



Media Statement

July 20, 2017

Eye genetics expert Professor David Mackey a finalist for WA Scientist of the Year.

Lions Eye Institute Chairman Peter Forbes has congratulated Professor David Mackey on being named a finalist in the Premier's Science Awards 2017.

Professor Mackey, Managing Director of the Lions Eye Institute (LEI) and Director and Professor of Ophthalmology at UWA's Centre for Ophthalmology and Visual Science, is one of seven finalists in the Scientist of the Year category.

Mr Forbes said Professor Mackey was recognised as a world authority on the genetics of eye disease.

"On behalf of the Board, I congratulate David on being recognised for his contribution to saving sight throughout his career," he said.

"David is involved in a number of major research projects examining major eye diseases and has made a landmark contribution to our understanding of the genetic and environmental factors that affect the eyes.

"David is also a passionate advocate for the importance of science and is a great science communicator."

Premier Mark McGowan said in yesterday's announcement that Premier's Science Awards recognised the outstanding work of the local science community and finalists were exemplars for the community and others in the science field.

The Premier's Science Award winners will be announced during National Science Week in August.

For more information about Professor Mackey's research interests, visit

<https://www.lei.org.au/research/genetics-and-epidemiology/>

Media Contact: Francesca Robb – francescarobb@lei.org.au / 0409 102 556