Call for nominations for the 2009 Larry Hick Award:
Awarded for the best research paper by a HDR student in the School of Chemistry at UOW

Mr Larry Hick was a technical officer within the School of Chemistry at UoW for over 31 years, before his untimely death in 2007. Larry was a much-loved member of the School and he leaves an enormous legacy in terms of research support and collegiality. In his role as mass spec “guru”, Larry greatly enjoyed working with postgraduate students on all types of research problems. HDR students benefited enormously from Larry’s assistance and indeed, he is most probably the most oft acknowledged individual in PhD theses from Chemistry over many years. To honour Larry’s contribution to the School, a new student prize, the “Larry Hick Award” has been instituted that recognizes the achievements of Higher Degree Research (HDR) students within the School.

Timeline for 2009:
Nominations will be received by email to the Head of School and will close on Wednesday the 5th of August. The committee (appointed by the HoS) will then convene with the winner to be announced at the annual Halpern Lecture on the 19th of August.

Nomination
Eligible students and research papers will be nominated by their research supervisor(s) including a brief statement (<100 words) that includes an explanation of the student’s contribution to the work and the significance and impact or potential impact of the paper in the field. The date of publication or acceptance of the manuscript should also be provided. If a student or research paper is nominated that does not meet one or more of the eligibility criteria listed below, a further explanation (of up to an additional 100 words) must be provided that makes a case to the committee as to why an exception should be made.

Eligibility
1. The award is to be presented annually to a UoW HDR student in the School of Chemistry who in the opinion of the selection committee has published the best research paper in the 12 months prior to the presentation.
2. Eligible students must have made the major contribution to the research paper for which they have been nominated and be acknowledged as the first author (either directly by author order or by formal acknowledgement by all other authors).
3. Eligible papers must be published (or in press) in a peer-reviewed international journal.
4. The eligible paper must be published or in press in the 12 months between award presentations (e.g., July - July). The award cannot be presented twice for the same paper.
5. The student must have been enrolled in a HDR degree for no more than 3.5 years.
6. Nominations of students and/or research papers that do not adhere to these eligibility criteria will be accepted but a case for exemption must accompany the nomination.

Selection criteria
Papers will be judged by a small committee made up of the Head of School, HDR student coordinator and two other Professors (or senior members of Academic staff chosen by HoS). The best paper will be judged based on:
• journal impact factor (or other suitable metrics)
• research excellence and innovation
• impact or potential impact on the field
• student contribution relative to opportunity.

Prize
A certificate would be presented to the winner and a contribution of up to $1000 toward travel for the winning student to a research conference.