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ANZPAA Announces Winner of Prestigious Forensic Science Award

The Australia New Zealand Policing Advisory Agency National Institute of Forensic Science (ANZPAA NIFS) announced today that Professor Linzi Wilson-Wilde OAM is the 2022 recipient of the John Harber Phillips Award.

The John Harber Phillips Award is the most prestigious honour given to an individual for their outstanding contribution to the field of forensic sciences in Australia and New Zealand. It recognises outstanding excellence in the forensic sciences field.

Professor Wilson-Wilde OAM is an internationally renowned forensic scientist who has enhanced forensic capability and capacity across jurisdictions and has positioned Australia and New Zealand as global leaders in forensic sciences.

With a career spanning more than two decades, Professor Wilson-Wilde OAM has achieved numerous accomplishments. She played an instrumental role in the development of seven Australian forensic science Standards. She then went on to chair three ISO International Standards, based on the excellent work previously undertaken by the Australian Standards committees.

Professor Wilson-Wilde OAM has been involved in numerous projects across the breadth of her career that has improved knowledge and practice across Australia and New Zealand forensic sciences. Her role leading the victim identification team after the 2002 Bali bombings led to her being honoured with the Medal in the Order of Australia and she was also inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women in 2014.

Professor Wilson-Wilde OAM is highly regarded for her work overseas including advanced legislative reform and policy development where she advocates for forensic sciences globally. Her rigorous campaigning for diversity and inclusion in forensic science continues to inspire and improve culture.

ANZPAA CEO Dr Tracey Green congratulated Professor Wilson-Wilde OAM on receiving the award, “Linzi has demonstrated incredible leadership over two decades. She has led new collaborations, pushed for continuous improvement, and helped to inspire the next generation of science leaders.”

“As the first female recipient of the award, Linzi has been a strong and generous mentor across her career and has inspired more women to be involved in STEM.” Says Dr Green.

The Director of ANZPAA’s National Institute of Forensic Science, Dr Grant Liddy, said the award is richly deserved. “Linzi exemplifies leadership and collaboration. She continues to advocate for collaborative research and increased support, operationally and financially, to expedite forensic sciences research and improve forensic capabilities. She is an exemplar of what the John Harber Phillips Award is about.”

Professor Wilson-Wilde acknowledges that it was a great honour to receive the Award, “to be able to influence the development of forensic science and the people at a global level for the betterment of the science is very rewarding.”

The John Harber Phillips Award and Medal was formally presented to Professor Linzi Wilson-Wilde OAM on 15 September at the 25th International Symposium of the Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science Society (ANZFSS).

About ANZPAA NIFS

ANZPAA NIFS is the Peak Body for Forensic Science in Australia and New Zealand. Our strategic intent is to deliver high quality and innovative products, services and advice to enhance capability, efficiency and reliability of the forensic sciences for police, justice and the community.

For an interview with Prof. Wilson-Wilde, or more information or photographs please contact: Nancy Bakker
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