



Rosemary Richards scholarship



Women Wanted – Rosemary Richards Scholarship

All women members of the AEU and its Branches and Associated Bodies are encouraged to apply for this year's Rosemary Richards Scholarship.

Rosemary Richards was a proud feminist, unionist and educator. She was a respected leader, colleague and friend who played a crucial role in shaping the AEU as an organisation which reflects feminist principles. Sadly, Rosemary passed away in November, 2006 after a long battle with illness.

This scholarship, now in its fourth year, is in recognition of the significant contribution that Rosemary made to the AEU as an organisation and to all its members, women in particular.

Across the AEU, women's employment rights and women's union participation has been steadily advanced due to an active, committed and predominantly female membership, but challenges still remain.

All financial women members of the AEU are encouraged to apply for the Scholarship which is aimed providing the opportunity to a woman member to *increase her skills and experience in the union's work at a state/territory/national or international level* by supporting the recipient's proposal which may include (but is not limited to):

- **The establishment of a work-shadowing arrangement or a mentoring arrangement;**
- **Research or study experiences;**
- **Formal and/or informal training and development opportunities (e.g. attendance at an appropriate conference); or**
- **The design and implementation of a discrete project.**

As examples to applicants, the two previous recipients involved recruitment and activism strategies for women - those working in TAFE (2007) and temporary/contract teachers

(2008). The 2009 recipient focussed on attendance at an international conference and strategies to engage and respond to the needs of lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex women by developing an online communication tool. Whilst the 2010 recipient ran a political literacy program for girls and young women students across a number of secondary schools in her region.

The scholarship is valued up to \$10,000 per year.

Applying for the Scholarship

Women members should apply by filling out the [nomination form](#) and sending it to your AEU Branch Secretary (addresses are included on the form), clearly marked “Rosemary Richards Scholarship”. The Branch/Associated Body will then *endorse* the nomination/s they believe enhance local strategies/policies for women and should be considered by the judging panel.

Women should suggest what activities you would like to undertake, work - shadowing/mentoring, research/study, conference attendance, formal/informal training, union project etc and an estimation of costs. It is important to also explain how your application will benefit *your own union activism and experiences* as well as any potential benefits to the union.

Applications are due by **Friday 1st July 2011.**

An AEU Federal Executive Judging Committee will consider applications and the successful candidate will be informed as soon after as possible.

The scholarship will be advertised in March every year through the AEU’s websites, journals and networks.

Beginning her career in primary school teaching, Rosemary joined the Women and Girls in Education group in the 1970s. She was appointed as the ACT Coordinator for the Elimination of Sexism in Education and produced the major report *Sexism in Education in the ACT*.

She was the Secretary of the ACT Branch of the AEU (formerly the ACTTF) from 1987 and it’s President from 1990 – 1995. She was a member of the AEU Federal Executive from 1990-1995 and assisted in the formation of the national AEU.

Please see the [selection criteria](#).