Australian ecologist among world's top scientists

30 May 2012

Australia's influence on international scientific research and innovation was recognised today with ecologist Ove Hoegh-Guldberg of The University of Queensland named one of the world's top scientists.

Global Change Institute Director Professor Hoegh-Guldberg was honoured with a 2012 Thomson Reuters Citation Award for research excellence, based on the high number of his citations and the widespread publication of his scientific papers, relative to global performance in his field.

The University of Queensland was one of only two universities to also win an institutional award at the event, in the innovation collaboration category.

It was one of seven Australian organisations recognised for their excellence in innovation.

Speaking about his citation, Professor Hoegh-Guldberg said innovation was important in addressing global change.

- "Innovation is increasingly important as we face a rapidly-changing world," said Professor Hoegh-Guldberg. " The ideas and solutions for meeting this challenge are being demanded at an ever-increasing rate."
- " It's a great honour for Australian scientists to be recognised, especially given the competition worldwide. Objective measures such as those provided by Thomson Reuters are very important for monitoring and maintaining our position as a nation of innovators."

Mr Jeroen Prinsen, senior director (Australia and New Zealand) at Thomson Reuters said Australia had much to gain from fostering collaborations and expanding participation in research and innovation networks.

" Innovation is widely seen in today' s global economy as the principal driver for business success, and Thomson Reuters is pleased to be part of a process viewed by governments as the key to a more productive and competitive economy, " Mr Prinsen says.

The awards were presented at the National Press Club in Canberra today. They were awarded to 12 of the most influential researchers and seven of the most innovative organisations in Australia.

The Australian recipients specialise in the areas of astronomy and astrophysics, ecology, economics, environmental studies, neurosciences and psychology, illustrating the strength and diversity of academic research within Australia and the innovation inherent among its scientists.

All academic institutions and enterprises headquartered in Australia were included for consideration for the awards. Thomson Reuters is a specialist publisher for businesses and professionals.

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For more details about each recipient or selection criteria click here.

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