made a Fellow of the NSW Council. He retired after 18 years in 1987. Throughout Mr Hunt's career, his wife, Betty Hunt was involved in many facets of Nepean life. Both were keen supporters of drama, music, sports and social activities, including running theatre parties associated with the College. In Easter of 2008, Mr Hunt regrettably passed away. The Betty and Neil Hunt Prize continues to be awarded in memory of Mr Hunt and in recognition of Mr and Mrs Hunt's commitment to students at the University.

Prize

Betty and Neil Hunt Award for Excellence in Primary Teaching

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding graduating student in primary teaching.

Recipient

Melissa Kunovsky

Dr Joyce Fyfe Wylie OBE Memorial Prize

Donor**Estate of Dr Joyce Fyfe Wylie, OBE**

Dr Joyce Fyfe Wylie was an officer of the Order of the British Empire, a citation she attained in 1978 for services to Education. Joyce had her start as a teacher at Marrickville Boys High School where she was the only female teacher on the staff of twenty five. She later moved to Newcastle Girls High School where she was Deputy Head and in 1949 moved to become a residential member of staff at Wagga Wagga Teachers' College. She later moved to work in Teachers' Colleges in Balmain and Sydney prior to taking up an appointment with the Faculty of Education at the University of Sydney in 1956.

Joyce was a most stimulating lecturer, one who could always link theory and practice, effectively directing discussion and encouraging thoughtful analysis. Appointments took her to far off places including Lagos, Nigeria and the Philippines. She toured the length and breadth of South America, Africa and the Polar Regions, north and south. Joyce had a pilot's license before she held a driver's license and flew with Dick Smith over the North Pole. After her retirement from Sydney University, Joyce gave her time and energy to other aspects of tertiary education, in particular to the development of the Milperra College of Advanced Education (MCAE) which later became part of Western Sydney University. The library at the University's Bankstown campus at Milperra is named for her.

Prize**Dr Joyce Fyfe Wylie OBE Memorial Prize****Criteria**

Awarded to an outstanding second year student in the 1717 Bachelor of Education (Primary) - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education degree who demonstrates leadership and commitment to their studies and community.

Recipient

Amy Morrison

Gloria Habib Memorial Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Education



Donor

Habib Family

George and Gloria Habib migrated to Australia from Syria in 1973, Gloria beginning her life in Australia by working at a Sunbeam factory. Believing that strong community organisations underpin the health and cohesion of society Gloria joined the Australian Arabic Women's Federation as a volunteer and the Arab Council Australia.

In 1983, Gloria began work with the Department of Education and Training and became active in the Australian Federation of Ethnic Schools Associations. She was an invaluable source of advice and support to principals, teachers and students. She worked tirelessly for a unified, harmonious society that embraced cultural diversity, and was the driving force behind the Harmony Day School Spectacular. Australia is a tolerant, successful multicultural society which is due in no small part to what happens every day in schools, where students play and learn together. The Harmony Day School Spectacular showcases and celebrates this.

A passionate advocate of cultural diversity, Gloria Habib was a remarkable woman who touched the lives of many and brought hope to people overcoming challenges. Gloria passed away in March 2007 after a battle with cancer and is survived by her husband, George and her children, James, Geraldine and Jocelyn. She received a posthumous award for Meritorious Service to Public Education and Training.

Prize

Gloria Habib Memorial Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Education – Primary

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding student in the National Exceptional Teaching for Disadvantaged Schools (NETDS) program for high achieving students in the Master of Teaching (Primary).

Recipient

Colleen Quince

Prize

Gloria Habib Memorial Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Education – Secondary

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding student in the National Exceptional Teaching for Disadvantaged Schools (NETDS) program for high achieving students in the Master of Teaching (Secondary).

Recipient

Owen Watson

KU Children's Services Award for Excellence and Leadership in Early Childhood Education



Donor	<p>KU Children's Services</p> <p>Established in 1895, KU Children's Services is Australia's most experienced provider of early childhood education and care. Through play-based programs, KU recognises each child as an individual and encourages their own interests and strengths as they discover and learn. Across its 140 centres, university-qualified early childhood teachers deliver these programs to more than 15,000 children and their families each year.</p> <p>Each KU centre is a welcoming and inclusive early education environment and workplace, reflecting the unique aspects of the communities within which it operates.</p> <p>KU Centres are currently leading the sector in our National Quality Standard Assessment and Ratings with 98% of our services rated as Meeting/Exceeding or Excellent. In 2016, KU was recognised as an Employer of Choice at the Australian Business Awards.</p> <p>ku.com.au</p>
Prize	<p>KU Children's Services Award for Excellence and Leadership in Early Childhood Education</p>
Criteria	<p>Awarded to an outstanding student who demonstrates leadership and commitment to the field of early childhood education.</p>
Recipient	<p>Georgia Giannacopoulos</p>

Mildred and Albert Porter Memorial Prizes for Teaching

Donor	Philip Porter and Dawn Bruce The Mildred and Albert Porter Memorial Prizes have been established by their children, Philip Porter and Dawn Bruce, as a fitting and heartfelt memorial. Having had to start life again in a new country and with very little in the way of material wealth, Mildred, a Greek refugee from Smyrna, Turkey and Albert, an émigré from South Africa, were committed to the value of education as a fundamental human need and right as well as the vehicle to financial security. Parramatta locals, they raised their family about a kilometre from where Western Sydney University's Parramatta South Campus is located today. Both Mildred and Albert supported Parramatta Primary School's P&C by facilitating the purchase of books and artwork for the school. Even in the 1950's, they knew the need for excellent early childhood education as a foundation for later learning.
Prize	Mildred and Albert Porter Memorial Prize for Teaching 3-5 Creative Teaching & Learning
Criteria	Awarded to the most outstanding student demonstrating outstanding creativity and leadership, in programming and planning in early childhood settings, as part of the Professional Experience 3-5 unit.
Recipient	Yi Yu
Prize	Mildred and Albert Porter Memorial Prize for Teaching Birth-2 Diverse Literacy
Criteria	Awarded to the most outstanding student demonstrating excellence in building relationships with children, staff and families and using this information to inform teaching and learning in the area of literacy, as part of the Professional Experience Birth-2 unit.
Recipient	Elise Driver
Prize	Mildred and Albert Porter Memorial Prize for Teaching K-6 Early Maths and Numeracy
Criteria	Awarded to the most outstanding student demonstrating excellence in planning and implementing an innovative and inclusive curriculum with a focus on early maths and numeracy, as part of the Professional Experience K-6 unit.
Recipient	Michelle Van Huyssteen

School of Education Dean's Award for Best PhD Thesis



Donor	School of Education The School of Education prepares teachers and educators for the challenges and triumphs of working in schools, pre-schools and adult learning environments. We believe that the future of education is based on effectively engaging students and teachers in challenging and relevant learning through invigorating and networked communities of learners. Through our research and the Education Knowledge Network, we promote and support professional development and effective engagement in learning between teachers and students.
Prize	School of Education Dean's Award for Best PhD Thesis
Criteria	Awarded to the student with the most outstanding doctoral thesis.
Recipient	Jennifer Dove

Soroptimist International of Sydney Award for Education



Donor

Soroptimist International

Soroptimist International (SI) is a worldwide service organisation for women in management and the professions, with more than 3,000 clubs in 126 countries and territories. Soroptimist International is now the world's largest classified service organisation for women, with each club representing a wide range of occupations, talents and interests.

Through international partnerships and a global network of members, Soroptimists inspire action and create opportunities to transform the lives of women and girls by advocating for equity and equality, creating safe and healthy environments, increasing access to education, and developing leadership and practical skills for a sustainable future.

Prize

Soroptimist International of Sydney Award for Education

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding first year student in any undergraduate Education degree.

Recipient

Monica Swift

Sydney Lyceum Club Prize in Teaching



Donor	<p>Sydney Lyceum Club Inc.</p> <p>The Sydney Lyceum Club aims to provide a non-political and non-sectarian environment for women with complementary interests to meet, converse, discuss and participate in special interest groups, and to enjoy a monthly lunch or dinner, a social gathering with a guest speaker.</p> <p>The Sydney Lyceum Club is proud to provide this prize to support and encourage excellence in our future teachers.</p> <p>sydneylyceum.com.au</p>
Prize	<p>Sydney Lyceum Club Prize in Teaching</p>
Criteria	<p>Awarded to the student with the highest mark in the unit Aboriginal Education: Past, Present and Future (TEAC7156); for demonstrating outstanding commitment and high academic achievement in all aspects of community engagement.</p>
Recipient	<p>Leonie Bartlett</p>

Teachers Mutual Bank Awards



Donor

Teachers Mutual Bank

For over 50 years Teachers Mutual Bank has provided key financial services to Australian educators. One of Australia's largest mutual banks, comprising four brands: Firefighters Mutual Bank, Health Professionals Bank, Teachers Mutual Bank and UniBank. With over 200,000 members and more than \$7 billion in assets, Teachers Mutual Bank Limited is one of Australia's largest mutual banks. We continue to be passionate about assisting members secure their financial futures through superior member support and banking products.

Teachers Mutual bank Limited is a market leader in member advocacy in the Australian banking sector and is also committed to strong standards of corporate responsibility through community investment and ethical business as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies.

Three words embracing what we have always stood for and what we truly believe. Advocacy. Passion. Sustainability.

tmbank.com.au

Prize

Teachers Mutual Bank Primary Education Award

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding student in TEAC7119 Engaging Pedagogies for Students from Diverse Backgrounds.

Recipient

Sophie Thomson

Prize

Teachers Mutual Bank Secondary Education Award

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding student in the Master of Teaching (Secondary) unit Diversity, Social Justice and Learning (TEAC7032).

Recipient

Ishita Gambhir

Youssef Family Prize for Inclusive Education

Donor

Elie and Rita Youssef

The Youssef Family Prize in Inclusive Education was established by Elie and Rita Youssef to honour the educators who play a vital role in the development, happiness and education of children with special needs. The Youssef family is incredibly passionate about ensuring that children and young adults of varying needs have access to a good education and an environment that encourages and supports their growth. They strongly believe that this is the foundation of equity and opportunity and provides a good start to life.

Elie and Rita congratulate the recipient of the Youssef Family Prize and acknowledge their great potential to change lives. It takes an extraordinary individual to dedicate their career to the betterment of fellow human beings. Well done!

Prize

Youssef Family Prize for Excellence in Inclusive Education

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding student across 102084 Inclusive Education - Theory, Policy & Practice, 102130 Inclusive Education Practices and 101625 Inclusive Practices.

Recipient

Colleen Quince

Prize

Youssef Family Prize for Excellence in the Master of Inclusive Education

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding graduate in the Master of Inclusive Education.

Recipient

Cecile Patchell

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND COMMUNICATION ARTS AWARDS



Hamlet
William Shakespeare
HAMLET

Mr Math and the Mona Lisa
Lisa
The Art and Architecture of Leonardo da Vinci

SAM HARRIS THE MORAL LANDSCAPE

Australia Japan Society (NSW) Prize for Proficiency in Japanese Language



Donor	<p>Australia Japan Society of NSW Australia Japan Society NSW was established in 1968 to promote mutual understanding between the people of Australia and Japan. Our patrons are the Premier of NSW and the Consul General of Japan in Sydney. AJS NSW co-operates closely with the Consul General's office in Sydney as well as like organisations such as the Japan Society of Sydney, Japan Chamber of Commerce Sydney and the Japan Foundation Sydney in order to achieve its objectives as stated in its Constitution. We are strong supporters of Universities' language programs. 2018 was the 50th year of the Society, with Sydney hosting the National Conference of Australia Japan Societies in October 2018.</p> <p>ajsnsw.org.au</p>
Prize	<p>Australia Japan Society (NSW) Prize for Proficiency in Japanese Language</p>
Criteria	<p>Awarded to a final year student who has demonstrated excellence in Japanese language studies as well as potential to contribute to future Australia-Japan relations.</p>
Recipient	<p>Huon Kirkman</p>

Durham Family Prize in Communication



Donor	<p>Associate Professor Marsha Durham</p> <p>Associate Professor Marsha Durham (retired) was the first in her family to attend university. It opened her eyes to greater possibilities in terms of life and career. This prize commemorates, in part, her parents' support as she furthered her education. Marsha first studied in the USA, majoring in literature, and later completed a PhD in linguistics at Macquarie University. Her teaching career spanned across high school, TAFE, and universities in Australia and overseas. Her research interests focused on crosscultural values, professional writing issues, and usability elements in document design. Marsha was a founding academic in the new School of Humanities and Social Sciences at what was then the Nepean College of Advanced Education, which later became UWS Nepean. Western Sydney University suited her because the institution was student-focused, and welcomed diversity and innovation. At the university level, her roles included Chair of the University Senate, Dean of Students, and Assistant Vice-Chancellor. Post-retirement, Marsha is associated with Varuna National Writers' House in Katoomba. Her current research project considers the continued popularity of 19th-century American philosopher, Henry David Thoreau.</p>
Prize	<p>Durham Family Prize in Communication</p>
Criteria	<p>Awarded to the most outstanding graduate in the Bachelor of Communication.</p>
Recipient	<p>Michelle Stacpoole</p>

Lawrie Brooks Memorial Award for Music

Donor	<p>Lawrie Brooks Memorial</p> <p>Mr Lawrie Brooks was born in California in 1907. At the age of 23, he first saw Al Jolson and decided to pursue a career in music. His musical talent led him to win two vocal scholarships, one with a founder of the San Francisco Opera, and the other with the Zoliner Conservatorium. Yet his real love was for popular music, especially jazz. By the mid-1930s Mr Brooks was singing with the big bands of Johnny Noble, Harry Owens, Hal Grayson, Jimmie Grier and Jay Whidden and was considered a big-band singer in Hollywood and Hawaii. While in Hollywood, he worked with Eddie Cantor, Burns and Allen, and the Downey Sisters. On arrival to Australia on tour with the Jay Whidden Band in 1938, he decided to stay.</p> <p>In 1939 he joined the Jim Davidson ABC Orchestra. When war broke out, he and other members of the band joined the Australian Army Entertainment Unit and sang for the troops in the Middle East and New Guinea. After the war, he joined the Colgate-Palmolive Radio Unit, where he met and married the unit publicist, Gloria van Boss. At the age of 54 he transformed himself into a proofreader for a daily newspaper but always carried his passion for music.</p> <p>During his career, he made more than 60 recordings and composed several songs, one of which, <i>Where's that Old Cobber of Mine?</i>, is still earning Lawrie's family royalties. Mr Brooks was very proud of his involvement in the Australian Musicians Union. He passed away in 1994. His daughters, Geraldine Brooks, novelist, and Darleen Bungey, biographer, continue to support this award in memory of their father and on behalf of their mother, Gloria Brooks.</p>
Prize	Lawrie Brooks Memorial Award for Music
Criteria	Awarded to the most outstanding first year Bachelor of Music student in Performance.
Recipient	Chelsea Nagel

Li Jin-Guang Awards for Excellence in Chinese Language

Donor	Mr Jinguang (Sam) Li Mr Jinguang (Sam) Li is the Director of Gao Xun Ba Ling Telecom Pty Ltd. Gao Xun Ba Ling is a comprehensive, privately owned enterprise that integrates all aspects of Telecom products, including design, research and development, and manufacturing. Mr Li has established two prizes within the School of Humanities and Communication Arts to encourage academic excellence in the Chinese language. Mr Li has also contributed to the strengthening of research into Chinese medicine at the National Institute for Complementary Medicine (NICM), which is hosted by the University.
Prize	Li Jin-Guang Award for Excellence in Chinese Language (Native and Heritage Chinese Speakers)
Criteria	Awarded to the top performing native/heritage Chinese speaking student in the Bachelor of Arts course with a major in Chinese.
Recipient	Zhilan Li
Prize	Li Jin-Guang Award for Excellence in Chinese Language (Non-Native Chinese Speakers)
Criteria	Awarded to the top performing non-native Chinese speaking student in the Bachelor of Arts course with a major in Chinese.
Recipient	Selina Cabacar

Penrith Symphony Orchestra-Western Sydney University Composition Prize



Donor**Penrith Symphony Orchestra and Western Sydney University**

Established in 1988 as a community orchestra, Penrith Symphony Orchestra (PSO) comprises dedicated amateur and professionally trained musicians.

As orchestra-in-residence at the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre, the PSO collaborates with distinguished conductors and soloists, and is recognised as one of Australia's leading "pro-am" community orchestras.

As the orchestra of Western Sydney, it plays a major role in providing audiences in Western Sydney, the Blue Mountains and surrounding areas with accessible and affordable live performances of major orchestral, operatic and oratorio repertoire. Partnering with Western Sydney University in helping train and develop the next generation of composers is an extension of the important role the PSO plays in the region.

pso.org.au

Prize**Penrith Symphony Orchestra-Western Sydney University Composition Prize**

Criteria

Awarded to an undergraduate or postgraduate student commissioned by Penrith Symphony Orchestra and Western Sydney University to develop a musical composition under the mentorship of experienced composers including the PSO Conductor and WSU staff.

Recipient

Elyse Barratt-Fitzgerald



Phyllis O'Brien and Jacobus Van Boss Memorial Award

Donor	Gloria Brooks The Phyllis O'Brien & Jacobus Van Boss Memorial Award was donated by Gloria Brooks. Gloria's mother Phyllis was born to Irish immigrants and her father Jacobus, a Dutch migrant, at the age of 19, worked as a fruit picker until he mastered English and trained as a physical therapist. Gloria became a radio presenter at 2CA Canberra and publicity director for the famed Colgate-Palmolive Radio Unit, where she met and married singer, Lawrie Brooks. In later life her humorous and evocative articles were regularly published in Sydney newspapers.
Prize	Phyllis O'Brien and Jacobus Van Boss Memorial Award
Criteria	Best first year student, looking at their overall performance in the two core English units Approaches to Text and Introduction to Literary Studies.
Recipient	Jemma McCully

Ruth Cracknell AM Memorial Prizes

Donor

In Memory of Ruth Cracknell AM

Ruth Cracknell AM was one of Australia's favourite actresses with a career in radio, theatre, television and film spanning more than 55 years. Her role as Maggie Beare in ABC television's *Mother and Son* made her a household name. Ruth received many awards and was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1980 in recognition of service to the performing arts. She received several honorary doctorates including one from Western Sydney University in December 2000. In 2001, Ruth received the James Cassius Award for outstanding contributions to the performing arts and was the first female individual inducted into the Logie Hall of Fame that same year.

Although most well known to us for her acting and as a patron of the theatre at the University's Penrith campus, it is for her talent as a writer that the Ruth Cracknell Memorial Prizes serve to encourage and reward excellence amongst our students. Her autobiography, *A Biased Memoir*, and her account of the illness and death of her husband in *A Journey from Venice* now form an enduring record of her life as well as her writing talent. Ruth passed away in May 2002 after a long illness.

Prize

Ruth Cracknell AM Memorial Prize in Children's Literature

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding student in the LANG 3018 Children's Literature unit.

Recipient

Nina David

Prize

Ruth Cracknell AM Memorial Prize in English

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding student graduating with an English Major.

Recipient

Warnakulasuriya Fernando

Prize

Ruth Cracknell AM Memorial Prize in First Year English

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding first year student in the English Major.

Recipient

Jessica Ongley

Donor **Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts (SMSA)**
In 1833, Henry Carmichael founded the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts as an educational and recreational organisation for working people at the request of artisans and tradesmen, some of whom had studied with him aboard the Stirling Castle on their voyage to Sydney. Carmichael drew on the burgeoning Mechanics, Institutes and Schools of Arts movement, and his efforts resulted in the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts being formed on 22nd March 1833 at a public meeting attended by around 200 people.

The Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts hosts a lending library, presents public lectures and holds classes in subjects as diverse as art, architecture, mathematics, anatomy and simple surgery.

smsa.org.au

Prize **SMSA Award in Humanities**

Criteria Awarded to the most outstanding student in the Bachelor of Arts degrees.

Recipients Michelle Parkin

Prize **SMSA Award in Professional Writing**

Criteria Awarded to the student with the highest mark in COMM 2032 Professional Writing and Editing.

Recipient Tully Jackson

Turrumurra Music Technology Award



Donor

Turrumurra Music with special thanks to TAG (Technical Audio Group)

Turrumurra Music has been servicing the Music industry since 1976, and is a privately owned Australian company. Turrumurra Music has one of the most comprehensive ranges of stock in Australia with a great selection of guitars, amplifiers, PAs, drums, brass and woodwind, as well as a large range of accessories.

The Hi-Tech division of Turrumurra Music is recognised as one of the most professional in the country. As specialists in the music industry they cater for all levels of studio and computer equipment and offer well trained staff that specialise in technical support, installations, repairs and computer support. Now with their new studio and keyboard building located at 1263 Pacific Highway, Turrumurra now has one of the best facilities in Australia. Turrumurra Music also offer specialised services to schools and tertiary institutions.

turramusic.com.au

Prize

Turrumurra Music Technology Award

Criteria

Awarded to an outstanding Bachelor of Music student completing Sound Technology and Machine Musicianship.

Recipient

Mia Gibbs-White

Varuna, The National Writers' House Prize for Creative Writing



Donor **Varuna, The National Writers' House**
Varuna is Australia's national residential writers' house in the former home of writers Eleanor and Dr Eric Dark. In 1989 their son Mick Dark gifted their home to the Australian public through The Eleanor Dark Foundation.

Since 1989 Varuna has inspired the creation of new Australian writing and provided support for a thriving writing community and growing Alumni. Today the founding objectives of The Eleanor Dark Foundation are realised through a number of programs and initiatives, such as the Varuna Residential Program which supports intensive work, conversation and community for writers at all levels of experience and across a wide range of writing practice.

The program runs continuously throughout the year with up to five writers, each with an identified project, invited to be in residence at Varuna at any one time. Varuna seeks to share the transformative power of the written word through our community programs and strategic initiatives, and is proud to be able to achieve this in partnership with organisations such as Western Sydney University.

varuna.com.au

Prize **Varuna, The National Writers' House Prize for Creative Writing**

Criteria Awarded to an outstanding second year student studying a major in Creative Writing.

Recipient Lauren Tabone



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AWARDS

Dani Gilroy Memorial Awards



Donor

Dani Gilroy Memorial Fund

Dani Gilroy was an exceptional young woman and an excellent student, enrolled in the Bachelor of Social Work at Western Sydney University. Amongst her peers, Dani was known as the 'go to girl' who always made time to support others. She believed in the most beautiful qualities of people and had an incredible ability to bring out the best in her peers. Those who worked alongside Dani recall the experience as a privilege.

Dani was active in student activities on Bankstown campus and enjoyed all aspects of university life. She sought to empower others and to improve the lives and abilities of all people. She was an exceptional human rights advocate for people with a disability, which was demonstrated in her years of service in the disability services sector.

Dani passed away unexpectedly on 13 June 2011, while completing the final year of her degree. She is sadly missed by her peers, teachers, friends, workmates and family.

Prize

Dani Gilroy Memorial Prize for Social Work

Criteria

Awarded to a current student enrolled in the Bachelor of Social Work program who has shown academic excellence, emerging wisdom and worldliness as demonstrated through field placement critical reflections. The recipient must be dedicated to social justice

Recipient

Rachel Perinparajah

Prize

Dani Gilroy Memorial Prize in Social Work - Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander

Criteria

Awarded to a current student from Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander background enrolled in the Bachelor of Social Work program who has shown academic excellence, emerging wisdom and worldliness as demonstrated through field placement critical reflection

Recipient

Eilis Scott

MCAE Commemorative Award



Donor **Milperra College of Advanced Education (MCAE)**
Once known as Milperra College of Advanced Education (MCAE), Bankstown campus at Milperra is now one of 13 University campuses stretching across Western Sydney. Dating back to 1974, MCAE was the first college to offer specialised teacher and social work education in South West Sydney. Until recently, the former college was home to Western Sydney University's Schools of Education, Humanities and Languages, Psychology, Social Sciences, and Nursing and Midwifery.

The Milperra College of Advanced Education (MCAE) Commemorative Award has been established to honour those who were instrumental in establishing Bankstown campus. The award has been funded by former staff and students of MCAE and recognises the achievements of students in Education, Social Work and Social Welfare, who continue the tradition of excellence and commitment to their field started in the initial years of MCAE.

Prize **MCAE Commemorative Award**

Criteria Awarded to a Primary pre-service teacher from the Bankstown Campus, whose final practicum has been outstanding - above and beyond the expected requirements.

Recipient Simone Cooper

Michael Cusack Memorial Award for Human Rights, Human Services and the Law



Donor

Michael Cusack Memorial

The Michael Cusack Memorial Award is in memory of Michael Cusack. Mr Cusack died in 2000, aged only 56. His life and work embodied great passion for social justice, problem-solving and shared learning.

Mr Cusack had a strong commitment to improving conditions for people who were disadvantaged, especially young people. He had a depth of vision and grounded values in developing organisations, in particular the Epping Youth Service. He also was Executive Director of the Youth Council of Victoria and the Youth Affairs Council of Australia. He was well recognised as Director of the Commonwealth Government Office of Youth Affairs.

Mr Cusack was involved in pioneering work in developing innovative and community-based employment and training strategies (including the Commonwealth Government Skill-Share program) and committed to excellence in tertiary education, through his work in the Commonwealth Department of Employment, Education and Training. Particularly notable was Mr Cusack's approach to, and delivery of, a better deal for children and families in alternate care through consultancy work.

The Michael Cusack Memorial Award was established through generous gifts from family, friends and colleagues of Mr Cusack. Gifts continue to be received in memory of Mr Cusack from those who undertook theological studies with him, who worked alongside him in youth affairs and in public service, and who shared many cups of coffee and philosophical discussions with him as they sought to change and better understand the world. These individuals are proud to be associated with the Michael Cusack Memorial Award in the belief that it will assist in keeping strong Mr Cusack's innovative spirit.

Prize

Michael Cusack Memorial Award for Human Rights, Human Services and the Law

Criteria

Awarded to the most outstanding student enrolled in the Bachelor of Community Welfare, Child and Community Major and undertaking the unit Human Rights, Human Services and the Law.

Recipient

Renae Cini

Natalie Bolzan

Social Justice Award

Donor

Professor Natalie Bolzan Memorial

Professor Natalie Bolzan worked at Western Sydney University for over two decades. As the inaugural appointee to the Margaret Whitlam Chair of Social Work, she made a foundational contribution to the world class and industry renowned Social Work program we have today.

Through her research and her teaching, Natalie pursued equality and social justice, particularly through her research with young people. Her published works focused on young people and issues of youth justice, resilience, social capital, mental health, homelessness, asylum seekers and out-of-home care. This work reflected the social and regional mission of our University and the legacy of Margaret Whitlam.

In defining the principles of social work, Natalie commented that 'social workers work with, or on behalf of, individuals, groups and communities to identify, minimise and ultimately remove disadvantage associated with social arrangements, both formal and informal'. This was the model and inflection which she stamped upon the Social Work and Community Welfare programs at Western Sydney University, which has set our University apart and placed us at the frontiers of the discipline in Australia.

Natalie was loved and respected by students and colleagues alike and is very much missed by her many friends at Western Sydney University.

Prize

Natalie Bolzan Social Justice Award

Criteria

Awarded to an outstanding graduate in the Master of Social Work (Qualifying) who excels in areas of equity, access and social inclusion.

Recipient

Elisha Barrett

Planning Institute of Australia (NSW Division) Prize



Donor	Planning Institute of Australia (NSW Division) The Planning Institute of Australia is the peak body representing professionals involved in planning Australia's cities, towns, regions and places. This prize recognises excellence in student achievement and a commitment to upholding the integrity and practice of the profession. planning.org.au
Prize	Planning Institute of Australia (NSW Division) Prize
Criteria	Awarded to the most outstanding graduating student at the end of the Bachelor of Social Science (Pathway to Master of Urban Management and Planning).
Recipient	Kye Smith

Presentation Sisters, Wagga Wagga Award



Donor	Presentation Sisters, Wagga Wagga In the early 1870s, Father McAlroy was commissioned by Bishop Lanigan of Goulburn to recruit teaching nuns from Ireland for the schools in the Diocese of Goulburn, which then included Wagga Wagga. Five sisters were chosen to bring Christian education to the children of the early settlers of Wagga Wagga. Mt Erin was opened in 1874. The work of the Presentation Sisters was largely in school education. Since the 1980s, the areas of ministry have changed and the sisters are now involved in rural ministry outreach services, ecology and working for the environment, Aboriginal reconciliation, family support and youth camps as well as a no interest loan scheme in Western Sydney, and providing support and care to the ageing members of the congregation. All of these works are carried out within a commitment to justice for the Earth and those made poor. presentationsociety.org.au
Prize	Presentation Sisters, Wagga Wagga Award
Criteria	Awarded to the female Indigenous student with the highest GPA at the end of first year, enrolled in Social Sciences.
Recipients	Brittany Miller

Rotary Club of Padstow Social Work Prizes



Donor **The Rotary Club of Padstow**

The Rotary Club of Padstow has as a priority to support education. These prizes presents us with the opportunity to support students in the field of social work which meshes perfectly with the mission statement of Rotary International to 'provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through its fellowship of business, professional and community leaders'. To achieve these goals requires the advancement of education, not only in technical areas but importantly in areas of service to those less fortunate than ourselves.

These prizes reward and encourages students who have chosen to work for social justice in the community on issues that lead to the betterment of others rather than themselves. It is offered to third year students to encourage them to reach their higher goals in their final (fourth year).

The motto of Rotary International is 'Service Above Self' which inspires the more than 1.2 million Rotarians in more than 34,000 clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. This motto is also reflected by the winners of this award in their choice of career and dedication to the service of others.

padstowrotary.org.au

Prize **Rotary Club of Padstow Master of Social Work (Qualifying) Prize**

Criteria Awarded to a student currently enrolled in the Master of Social Work (Qualifying) who has shown academic excellence, broader community involvement, a commitment to helping their peers, building community on campus and emerging wisdom and worldliness as demonstrated through field placement critical reflections.

Recipient Justin Tan

Prize **Rotary Club of Padstow Social Work Prize**

Criteria Awarded to a student currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Social Work who has shown academic excellence, broader community involvement, a commitment to helping their peers, building community on campus and emerging wisdom and worldliness as demonstrated through field placement critical reflections.

Recipient Mark Cornish

SMSA Award in Social Science



Donor **Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts (SMSA)**
In 1833, Henry Carmichael founded the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts as an educational and recreational organisation for working people at the request of artisans and tradesmen, some of whom had studied with him aboard the Stirling Castle on their voyage to Sydney. Carmichael drew on the burgeoning Mechanics' Institutes and Schools of Arts movement, and his efforts resulted in the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts being formed on 22nd March 1833 at a public meeting attended by around 200 people.

The Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts hosts a lending library, presents public lectures and holds classes in subjects as diverse as art, architecture, mathematics, anatomy and simple surgery.

smsa.org.au

Prize **SMSA Award in Social Science**

Criteria Awarded to the most outstanding graduating student in a social science-related degree.

Recipient Tina Sheil

Teresa Sanko Šunde Memorial Award



Donor	Teresa Sanko Šunde Memorial The Teresa Sanko Šunde Memorial Endowment Fund has been established in memory of her life journey as a migrant women from the Dalmatia Region of the Balkans between the inter-war period, arriving 1936 in Sydney. In 1944, she developed post-natal depression and as she couldn't speak English, all of her five children were removed and placed in foster care, with only occassional contact with her children. Teresa Sanko Šunde was placed in a government institution and remained in government care until her death in 1981, 36 years later. This endowment fund and student award is aimed to encourage students to think deeply about the relations of gender, migration and disability in the Australian health and welfare system to ensure that future women from migrant backgrounds will not have to endure such injustice.
Prize	Teresa Sanko Šunde Memorial Award
Criteria	Awarded to the most outstanding student in WELF 1012 Understanding Disability: Historical and Contemporary Frameworks.
Recipient	Olivia Taylor

The Honourable Dr Helen Sham-Ho Awards



Donor	<p>The Honourable Dr Helen Sham-Ho OAM</p> <p>The Honourable Dr Helen Sham-Ho OAM, former politician, is a key leader within the Australian-Chinese community and has been instrumental in linking that community with mainstream Australia.</p> <p>She is known for her advocacy for migrants, Indigenous Australians and other minority groups within Australian politics and in the wider community. Also, an advocate for education, social justice, youth issues, multiculturalism and a champion for equal rights for women, Helen is an active fundraiser and philanthropist.</p> <p>During her time as a parliamentarian, Helen initiated and led the Cabramatta Policing enquiry following calls from the community to address drug trafficking and drug-crime problems. The 13-month long enquiry profoundly changed policing policy and practice not only in Cabramatta but the whole of NSW.</p> <p>Helen has been a long-standing supporter of Western Sydney University and in 2014 was awarded as Honorary Doctorate of Letters in recognition of her contributions to the community. Helen supports numerous educational causes and is proud to offer this prize.</p>
Prize	<p>The Honourable Dr Helen Sham-Ho Award for Evidence, Investigations & Police Intelligence</p>
Criteria	<p>Awarded to the most outstanding performance in the unit Evidence and Investigations within the Bachelor of Policing or Bachelor in Policing (Leadership Program) degrees.</p>
Recipient	<p>Jemmima Schembri</p>
Prize	<p>The Honourable Dr Helen Sham-Ho Award for Policing</p>
Criteria	<p>Awarded to the most outstanding performance in the unit People, Place and Social Difference within the Bachelor of Policing or Bachelor in Policing (Leadership Program) degrees.</p>
Recipient	<p>Jesse Penza</p>
Prize	<p>The Honourable Dr Helen Sham-Ho Award for Social Work Research</p>
Criteria	<p>Awarded to the a Social Work graduate who has achieved the highest thesis mark in the Master of Research.</p>
Recipient	<p>Claire Perry</p>

Veljanov Award in Introductory Sociology

Donor	Mr Sasko Veljanov and Dr Irena Veljanova As Western Sydney University Alumni, both Sasko and Irena Veljanov have experienced the transforming power of their educational journeys. With a firm belief that the discipline of sociology can be the driving intellectual force towards a more equitable, just society, these awards aim to acknowledge and motivate students to continue exploring sociology and become future leaders.
Prize	Veljanov Award in Introductory Sociology
Criteria	Awarded to the most outstanding students in CULT1017 Understanding Society.
Recipients	Mishal Naeem Tiana Smaragdis

School of Humanities and Communication Arts

Dean's Prizes

**DEAN'S THESIS
PRIZE FOR BEST
PRACTICE-BASED
PHD/DCA**

Eliane Thiravong

School of Education

Dean's Medals

Aliah Alyami

Master of Education
(Leadership and Management)

Jasmin Cooper

Master of Education
(Leadership)

Mary-Katherine Kelly

Master of Education
(Leadership)

Stephanie Thompson

Master of Education
(Leadership)

Sienna Aguilar

Master of Education
(Social Ecology)

Elisabeth Barratt

Master of Education
(Social Ecology)

Emma Brindal

Master of Education
(Social Ecology)

Athalia Zwartz

Master of Education
(Social Ecology)

Steven Catt

Master of Education (STEM)

Timothy Jones

Master of Education (STEM)

Tamara Steinhauer

Master of Education (STEM)

Caroline Bateson

Master of Inclusive Education

Cecile Patchell

Master of Inclusive Education

Angela Page

Master of Teaching
(Birth - 5 Years/Birth - 12 Years)

Jennifer Castorina

Master of Teaching (Primary)

Demi Kousoulas

Master of Teaching (Primary)

Melissa Kunovsky

Master of Teaching (Primary)

Brooke Mees

Master of Teaching (Primary)

Karen Sutch

Master of Teaching (Primary)

Eden Lam

Master of Teaching (Secondary)

Erin Rae

Master of Teaching (Secondary)

Kyle Stanford

Master of Teaching (Secondary)

School of Humanities and Communication Arts

Dean's Medals

Aya Al-Salti

Bachelor of Arts

Lewis Atkins

Bachelor of Arts

Linda Eecen

Bachelor of Arts

Rena El-Khoury

Bachelor of Arts

Madeleine Hosking

Bachelor of Arts

Samira Ismail

Bachelor of Arts

Braidyn Moore

Bachelor of Arts

Richard Truong

Bachelor of Arts

Lucas Venardos

Bachelor of Arts

Justin Whiting

Bachelor of Arts

Marian Woods

Bachelor of Arts

Holly Bramble

Bachelor of Arts
(Dean's Scholars)

Ashley Duke

Bachelor of Arts
(Dean's Scholars)

Warnakulasuriya Fernando

Bachelor of Arts
(Dean's Scholars)

Michelle Parkin

Bachelor of Arts
(Dean's Scholars)

Adele Wakeling

Bachelor of Arts
(Dean's Scholars)

Michelle Stacpoole

Bachelor of Communication

Katherine Zarb

Bachelor of Communication

Sarah O

Bachelor of Design -
Visual Communication
(Dean's Scholars)

Susan Alzaim

Bachelor of Design
(Visual Communication)

Sanela Delic

Bachelor of Design
(Visual Communication)

Nineveh Eshow

Bachelor of Design
(Visual Communication)

Megan Flavell

Bachelor of Design
(Visual Communication)

Miki Matsufuji

Bachelor of Design
(Visual Communication)

Brenden Schmitz

Bachelor of Design
(Visual Communication)

Fifi-An Tran

Bachelor of
International Studies

Sami Beydoun

Bachelor of Music

Marc Brown

Bachelor of Music

Anna Doolan

Bachelor of Music

Abbey Hinvest

Bachelor of Music

Amanda Irving

Bachelor of Music

Sarah Vella

Bachelor of Music

Matthew Bryant

Bachelor of Music
(Dean's Scholars)

Eliza Victoria

Master of Arts in Literature
and Creative Writing

Wei Choy

Master of Creative
Music Therapy

Sarah Grey

Master of Creative
Music Therapy

Courtney Severini

Master of Creative
Music Therapy

2022 Award in History and Political Thought

Lewis Atkins

School of Social Sciences

Dean's Medals

Tina Sheil

Bachelor of Anthropology

Lilian Tame

Bachelor of Anthropology

Renee Wilson

Bachelor of Criminal and
Community Justice

Lachlan Fraser

Bachelor of Cyber Security
and Behaviour

Jacquelyn Harrington

Bachelor of Cyber Security
and Behaviour

Maria Urbano

Bachelor of Cyber Security
and Behaviour

Face Sauvage

Bachelor of Humanitarian and
Development Studies

Rebekah Smith

Bachelor of Humanitarian and
Development Studies

Kye Smith

Bachelor of Planning

Lauren Abbey

Bachelor of Social Science

Sophia Hamilton

Bachelor of Social Science

Declan Hilferty Warren

Bachelor of Social Science

Olivia Leary

Bachelor of Social Science

Oona Stokes

Bachelor of Social Science

Simone Cooper

Bachelor of Social Work

Radhe Davies

Bachelor of Social Work

Kate House

Bachelor of Social Work

Michelle Jasprizza

Bachelor of Social Work

Sandra Jensen

Bachelor of Social Work

Heather Jovevski

Bachelor of Social Work

Karen Sanders

Graduate Diploma in Art
Therapy (exit only)

Sally Rosengren

Graduate Diploma in
Counselling

Lisa Stanizzo

Graduate Diploma in
Counselling

Morgana Thomas

Master of Art Therapy

Elisha Barrett

Master of Social Work
(Qualifying)

Sinead Bradshaw

Master of Social Work
(Qualifying)

Troy Byrnes

Master of Social Work
(Qualifying)

Caitlin Hopper

Master of Urban Management
and Planning

Matthew Rothwell

Master of Urban Management
and Planning

2022 POLICING INTERNSHIPS

Helen Butrus

Lachlan di Gorgio

Hannah Doyle

Jasmine Hojjati

Claudia Kabalane

Rebecca Ling

Daniel L'Olive

Patrick Lu



GIVING TO WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

Western Sydney University changes lives and shapes the social, economic, environmental and educational development of the region in which we live, and the world.

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The gift of knowledge empowers our students to embrace opportunity, growth and change. Your support of Western Sydney University students through awards, scholarships and research encourages them to strive for excellence and reach their potential.

For information on how you can support Western Sydney University and our students, please contact the Office of Advancement.

02 9685 9511
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Western Sydney University
Locked Bag 1797
Penrith NSW 2751 Australia

westernsydney.edu.au