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**The National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee**

**Aotearoa New Zealand John Schofield Three Rs Award**

**Terms of Reference**

**Preamble**

The principles of Replacement, Reduction and Refinement (or the “Three Rs”) are a cornerstone of ethical use of animals in research, testing and teaching (RTT). The Aotearoa New Zealand John Schofield Three Rs Award celebrates achievement in the development and/or implementation or of the Three Rs.

John Schofield was a veterinarian with huge national and international experience whose work focused on the welfare of animals used in research and teaching. He contributed extensively to develop new ways to advance the Three Rs, implement them in his work, and support others to do so. This award was created to recognise similar achievements by others in this important area of research and practice.

The biennial award is jointly offered by the National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) and the New Zealand board of the Australian and New Zealand Council for the Care of Animals in Research and Teaching (ANZCCART(NZ)).

The award will be made to an individual, group or organisation working within New Zealand that shows great commitment to developing or implementing the principles of the Three Rs. Applications are open to individuals, groups or organisations that can demonstrate a role in developing or implementing the principles of the Three Rs. Applications are not limited to animal-based research. Applications relating to areas such as law, policy and administration, or conceptual work that advances the Three Rs are also welcome.

**Purpose of the award**

To reward and promote the implementation or development of methods, techniques, and/or technologies that advance Three Rs principles in RTT.

**Publicity**

* Applications and nominations will be sought by widely publicising the award deadline
* Advertising and media releases will be undertaken by NAEAC and ANZCCART (NZ) the latter in consultation with the winner and their host organisation
* Media releases will acknowledge all sponsors, unless otherwise requested
* Sponsors may adapt media releases for their own use where appropriate, after submitting them to MPI for approval

**The Aotearoa New Zealand John Schofield Three Rs Implementation Biennial Award**

**Application criteria**

The applicant’s work must meet one or more of the following criteria, against which they will be judged:

* Demonstrates great commitment to Three Rs principles.
* Demonstrates innovative and excellent implementation or development of Three Rs principles.
* Actively promotes awareness or understanding of Three Rs principles in RTT.

**Rules of the award**

* Applications will be accepted from individuals, groups, or organisations within New Zealand.
* Nominations will also be accepted for individuals, groups, or organisations within New Zealand, provided the nominee is consulted and consents to being nominated.
* Announcement of the application deadline and publication of application forms will allow a minimum of three months to prepare an application.
* Announcement of results will be prior to the anticipated presentation, to allow the winner time to prepare for attendance.

**Application/Nomination process**

* Applicants should use the application form for the Aotearoa New Zealand John Schofield Three Rs Award, which can be downloaded from the NAEAC and ANZCCART(NZ) websites or requested from the NAEAC Secretariat naeac@mpi.govt.nz

**Judging panel and assessment process**

* The judging panel will be comprised of two NAEAC members and two ANZCCART(NZ) members.
* Members of the panel will have appropriate expertise and will elect one member as chair.
* Diversity among panel members will be sought.
* Other individuals may be seconded to the panel; for example to provide specific expertise.
* Conflict of interest among nominees and panel must be disclosed and avoided or managed, as appropriate.
* All members of the panel will read and rank the applications; individual rankings will be discussed, and a final ranking reached by consensus. All assessment and deliberation will manage any conflict as appropriate.
* The ranked list will be provided to the NAEAC and ANZCCART(NZ) secretariats for ratification by both committees. The outcome will be communicated to all applicants, and the NAEAC secretariat will then arrange for awarding of the prize and publicity by NAEAC and ANZCCART(NZ) as appropriate.
* The decision of the judging panel is final.

**Prizes**

* The prize will consist of a certificate jointly designed by NAEAC and ANZCCART and a $10,000 cash award, to be presented at a suitable venue and time
* The winner’s travel costs for attending the presentation function will be included in the prize.
* At the discretion of the judging panel special commendations may be awarded.
* If necessary, funding from other sponsors will be sought to ensure continuity of funding for each award cycle.

**Conditions of acceptance**

External publicity of receipt of an award and presentation of the work to NAEAC and ANZCCART(NZ) are conditions of entry and must be agreed to by the awardee and, if appropriate, their employer.