



Awards Committee Report
Annual General Meeting, 2020
Lindsay O'Brien, Awards Committee Chair
Report date: 18 August 2020

This year was a F B Guthrie Award year and the Committee is pleased to report that for the first time since the Award was founded, two awards will be made due to the outstanding contributions made in different fields to science, grains research and the Australian Grains Industry.

Emeritus Professor Les Copeland AM

Professor Copeland has had a distinguished career as a researcher and teacher.

Les Copeland is an agricultural chemist whose academic interests are at the interface between food science and agricultural production. He has published extensively on food starches, grain science, and plant biochemistry. Les is Editor-in-Chief of the journals *Cereal Chemistry* and *Agriculture*, a Director of the Australian Government Cotton Research and Development Corporation, and a member of the Research Advisory Committee of the Australian Farm Institute.

He is a former Dean of Agriculture, and was the Foundation President of the Australian Council of Deans of Agriculture. He graduated as a BSc and PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Sydney and held research appointments at Yale University, the University of Buffalo and the University of California, Davis in the USA, and at the Australian National University. He is a Fulbright Alumnus and the recipient of an Excellence in Teaching Award from the American Association of Cereal Chemists-International. Les was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) "for significant service to agricultural science as an academic and researcher" in the Queen's Birthday 2019 Honours.

Professor Copeland is the author of more than 150 publications in refereed scientific journals and has supervised 34 Ph D completions.

Dr Joe Panozzo

Dr Joe Panozzo is a Research leader within Agriculture Victoria Research and leads the Seed Phenomics and Quality Traits Laboratory. In this role he provides project leadership for the development and application of high throughput phenomic technologies to quantify quality traits for cereals, pulses and oilseeds.

Joe commenced his career as a wheat quality scientist and developed a strong interest in developing methodologies to determine quality traits in wheat and later applied his experience to malt-barley, pulses and oilseeds. Joe's initial research was in the field of near infrared spectroscopy and worked closely with the three wheat-breeding programs to determine quality traits in the early generations of the breeding program. Joe has maintained his interest in NIR and lead the development of multi-spectral image analysis research and NIR-hyperspectral imaging. The impact of this research has meant that breeding programs have been able to develop genomic selection strategies which allow for a more effective quantitation of quality traits.

In 1991, Joe commenced his PhD investigating the effects of heat and drought stress on protein synthesis and quality traits. The extensive multilocation field-based study described how storage proteins are synthesised in response to different abiotic conditions and the impact on quality.

Joe has authored/co-authored over 100 papers in peer reviewed scientific journals and has supervised 12 PhD completions. Joe has served as editor of seven Royal Australian Chemical Institute – Cereal Chemistry Division conference proceedings and associate editor for the Cereal Chemistry

Joe is highly regarded by scientific peers for his scientific outputs, leadership and commitment to his work. He has academic associations with Charles Sturt University (Associate Professor), University of Melbourne (Senior Research Fellow), Swinburne University of Technology.

In 2015 Joe was awarded the prestigious Farrer Memorial Medal which honours William Farrer, Australia's pioneering wheat breeder.

Joe has served on many professional bodies including serving as Chairman of the RACI Cereal Chemistry Division, the Australasian Grain Science Association as three times Conference Chairman.

His broad knowledge and skills meant that he served on several expert committees and advisory groups including American Association of Cereal Chemists-International; Scientific Advisory Panel; the ACCI Pulse Quality Technical Subcommittee; Wheat Quality Objectives Group and National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) accredited assessor and Chairman of the International Pulse Quality Committee.

Awards Committee: L O'Brien, PG Downie and M Gidley.