

2009 PRESIDENTS' AWARD

Dr Peter Dillon

The President's Award of the Association is given annually to a hydrogeologist who has made outstanding international contributions to the development or application of groundwater science, and to furthering IAH and its mission to promote understanding and management of groundwater resources in the interest of humankind and the environment. This year's award goes to someone who meets both criteria – Dr Peter Dillon.

Dr Dillon graduated from the University of Adelaide with a First Class Honours degree in Engineering, a PhD and Masters in Business Administration. He has conducted research in the Australian Government's research organisation CSIRO since 1987, where he now leads the Water Use and Research Group. Between 1990 and 1995 he was Director of the Groundwater Studies Centre which has made major contributions to groundwater research in Australia and internationally.

He is a very innovative researcher with an impressive body of work in modelling natural and artificial aquifer recharge, storage and recovery (ASR). Peter recognised at an early stage the strategic importance of these fields and their relevance to groundwater resource management. He also has a keen interest in stream-aquifer interaction and groundwater pollution and solute transport. During his career he has published 55 scientific papers, 142 conference papers and 133 technical reports. His research has been recognised with numerous awards. In 2001 he was co-winner of the UNESCO Great Man Made River International Water Prize for research on ASR. Since 1995 he has been an Honorary Associate Professor in the Faculty of Science and Engineering at Flinders University.

Dr Dillon has been an IAH member for many years and played an important role in IAH in Australia, including in the organisation of the 1994 landmark IAH Congress in Adelaide "Water Downunder". Peter's major contribution to IAH internationally has been as chair of the Commission on Aquifer Recharge over the last seven years. This has been one of the Association's most active Commissions, and he continues to lead it with skill and enthusiasm.

Dr Dillon, you are a worthy recipient of the 2009 President's Award.

Willi Struckmeier
President