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## AIA AWARDS CRITERIA

### 1. The Australian Medal of Agricultural Science

- a) The Institute shall periodically recognise outstanding achievement by the award of The Australian Medal of Agricultural Science to persons who, in the opinion of the Board, have made outstanding, specific contributions to the advancement of Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (NRM).
- b) A Medal can be conferred beyond Institute Members to non-members, as a recognition to contribution to the profession and will awarded at the Board's discretion.
- c) A Medal may be awarded jointly to persons associated with the same outstanding contribution.
- d) A Medal may be awarded to international agriculturalists who have made a significant contribution to the advancement of agriculture in Australia while living in Australia.
- e) The Board shall ensure that persons in all fields of Agriculture and NRM are considered equitably in the award of a Medal.
- f) Up to three Medals, with no more than two in any one field, may be awarded annually.
- g) Awards may be made annually but if, in the opinion of the Board, there is no candidate of sufficient merit, the Board may refrain from making an award.
- h) The medal recipient shall present an oration at a gala Awards event to be held associated with the Annual General Meeting of AIA

### 2. Fellows

- (a) The AIA shall recognise those members who have served the Institute and the profession with eminence and dedication through a process of nomination, selection and election as Fellows of the Institute. To be eligible for nomination as a Fellow of the Institute, the nominee must:
  - be at least 35 years of age;
  - be a financial Member of the Institute;
  - have been engaged in practising as a professional in Agriculture or Natural Resource Management for at least ten years since gaining qualifications acceptable for membership of the Institute; and
  - be judged by peers to have contributed significantly to the profession and the Institute.

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- b) Fellowship nominations shall be in the appropriate form, signed by two Members and co-signed by the Divisional Chair, each of whom must certify to personal knowledge of the candidate's qualifications, experience and character.
- c) Nominations for Fellow will be considered by the Awards Sub-Committee, which will make recommendations to the Board.
- (d) Given the merit-based selection process, there is no restriction to the total number of Fellows within the Institute or awards bestowed per year.
- (e) Fellows shall be entitled to use the post-nominal FAIA.

### 3. Life Member Award

- a) This is an award to recognise long serving AIA members who have made an outstanding contribution to the Institute and the profession.
- b) Definition: An award for a member of the AIA for 50+ years or retiring AIA fellow who has provided substantial service to AIA and the agricultural/NRM industry.
- c) Must have provided an outstanding contribution to the AIA (e.g. held board or divisional positions, organised events, participated in sub-committees, development of initiatives, i.e. accreditation) over a period of time.
- d) Must have worked for 20 years in an appropriate field (Agriculture and/or Natural Resource Management) at a professional level with evidence of substantial contribution with national and/or international recognition.
- e) Nomination Process for Life Member Awards:
- Nominations for the Life Membership Award shall come from divisional committees to the Awards Sub-Committee once a year (at the same time as the nominations for Fellows).
  - A maximum of one (1) Life Member may be nominated by each Division every year.
  - The Awards Sub-Committee will make recommendations on the award of Life Memberships to the Board for consideration and determination. The Board's decision is final. There is a cap of a maximum of two (2) Life Members to be awarded each year.
  - Life membership is an award and hence, no annual fees will be charged to life members.
- f) Post Nominals:  
Life members can continue to use post nominal, MAIA or FAIA (if retired as a Fellow)

### **Nominations for AIA Awards**

- a) Divisions shall, when requested by the Board, call for nominations for fellowships and Institute awards from Members of the Division. It is expressly provided that Members of any Division may nominate a Member of another Division.
- b) Nominations shall be on a form approved by and based on the guidelines provided by the Board. Nominations must be signed by two financial Members and co-signed by the Divisional Chair and be submitted to the Division of which the nominee is a Member and must include the following information in respect of each nominee:
  - academic record
  - career resume;
  - basis of nomination – details of the outstanding contribution or contributions; supporting data including a list, but not copies, of publications
  - participation in Institute affairs; and
  - Photo (headshot)
- c) The Division shall consider all nominations. It is the responsibility of the Division to advise the nominators of receipt of their nominations, and when to expect an announcement of the award.
- d) The nominations selected by Division or SIG Committees shall be forwarded with all the supporting data and a report to the Chair of the Awards Sub-Committee before the due date nominated from time to time.