

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**4 October 2006**

---

### **Medical/Media Awards recognise researcher's media talent**

Four NSW medical researchers have been recognised in the 2006 New South Wales Medical/Media Awards.

Announcing the Awards today, Research Australia Chief Executive Officer Rebecca James said the Awards were granted to outstanding and talented medical researchers who have achieved a high public profile in the media.

"The Awards recognise researchers who have demonstrated effective public communications expertise on difficult public health issues."

"These Awards provide a valuable way to strengthen relationships between the research community and the media, and they will encourage Australian researchers to raise community awareness of their research and important health issues through effective use of the media," Ms James said.

The four researchers who have received awards are:

- Associate Professor Guy Marks from the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research for his contribution to asthma research and media reporting on asthma
- Professor Peter Schofield from the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute for his contribution to the stem cell debate
- Professor Bernie Tuch from the University of New South Wales for his participation in media reporting of stem cell research and his research into diabetes
- Professor Philip Mitchell from the University of New South Wales for commentary on a range of mental health issues.

Effective use of the media provides an important mechanism to raise community support and understanding of health and medical research, and its impact.

Further information: Rebecca James 0408 120 241