

Phillip Harman
Honorary Membership of the ASEG
Melbourne - August 2013

CITATION

Honorary Membership of the ASEG, for distinguished contributions by a member to the Society and the profession over many years, is conferred upon Phillip Harman.

Phil has been an active member of the ASEG since its founding in 1971, and has served the society well over his 40 plus years of membership. He holds an Honours Degree in Geology and Geophysics from the University of Sydney. Phil has also achieved high status in the Australian business community, and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Phil was Chief Geophysicist at BHP Minerals during 1982-1989, notable for his coal related seismic R&D largely carried out for BHP coal companies in NSW. As Chief Geophysicist he scoped and led the development of the BHP proprietary precursor system to the Intrepid software package, the development of which was the direct result of his passion to make geophysical interpretation more geological. He held a variety of exploration management positions in BHP including Exploration Manager Western Australia 1989-1992; Manager Exploration South America 1992-1997; Manager Exploration Services 1997-1999; Manager Falcon Deployment 1999-2001. Phil played an influential role in the commitment by BHP Billiton to the R&D program which resulted in the development of the FALCON Airborne Gravity Gradiometer. He was subsequently responsible for commercialising the technology out of BHP Billiton into Gravity Capital Limited, from which a number of companies were created. He has substantial experience in the junior exploration sector and holds a number of company directorships.

Phil's contributions to development of the profession through his work with the ASEG Research Foundation (ASEGRF) are especially noteworthy. The ASEGRF was established in 1989 to address the decline in student enrolments in exploration geophysics. The overall aim of the ASEGRF is to attract high calibre students into exploration geophysics and thus ensure a future supply of talented, highly skilled, geophysicists for industry. Phil has served as Chairman of the ASEGRF for over 12 years from 2001 to the present. He has been a very effective spokesman for the Foundation resulting in continuing funding support from industry and individuals as well as the ASEG itself. This funding has been essential for the functioning and success of the Foundation.

Phil has also served on the ASEG Federal Executive, including President in 2010-2011. In addition to this, Phil has been an effective ASEG Representative to the Australian Geoscience Council for the years 2010 and 2011. He is also a Director of the Deep Exploration Technologies Cooperative Research Centre (DET CRC) where

he has the role of advancing the commercialisation of DET technologies which will effectively open up new exploration search space at depth.

Phil is known as a persuasive and straightforward communicator, and is thereby highly respected in the geophysical and resource community. The ASEG is pleased to acknowledge Phil's significant contributions to the Society and the profession with the award of Honorary Membership of the ASEG.