The creation of Royal Society Top Student Science Medals for Perth’s four public universities was discussed by Council in March 1997. In 1998 the RSWA inaugurated Student Medals to be awarded every year at its Annual General Meeting to those science students from each of Perth’s universities nominated by them as the most outstanding in Natural and Earth Sciences. The obverse of the medal is the crest of the RSWA. Initially, medals were awarded to students from the University of Western Australia, Curtin University, Murdoch University and Edith Cowan University. The University of Notre Dame was included later. Student Medals were first awarded at the Society’s Annual General Meeting on 20 July 1998.

AWR Bevan, History and roles of the Royal Society of Western Australia.

Proposed Conditions of Medal June 1998

1. (1) The Royal Society of Western Australia Medal consisting of a medal and $250 provided annually by the Royal Society of Western Australia, shall be awarded to the student who, in the opinion of the Royal Society of WA Medal Selection Committee described in Regulation 2, is the best among those completing a degree in the Colleges of Agriculture, Science or Engineering and Mathematical Sciences.


(b) A major shall be defined as 24 points at third-year level in the relevant area.

2. (1) The Royal Society of WA Medal Selection Committee shall comprise:
the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture or nominee;
the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Science or nominee;
the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Mathematical Science or nominee; and
the RSWA Royal Society of WA Council Member.

2. (2) The Committee shall meet annually in December to consider nominations submitted by relevant Faculties.

3. Each Faculty shall forward two nominations to the Selection Committee by 15 December each year.

4. The recipient shall be entitled to free membership of the Royal Society of WA for one year.

June 1998

Student Medallists 1998 to 2006

► Student Medallists at AGM 20 July 1998

Extract from AGM Agenda gives no details of medallist recipients:

8.35 Prof Schwartz to give short address and present medals


► Student Medallists 1998

Extract from Council Meeting Minutes 21 June 1999:

2. University Medal – Only two Universities have nominated students for the University Medals and students (Carla Swift and Johanna Rosman) have been notified. Only one student can attend the AGM.

Source State Library of WA, History Collection RSWA, Call Number MN 673, 7639A/10.

► Student Medallists 1999 (presented 2000)

Extract from Annual Report for YE 30 June 2000:

Source State Library of WA, History Collection RSWA, Call Number MN 673, 7639A/10.

► Student Medallists 2000 (presented 2001)

Extract from AGM Agenda 16 July 2001:

Source State Library of WA, History Collection RSWA, Call Number MN 673, 7639A/10.
Student Medallists 1998 to 2006

► Student Medallists 2001 (presented 2002)

Extract from Minutes of AGM 15 July 2002:

6. PRESENTATION OF MEDALS
The 2002 University Medals were presented by the President, Prof Phil Withers, to Tanya Elliott (Curtin University of Technology), Garth Maker (Murdoch University), Stuart Munro (University of Western Australia), Simone Vellakoop (Edith Cowan University).

Source State Library of WA, History Collection RSWA, Call Number MN 673, 7639A/11.

► Student Medallists 2002 (presented 2003)

Extract from Annual Report for YE 30 June 2003:

Awards
University Science Medals
Medals for 2002 were awarded to Jo-Anne Blunn, Computing, Health and Science, Edith Cowan University; Jason Heath, Faculty of Science, Curtin University; Nicola Fox, Murdoch University; and Ben Smith, Natural and Agricultural Science, University of Western Australia. The medal is awarded to the top student eligible to graduate with a degree in natural or physical sciences from each of the four major local universities. Council has developed a set of eligibility criteria and all four major universities have indicated their enthusiasm for the award.

Source State Library of WA, History Collection RSWA, Call Number MN 673, 7639A/12.

► Student Medallists 2003 (presented 2004)

Extract from Minutes of AGM 18 July 2004:

6. PRESENTATION OF MEDALS
The 2003 University Medals were presented by the President, Dr Graham Thompson, to Pierre Ulric Achour, Curtin University of Technology, Emma Louise Craven, University of Western Australia, Douglas Bearham, Murdoch University and Christopher Zadow, Edith Cowan University.

► Student Medallists 2004 (presented 2005)

Extract from Annual Report for 2004-2005:

AWARDS 2004-2005
University Science Medals
These medals are awarded to the top student eligible to graduate with a degree in natural or physical sciences from each of the four major local universities. Medals for 2004 were awarded to Kirsten Muir, Curtin University, Alexander Rea, Murdoch University, Megan Jordan, University of Western Australia; and Joanne Bowyer, Edith Cowan University.
Student Medallists 1998 to 2006

Student Medallists 2005 (presented 2006)

Extract from Minutes of Council Meeting 20 March 2006:-

*Student Medallists:* ECU – Sean Stankowski; Murdoch – Michael Reid; UWA – Rachael Binks; Curtin - David Coulias. AB has been invited to the ECU and UWA prize presentations. Medallist will receive a certificate.

Student Medallists 2006 (presented 2007)

Extract from Minutes of AGM 16 July 2007:-

*Presentation of the RSWA University Medals.* Professor Jan Thomas, Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic), Murdoch University, presented the 2006 RSWA University Medals to Owen Davis and Dustin Severtson, joint recipients from Curtin University of Technology. Medallists John Braid (Edith Cowan University), Sarah Rich (The University of Western Australia) and Robert McGregor (Murdoch University) were unable to attend.