

## Alumni Awards Information and Guidelines

The ECU Alumni Awards have been created by ECU under the guidance of the Vice-Chancellor, and are a mechanism for the University to recognise the success of its graduates. The Awards are arranged in four categories: Young Alumni Award, International Alumni Award, Community Award and Distinguished Alumni Award. Success in each of these categories is judged against the criteria listed in Appendix 1 of this document.

### Eligibility

- Nominees must be a graduate of ECU or one of its antecedent institutions
- Nominees must not be employed as a current staff member of ECU
- Former staff and Honorary Award recipients are eligible but must have also completed a course with ECU
- Self-nominations are permissible, but must be signed by a referee who is not a family member of the nominee
- Posthumous nominations will not be considered
- Nominees of the Young Alumni Award must be under the age of 35 as of the close of nomination deadline.
- Nominees of the International Alumni Awards must have lived and worked in a country outside Australia for at least the last five years. The nominee does not need to originate from a country outside Australia.

### Applications process

The applications process is as follows:

1. Alumni are nominated via Nomination Forms, and submitted to [alumni@ecu.edu.au](mailto:alumni@ecu.edu.au)
2. DAR validates the information provided, and any ineligible entries are excluded
3. All nominations are submitted to the Alumni Awards panel for their consideration.
4. Recommendations will be made by the Alumni Awards panel to the Vice-Chancellor for approval.
5. Following approval by the Vice-Chancellor, Award winners are notified in writing by the Vice-Chancellor, and are invited to accept their Award early the following year.

### Decision Making

- The decision making will be made through the consideration and recommendations of the Alumni Awards panel with the final winners approved by the Vice-Chancellor.
- The decision of the Vice-Chancellor is final; there is no appeals process.

## Other information

- Nominators will be notified of the outcome of their nomination, whether successful or unsuccessful, at the conclusion of the award process. ECU will not contact nominees unless the nomination is successful.
- Nominations should remain confidential throughout the process; we advise not communicating with the nominee that they have been nominated.
- ECU reserves the right at its sole discretion, to not accept a nomination.
- Anyone (staff, student, alumni, community) can put forward a nomination.
- Nominations must be submitted using the ECU Alumni Award Nomination Form and received by the nominated deadline. In 2019, this will be 5pm on Wednesday 29 May.
- All nominations and supporting documentation are confidential.
- Information provided will be handled in line with ECU's privacy policy.
- A graduate can only win one Award in any three-year period.
- The referee should be a person of suitable standing, who is appropriately qualified to act as referee for the nominee
- Nominations will be judged against the criteria outlined in Appendix 1, below
- A maximum of one winner will be awarded in each category annually. ECU reserves the right to not award in any or all of the categories should there be no suitable nominees
- Award recipients will receive a non-cash Award presented to them in the following year.

## Appendix 1: JUDGING CRITERIA

### Young alumni award

This award has been created to underline ECU's youth as a University, and the extraordinary achievements many of our new graduates go on to make due to being equipped as 'world-ready' by their time at ECU.

- **Age** - nominees must be under the age of 35.
- **Achievement within their profession** - nominees must be able to demonstrate an ongoing and high level of achievement in their profession, which raises their profile and standing within that industry
- **Leadership qualities** – nominees must be able to demonstrate leadership in a variety of contexts, including as a volunteer, within the community or through their profession
- **Positive impact** – the nominee's work, either professional or volunteering, should demonstrate a positive impact that has been felt by many – locally nationally and/or internationally
- **Referees** – the nominee's referees should exhibit significant status, relevance and/or substance in any arena

### International alumni

This award aims to demonstrate that our graduates are truly global citizens and contributing to the culture, society and economy of the places in which they live using the skills acquired during their time at ECU. This award aims to demonstrate the reach of ECU internationally, building the reputation of our University outside Australia through the success of our alumni.

- **Location** - nominees must currently be based in a country outside Australia, and have lived and worked outside Australia for at least five years. Nominees do not need to originate from their current location.
- **Achievement within their profession** - nominees must be able to demonstrate an ongoing and high level of achievement in their profession, which raises their profile and standing within that industry
- **Leadership qualities** – nominees must be able to demonstrate leadership in a variety of contexts, including as a volunteer, within the community or through their profession
- **Global impact** – the nominee’s work, either professional or volunteering, should demonstrate a positive impact that has been felt by many internationally.
- **Referees** – the nominee’s referees should exhibit significant status, relevance and/or substance in any arena

### Community award

The community award was created to recognise alumni who are achieving extraordinary impact in the field of equality, diversity and social responsibility, reflecting ECU’s commitment to widening participation, for example in fields related to low SES communities, those with disabilities, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities, or gender equality.

- **Leadership in the community** – nominees must be able to demonstrate significant dedication to or impact upon the community or specific groups (such as those outlined above), either through their profession or volunteerism
- **Achievement within their profession** - nominees must be able to demonstrate a consistent level of achievement in their profession, which raises their profile and standing within that industry
- **Positive impact** – the nominee’s work, either professional or volunteering, should demonstrate a positive impact that has been felt by many – locally, nationally and/or internationally
- **Referees** – the nominee’s referees should exhibit significant status, relevance and/or substance in any arena

### Distinguished alumni

This is the overall alumni achiever who has achieved extraordinary success in their industry, but also demonstrates global relevance and a commitment to equality/diversity. Winners of this award may demonstrate key achievements from the above categories.

- **Sustained and significant contribution to their profession** - nominees must be able to demonstrate an ongoing and high level of achievement in their profession, which raises their profile and standing within that industry
- **Distinction** – the nominee, through their prominence in their field, would bring great distinction to ECU
- **Leadership qualities** – nominees must be able to demonstrate significant leadership in a variety of contexts, including as a volunteer, within the community or through their profession
- **Positive impact** – the nominee’s work, either professional or volunteering, should demonstrate a positive impact that has been felt by many – locally, nationally and/or internationally
- **Referees** – the nominee’s referees should exhibit significant status, relevance and/or substance in any arena

#### **Appendix 2: EXAMPLE EVIDENCE**

Through the nomination form, any of the below may be provided as evidence of how the nominee meets the criteria (this list is not exhaustive):

- Advanced qualifications and/or recognised significant experience
- Leadership roles and membership of professional associations
- Number and range of publications/editorship of journals/presentation of papers at national/international conferences
- Number and range of consultancies/guest speaker/lectures achieved
- Recognition by peers/professional associations/international organisations
- Development and management of major projects
- Quality and range of research or scholarly achievement
- Number and range of grants/commissions/consultancies obtained
- Practical application to field/industry/government/professions
- Recognition by government/business/industry/community/media and overseas organisations
- Leadership roles in a community/volunteer context