

Media Release

IAN WEBSTER SCHOLARSHIP ATTRACTS BEST AND BRIGHTEST FROM AOD SECTOR

5 July 2013: For the second year running the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) will award the Ian Webster Scholarship, which aims to build leadership and management opportunities for individuals in the alcohol and other drugs (AOD) sector.

The successful recipient will receive \$10,000 towards a program of study, independently-led research, or professional development opportunities.

Last year's recipient Michele Campbell travelled to the United States to learn more about Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT). CRAFT is a program that teaches family members non-confrontational ways of breaking another family members' pattern of drug and alcohol use. Michele also presented at a Global Addiction Conference in Pisa, Italy.

Returning to Australia, Ms Campbell said the scholarship offered her a great opportunity to expand her knowledge of CRAFT and other family-related alcohol issues.

"The scholarship has allowed me to gain a greater understanding of evidence-based treatment options and how we may implement them in our service," Ms Campbell said.

The scholarship recognises Emeritus Professor Ian Webster's contribution to FARE and the wider not-for-profit sector. Professor Webster was FARE's inaugural Chairman from 2001 to 2009 and continued as a board member until 2011.

Among his many achievements, Professor Webster was appointed Officer of the Order of Australia in 1995. In 2009 he received the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence and Outstanding Contribution to Drug and Alcohol Endeavours in recognition of his contribution to the sector and in 2012 he was appointed National Mental Health Commissioner by the Prime Minister.

FARE Chief Executive, Michael Thorn, says awarding this scholarship every year is the perfect way to commemorate Professor Webster's contribution to the AOD sector.

"Professor Webster's contribution to the AOD sector will not be forgotten and neither will the tireless work he has done to raise awareness about alcohol harms in Australia," Mr Thorn said.

To be eligible for the scholarship applicants must demonstrate a commitment to the AOD or a related sector, be currently employed in this area and have at least three years' field experience.

Also they must be able to show how the scholarship will promote the development of their leadership and management capacity that in turn will benefit the AOD sector. All applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents.

Applications for 2013 are now open. Applications close at 5.00pm AEST on 23 August 2013. Further information including application forms and full terms and conditions are available online at http://www.fare.org.au/community/ian-webster-scholarship/.

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Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) is an independent, charitable organisation working to prevent the harmful use of alcohol in Australia. Since 2001, FARE has invested over \$115 million in research and community projects to minimise the impact of alcohol misuse on Australians. Through its national grants program and commissioned research, FARE has established itself as a leading voice on alcohol and other drugs issues. FARE works with community groups, all levels of government, police, emergency workers, research institutions and the private sector to address alcohol-related problems. For further information visit FARE's website: www.fare.org.au