

Australian Veterinary Association

GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATION FOR THE KESTEVEN MEDAL

The Kesteven Medal

This medal is a joint award of the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) and the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (ANZCVS). It is awarded to Australian veterinarians in recognition of their distinguished contributions to international veterinary science in the fields of technical and scientific assistance to developing countries. The award was inaugurated by the late Dr K.V.L. Kesteven and first awarded in 1980. The Medal is presented alternately at the AGM of the AVA and the ANZCVS Awards Dinner.

Criteria

The contribution

The field of activity is not as important as the impact of the effort. Relevant international activities include institutional building and training, technology transfer producing economic or social benefits, improving intergovernmental understanding of livestock issues, and establishment of mutually beneficial business linkages. Sustained effort in helping the less well off in developing countries is an important criterion.

The person

Providing international aid can be uncomfortable and unrewarding work, not attractive to all individuals. Strong candidates for the Kesteven Medal will be those who continue to make the effort under difficult conditions, conduct themselves well in the developing country, show empathy for counterparts, cement friendships and develop linkages of ongoing value. Commitment and compassion in the performance of the achievement are criteria for the award. Self-interest should not be the only motive for undertaking the work.

Opportunities and initiatives

Candidates for the Kesteven Medal will be drawn from a variety of occupations, from salaried posts in international aid organisations to private veterinarians whose advanced skills and experience give them opportunities to enhance livestock production in developing countries. The selection committee will consider how well candidates create and also develop opportunities to contribute in developing countries.

Associations

As much as possible the effort should be identified with the Australian veterinary profession and to a lesser extent Australian society. The achievement should reflect well on the person's veterinary training and experience in Australia, and the support of Australian institutions and the Australian community as a whole in making the achievement possible.

Procedure

1. Nominations should be sent to the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Veterinary Association. The sponsor should consider the above criteria in preparing the nomination.
2. The sponsor should provide a curriculum vita with emphasis on international activities. Details of dates and periods actually spent in the execution of the international work should be given.
3. The sponsor may arrange for statements from referees who have observed the candidate's international activities at close quarters. The references should be sent direct and in confidence to the Chief Executive Officer of the AVA. Referees should be provided with a copy of the criteria described above.

4. The submission should contain specific examples of the candidate's work in international projects including information on the success of the project, training aspects of the project, difficulties overcome and the candidate's interaction with his colleagues in that country.

Selection

Selection is by a Committee appointed by the President of the AVA and the ANZCVS and should include previous recipients of the award and veterinarians experienced in international work.

The Committee will assess the submission in the year of nomination, and, if unsuccessful, the following two years. Sponsors are advised to update unsuccessful submissions

The prize consists of –

- Kesteven Medal
- A certificate