



CONVENTIONS ADELAIDE AWARD RECIPIENTS ARE A DOUBLE WIN

The Adelaide Convention Bureau's 'Conventions Adelaide Grant Awards' – designed to recognise local leaders within their genre who have committed to identify and aid in bidding for an international conference, were announced by Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP at an awards dinner held 21st November, at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

“This is year two of the Bureau’s awards initiative and we remain grateful for the support from our Team Adelaide partners - the Adelaide Convention Centre and South Australian Tourism Commission” said Damien Kitto, CEO Adelaide Convention Bureau.

“The awards are designed to strengthen ties between the Bureau and industry leaders and increase the ability for individuals to identify and attract major international conferences to Adelaide, specifically within life sciences, technology, research and innovation” he said.

Being of a financial nature, the awards are granted to assist the recipient in any number of purposes including aiding personal and professional development within their chosen field. The five 2017 recipients as per below have identified conferences that combined, have the ability to bring an estimated \$31.2m in economic impact and visitation by 5,400 delegates not to mention the impact of the long lasting legacies their events will leave for the state.

“The awards are a win/win for both the state and the recipient. In addition to receiving the award, the recipient will become an active member of the bidding team for a conference to attract their peers from across the globe to their home city and reap the rewards and recognition that focus will bring.

“From a state perspective, one need look no further than the recent International Astronautical Congress to realise the enormous benefits these major events can bring to the state with local investment, skilled migration and the spotlight of the world on our local achievements and industry. Additionally, the pre and post touring opportunities for the leisure tourism industry are enormous. The Conventions Adelaide Awards are another strategic move in our ongoing efforts to attract these highly sought after, high yielding events to Adelaide” said Mr Kitto

South Australia’s Chief Scientist, Dr Leanna Read, who chaired the awards panel and provides leadership in developing strategies to enhance the contribution of science, technology, research and innovation to the State’s development is fully supportive of the benefits of conferences and the Conventions Adelaide Award program.

“Conventions play a critical role in supporting local industry and putting a spotlight on what South Australians are achieving to our counterparts in Australia and indeed the world. This program supports innovative industry leaders in putting their hand up to bring a convention to Adelaide. With the advancement of the infrastructure that Adelaide is developing in the BioMed City, the Convention Centre and Tonsley now is the time to be attracting these international conferences to our city” said Dr Read.

The Conventions Adelaide Program

The Adelaide Convention Bureau, as the peak body responsible for bringing business events to South Australia, researches and identifies events upon which Adelaide can bid to act as the host city. The Conventions Adelaide program, brings about collaboration between the Bureau and local experts within a field who have knowledge of a forthcoming event within their genre. The Adelaide Convention Bureau

works with that person and/or a local team to present a bid submission to the event owners to bring the event to Adelaide.

The full list of 2017 Conventions Adelaide Award recipients is below:

NAME	BACKGROUND
Prof Eva Bezak	Professor Eva Bezak has an MSc in Medical Physics and a PhD in Nuclear Physics. From 2006 till 2015 she was a Chief Physicist at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, and appointed a Professor at Uni SA in 2015.
Dr Rebecca Perry	Dr Rebecca Perry is currently working on a new heart imaging technology that could help predict and even prevent cardiac deaths. This exciting technology will enable doctors to better determine the risk of sudden cardiac death without the need for expensive or invasive tests.
Dr Dominic Thewlis	A/Prof Dominic Thewlis works in the field of biomechanics, specifically orthopaedic biomechanics. He is recognised as an emerging leader in the field with awards from the International Society of Biomechanics, International Foot and Ankle Biomechanics community, Australian and New Zealand Orthopaedic Research Society, and the ORS (USA). He is the current President of the Australian and New Zealand Orthopaedic Research Society, and editorial board member for the Journal of Biomechanics and Gait and Posture.
A/Professor Paul Jackson	A/Prof Paul Jackson holds an ARC Future Fellowship and is the leader of the Adelaide Experimental Particle Physics group. They work on experimental tests of the fundamental forces of nature and searching for new particles and phenomena. His particular area of study is in searches for as yet undiscovered phenomena using new kinematic techniques. He leads searches for evidence of supersymmetric particles with the ATLAS experiment at the Large Hardon Collider. They take pictures of high-energy collisions with the ATLAS experiment to disentangle the building blocks of nature.
Mr Chris Radbone	Mr Chris Radbone is the Associate Director of SA NT DataLink. He has over 35 years Management experience working across the public service and private sector, specialising in planning, general management, data and information services.

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