

## KJM Patron's Day 2016

Grants totalling \$29,000 were awarded to QAS personnel and paramedic students for research and development projects that will enhance patient care across Queensland.

Named after Kenneth James (Jim) McPherson, a Queensland Ambulance officer who lost his life in an aerial ambulance crash in Bundaberg in 1987, the KJ McPherson Education and Research Foundation (KJM Foundation) is a not-for-profit entity dedicated to improving patient care by providing research and professional development opportunities for uniformed personnel.

The annual KJM Foundation Patron's Day Symposium, held at Brisbane City Hall on 8 November 2016 with the theme of *Integrated Healthcare: Opportunities and Innovation*, was attended by more than 196 QAS staff and volunteers.

The Governor of Queensland, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC opened the Symposium and inspirational speakers included KJM Foundation Patron Major General Professor John Pearn AO; Bob Atkinson AO APM; Martin Bowles PSM, Secretary of Department of Health; QAS Commissioner Russell Bowles ASM and former grant recipients.

The KJM Foundation announced the 2016 grant recipients at the presentation ceremony following the Symposium.

Commissioner Bowles said the grant recipients were following in the footsteps of Jim McPherson, who demonstrated a strong commitment to training, education and research.

*"Jim embodied all the best qualities of paramedics and the Foundation established in his name continues to help our paramedics improve their professional skills and clinical knowledge to benefit the patients they treat," Commissioner Bowles said.*

*"We have seen enormous advances in clinical skills and training in the field of ambulance services over the past 10 to 15 years. The generous support of the KJM Foundation in providing professional development opportunities through its grants program and events such as the symposium play an important role in enhancing patient care in Queensland.*

*"Research and development fostered by the KJM Foundation gives paramedics the scope and encouragement to identify innovations that can help advance the paramedic profession and integrated health care, contributing directly to improved outcomes for our patients.*

*"I would like to acknowledge the sponsors that support the KJM Foundation and its grants program, and in turn the QAS.*

*"Congratulations to all of the 2016 grant recipients. We look forward to seeing the outcomes of their hard work and innovative ideas to deliver even better care to our patients."*



KJM Symposium Panel

## Grant presentation ceremony

### \$15,000 Patron's Overseas Study Grants



Sponsored by  
Physio Control

The three **Patron's Overseas Short Study Grant** for 2016 were awarded to Cameron Anderson, Darren Lawrence and Scott Nash.

Cameron will attend the 20th World Congress for Disaster and Emergency Medicine in Toronto, Canada, in 2017. He intends to present the findings from his research project: Detecting emerging bioevents: an assessment of syndromic surveillance systems in Australian ambulance services.

Darren and Scott will attend the 17th International Meeting on Simulation in Healthcare in Orlando, USA, in 2017. The conference will be an opportunity to gather information, ideas and innovative practices to assist in the development of a web-based simulation education resource for the Queensland Ambulance Service.

**\$5,500 Dr Peter Stephenson Overseas Study Grant**

Sponsored by Dr Stephenson of  
Montserrat Day Hospitals

The grant provides an opportunity for a QAS operational officer to undertake an overseas professional development opportunity with information shared with their peers on return.

The successful applicant for this grant was Mindy Thomas.



Mindy will attend the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch Navigator Conference in New Orleans, USA, in 2017, and undertake a study tour of the New Orleans Emergency Response Agencies. The trip will provide insight into hurricane preparedness procedures post-Hurricane Katrina to enable the development of a Cyclone Preparedness Kit for Queensland Ambulance Service Operation Centres.

**\$3,000 QAS Research and Development Grant**

Sponsored by Spectrum Data Systems  
International

This year's grant went to David Lowe.



David will conduct research into the importance of early community CPR and defibrillation to improve witnessed community cardiac arrest survival. The learnings from this research will be used to develop a community CPR and automated external defibrillator (AED) program to improve cardiac arrest survival.

**\$1,000 United Voice Outstanding Student Graduate of the Year Grant**

Sponsored by  
United Voice

The Graduate of the Year grant was awarded to Amy Cooper.



This grant encourages new Graduate recruits to strive for excellence in their role, and assists them to enhance their competencies or general ambulance knowledge in their subsequent 12 months of full time service.

Amy has transitioned and adapted seamlessly to life in a rural station and community. She has received very positive feedback not only from her QAS peers but other emergency service and healthcare professionals. She took ownership of her learning and consolidation of her graduate year.

**\$2,000 PA Professional Development Grant**

Sponsored by  
Paramedics Australasia

This year's grant was awarded to Scott Jones. Scott will travel to the USA to attend the EMS (Emergency Medical Services) World Expo in Las Vegas, USA, in 2017 to gain further knowledge on current and future treatments and equipment in order to expand his clinical knowledge. Scott produces The Outback Medic, a monthly electronic magazine for paramedics, and will share his learnings in future editions.





## \$2,000 PA Student Scientific Grants



Sponsored by  
**Paramedics Australasia**

The PA Student Scientific Grant 2016 was awarded across the university paramedic programs. Successful students were:

Best Poster Prize: Therese Walsh and Elise Riley from Queensland University of Technology for their joint submission: "Crush Injuries: An Educational Overview"



Best Paper Prize: Emma Dale from Central Queensland University for her submission: "AMETHOCAINE (Aka Tetracaine)"



Runner-Up Best Paper Prize: Kiarne Dippel from Central Queensland University for her submission: "Sumatriptan Use in a Pre-Hospital Environment – An Analysis and Review"



PA is the leading representative association for professionals engaged in the delivery of out of hospital emergency medical systems. PA provides a national platform for policies and representation to enhance the quality of out of hospital emergency patient care in Australia.

## \$1,000 QAS Professional Development Grant



Sponsored by  
**Laerdal**

This year's grant was awarded to Gavin Nichols (who was unable to attend). Gavin will attend the Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support course to increase his knowledge and skills in managing pre-hospital patients who have experienced trauma. The course will advance Gavin's ability to assess and treat trauma patients which will in turn improve patient outcomes.

## Acknowledgement

The Foundation committee sincerely thanks our sponsors for their ongoing sponsorship of research and development activity across the Queensland Ambulance through their support of the Foundation.

QBank generously supported the Foundation again in 2016 including providing an iPad for one lucky person completing the Symposium survey, Scott Jones. Pictured below is Bec Robertson handing over their sponsorship cheque for the KJ McPherson Education and Research Foundation of \$5,000 to Russell Bowles and Gerard Lawler.



## About the Foundation

Since the inception of the Foundation, over \$310,005 has been granted to outstanding QAS paramedics to further both professional development and educational opportunities. These grants embody the mission of the Foundation to support pre-hospital care research and education and reflect the Foundation's commitment to ensuring better outcomes for patients.

This outcome is possible as a result of the generosity and commitment of our donors and sponsors.

## Who was Kenneth James McPherson?

Kenneth James McPherson DSM (known as Jim) lost his life tragically in an aerial ambulance crash along with his colleagues and the patient in 1987. Jim was known for his compassion and respect for patients and for his commitment to the development of clinical skills.

To continue his legacy, Jim's family decided to establish a Foundation so his vision and commitment would not be lost.

## We welcome your donations and offers of in-kind support

Visit our Web Page: <https://ambulance.qld.gov.au/KJM.html>