

Peter Priest
ASEG Service Medal
Melbourne – August 2013

CITATION

The 2013 ASEG Service Medal, for outstanding and distinguished service to the ASEG, has been awarded to Peter Priest.

Peter is an Adelaide based practising accountant who has provided many years of service on a voluntary basis to the ASEG as Honorary Treasurer of the ASEG Research Foundation. He has continued this role since the inception of the Research Foundation in 1989 to the present, a period of nearly 25 years.

Peter is well known to many ASEG members and initially became involved through a personal friendship with two former ASEG Presidents Bob Smith and Terry Crabb. Peter helped to establish the ground rules under which the Research Foundation would function, in particular those relating to tax, and since then he has steadfastly maintained the Foundation's books for compliance purposes, and has managed the banking along with the payment of grants to recipients.

Peter has attended on an entirely voluntary basis, the majority of general meetings of the Research Foundation that are held to coincide with the ASEG's conferences. Peter has also ensured that the Research Foundation has lived entirely within its means, not an easy job in the face of an enthusiastic committee.

The Award of an ASEG Service Medal in this case is somewhat unusual because Peter is not a member of the ASEG. However, largely due to Peter's much understated and invaluable contribution to the Research Foundation over many years, and the strong endorsement by all those who have worked closely with Peter in the Research Foundation - current and previous Chairmen Phil Harman, Joe Cucuzza, and Bob Smith, and Doug Roberts who has served as Secretary since the formation of the Foundation - the Federal Executive decided during 2012 to allow non-members to be eligible under exceptional circumstances for ASEG service awards. It is most fitting that the first non-member to receive this award is Peter Priest, who deserves our recognition and whole hearted thanks.