Distinguished Service Award

For 20 years Peter served as business manager to APPS and has been one of the drivers bringing the society to its current position as a truly professional organisation. He manages the day to day business of the society, writes and implements a computer program for managing the financial records of the APPS, manages the member records in the society's member profiler database and maintains the impressive internet web site for the society.

Peter brought to the position of Business Manager to both APPS and the International Society for Plant Pathology, equanimity, unstinting loyalty, vital technical IT know-how, and a willingness to do things well and 'whenever necessary'. Peter delivered much that is over and above the call of duty and there is unanimous agreement that it is a pleasure to work with him.

In his professional career Peter worked mainly as a research microbiologist determining plant-pathogen interactions in both Western Australia and Queensland. His early research led to the discovery and naming of a new teleomorph, *Diaporthe toxica* (Williamson), the cause of lupinosis in humans and grazing animals. The fungus had confused and eluded plant pathologists for over a hundred years. His study of the symptomless latent infection process also led to a rapid assay for resistance in lupin varieties and eventually the declaration by the Vetrinary Association of Australia that lupinosis is "no longer considered a disease of importance". In later work in Queensland Peter unraveled the complexities of black point in cereal grains and developed the first combined phenotyping and rapid breeding technique for wheat.