2015 Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Research & Development, Higher Education & Training, Community Engagement and Accounting Teaching

AWARDS GUIDELINES

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eAwards
2015 Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Collaboration in Research & Development, Higher Education & Training, Community Engagement and Accounting Teaching

The Business/Higher Education Round Table invites applications for national awards in Research & Development, Higher Education & Training, Community Engagement and Accounting Teaching from business and tertiary education institutions that demonstrate achievement in industry and higher education collaboration.

Objective
A program of prestigious national awards initiated in 1998 to recognise outstanding achievements in collaboration between business and tertiary education in the fields of Research & Development and Education & Training. The objective of the program is to highlight at a national level the benefits of such collaboration and enhance links between industry and universities.

Presentation of the Awards
The presentation of the Awards will be made at the B/HERT Awards Dinner on 17 November 2015 at Melbourne, Crown Towers, Palladium C. All Award winners will be presented with an engraved trophy.

Guests at the dinner will include B/HERT members, vice-chancellors, CEOs, senior executives from industry/professional associations, key stakeholders, government representatives and members of the community.

Eligibility
Applications for programs or projects involving a collaborative partnership between business and tertiary education in a metropolitan or regional setting can be submitted for consideration of an award. Therefore, the collaborating organisations nominated for the award must come from business and the tertiary education sectors and must demonstrate effective and beneficial partnerships and innovation. For projects incorporating multiple parties, the roles of each participant must be clearly identified.

Each application must be submitted electronically via B/HERT's online portal and signed by all participating partners.

Award Categories

1. BEST RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATION
2. BEST HIGHER EDUCATION & TRAINING COLLABORATION
3. BEST COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COLLABORATION
4. EXCELLENCE IN ACCOUNTING TEACHING COLLABORATION
Applications may be submitted for an award in any of the above categories. The Judging Panel reserves the right to reassign any application to another category if deemed appropriate. Winning projects are not eligible for a B/HERT Award in subsequent years.

### B/HERT Award for Outstanding Excellence in Collaboration - $10,000 prize to the best project from the 4 Award categories

In recognition of the outstanding winning projects, B/HERT will award an additional $10,000 prize to the outstanding overall winning submission as assessed by the Judging Panel. The four winners in each of the above categories will be automatically reviewed for this award.

### Judging Panel

Applications are assessed by an independent panel of eminent judges from the key stakeholder groups.

### Criteria for Assessment (Categories 1-3)

The two principal criteria for judging collaborations as worthy of an award are whether they are highly innovative and are based on the foundation of a strong relationship between partners.

1. **Innovation** – (a) Has the project or program produced new concepts, products or services as a result of the collaboration or has it involved developing a new way for the parties to collaborate? (b) How innovative (i.e., novel and useful) is the concept or idea, design, delivery or content? (c) What new challenges have been met or barriers surmounted?

2. **The Strength of the Relationship** – (a) What is the extent of the responsibilities and involvement of the partners? (b) How has this grown over the life of the project or program? (c) How do the partners collaborate in regard to people, facilities, access to information, technology transfer, etc.? (d) Are there obstacles and barriers the partners have had to overcome to make the collaboration work? (e) Have there been other productive relationships that have developed as a result of the project or program?

3. **Benefits Arising** - the Judging Panel will look for and take into account evidence pertaining to relevant benefits that have arisen from the project, which ideally would include all or some of the following benefits:

   - **Outreach Inclusion** – Has the project or program attracted new participants since its inception? Has it become a model for other projects or programs?

   - **Wider outcomes achieved** – These may be economic, financial, social, educational, environmental, or community benefits. Please include any attempts to expand this project to other parts of the University, industry or to other users. Examples might include growth in exports, creation of new jobs, reduction of disadvantage, and so on.

   - **Cultural Impact** – What impact has the project or program had on the cultures of the participating organisations? What changes have there been in attitudes, behaviour or values of the participants? Have any other overall relevant benefits been achieved?
Criteria for Assessment (Category 4)
The CPA Australia/B/HERT Award for Excellence in Accounting Teaching Collaboration recognises partnerships between an accounting department in an Australian university and industry which leads to excellence in teaching and improved graduate outcomes. Project outcomes should demonstrate a step change in innovation that results from the partnership.

This could be demonstrated through:

1. **Extent of collaboration**: i.e. effective involvement of industry in the design, implementation and evaluation of accounting teaching and other educational activities;

2. **Encouragement of accounting students** to practice and execute accounting principles in the workplace;

3. **The strength of the relationship**:
   a) The extent of the responsibilities and involvement of the partners.
   b) How has this grown over the life of the project or program?
   c) How do the partners collaborate in regard to people, facilities, access to information, technology transfer, etc.?
   d) Are there obstacles and barriers the partners have had to overcome to make the collaboration work?
   e) Have there been other productive relationships that have developed as a result of the project or program?
   f) Has effective use of industry-based sessional/adjunct staff in accountancy been demonstrated?

4. **Professional/educational qualitative outcomes for all parties to the collaboration e.g.**
   educational outcomes; employability outcomes; improved professional output;

5. **Industry outcomes achieved** – these may be economic, financial, social, educational, environmental, or community benefits. Examples might include growth in exports, creation of new jobs, employability of graduates, integration of international students, research that supports better teaching outcomes, among others.

**Note:** Provision has been made for submissions to attach tables, photographs, graphics or video clips (a maximum of 10Mb can be uploaded as an attachment; files larger than 10Mb should be uploaded on YouTube via upload button and the link provided.) The inclusion of such multi-media demonstrations is highly recommended if they serve to highlight the scope of a project’s effectiveness. See [http://bhert.e-awards.com.au/newentry/myinfo.php](http://bhert.e-awards.com.au/newentry/myinfo.php). In the event that the submission is successful and receives an Award, B/HERT may want to utilise some of this material to better illustrate what the program / project involves at the Awards Dinner.

Applicants are reminded that the Awards are to recognise outstanding achievement in collaboration between one or more tertiary education institutions and one or more industry partners. In this regard industry is defined broadly as publicly and privately owned companies, but can also include federal, state and government departments, statutory authorities, industry associations and recognised community and welfare organisations. Tertiary education institutions may also include business schools or accredited higher education programs that promote entrepreneurship. The underpinning interaction must be a true collaboration above and beyond what would be normally expected as part of routine activities. For example, a co-operative education program is naturally collaborative but the submission must demonstrate the novel approach or innovation that results from the project. All parties must be actively involved and contributing to a relationship well beyond a commercial or service delivery arrangement.

Project outcomes and their sustainability over time must be demonstrated. Non-winning projects can be resubmitted if, over time demonstrable outcomes are evident.

Letters of support written by participating organisations are welcome and should address outcomes and beneficial features of the collaboration.
B/HERT will present an Award recognising a sustained effort by a university, business or individual to foster collaboration between the sectors resulting in significant benefits to tertiary education, business and the broader community. This Award will be made on the basis of verifiable evidence of a range of collaborative initiatives and peer recognition. It is an open award, not restricted to members of B/HERT. It is a prestigious award intended for any worthy applicant in Australia. The breadth and quality of applications made to the B/HERT Awards over recent years will be taken into consideration. The B/HERT Board and Judging Panel welcome nominations of any organisation that should be considered for this prestigious Award. Please create an account and follow the instructions at http://bhert.awards.com.au/newentry/myinfo.php to provide your nomination and any supporting documentation.

Note: There is no application form for the Ashley Goldsworthy Award. Nominations are expected to provide documentation that demonstrates the depth and strength of sustained collaboration between business and tertiary education.
Application Process

1. Applications open Monday June 1st, 2015.
2. Deadline for applications is Monday September 7th, 2015, COB.
3. Judging panel:
   - Mr Peter Laver AM, Vice President, Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (Panel Chair)
   - Emeritus Professor Chris Fell AM, Former Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of NSW
   - Professor Jennelle Kyd, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost, Swinburne University of Technology
   - Mr John Grace, Chairman, ITEK Ventures Pty Ltd
   - The Hon Dr Jane Lomax-Smith, Chair, South Australian Museum
   - Mr John Vines OAM, Chair, Innovation and Business Skills Australia
   - Mr Rob Thomason, Executive General Manager, Business Development, CPA Australia.
4. Winners of the B/HERT Awards will be announced at the Dinner on Tuesday November 17th 2015 at Melbourne, Crown Towers, Palladium C.
5. The winner in each category will be presented with a trophy at the Awards Dinner.
6. Completed applications should be submitted electronically at e-awards.com.au/bhert and signed by all participating partners.

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