Professor Huw Vaughan Smith, consultant clinical parasitologist and director of the Scottish Parasite Diagnostic Laboratory (SPDL) in Glasgow, Scotland, died in October 2010 after a brief illness. He was 63 years old. Huw was widely recognised for his research on diagnosis and detection of many different parasites, and was a real inspiration for many researchers. Huw co-founded SPDL in the early 1980s and played a leading role in developing the unit. Although his interests covered a wide range of parasites, he was probably most widely known for his work on Cryptosporidium and Giardia. Huw will probably be remembered best as an intelligent, generous, inspirational colleague, who took great pleasure in acting as a catalyst, bringing together different people to discuss scientific challenges – particularly over a pint. He established many collaborative partnerships in developing countries, and was instrumental in initiating various field-based research projects.

The first Huw Smith Award for research on Cryptosporidium and Giardia was presented to Michelle Power of Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia at the 4th IGCC in Wellington, New Zealand in 2012.

The second Huw Smith Award was presented to Dr. María Carolina Touz of the National University of Córdoba, Córdoba, Argentina at the 5th IGCC in Uppsala, Sweden in 2014.

The third Huw Smith Award was presented to Dr. Aaron Jex of the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute and University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia at the 6th IGCC in Havana, Cuba in 2017.
The 4th Huw Smith Award for research on Cryptosporidium and Giardia will be presented at the 7th Giardia and Cryptosporidium Conference in Rouen, France in June 2019.

The Award, in memory of Professor Huw V. Smith, is in recognition of an individual researcher’s contribution to ‘Innovation, Communication, and Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Cryptosporidium and/or Giardia Research’, with particular emphasis on diagnosis and/or environmental transmission.

Nominations are being accepted from 1st December 2018 until 1st April 2019, and nominees must fulfil the following requirements:

1) Attendance at the Conference where the presentation of the Award will be made.
2) Under 45 years of age at the time of nomination.

If you would like to nominate someone, or yourself, please send the name of the person that you would like to nominate along with an outline (approximately one A4 page) of why you believe that person should receive the award to: lucy.robertson@nmbu.no.

Please include information on the nominee’s research interests, achievements, current and previous places of work, and any presentation that they will be making at the conference. Please also include the date of birth of the nominee.

The winner of the Award will be selected following thorough review of the nominations by the Huw Smith Award committee.

If you would like any further information about the Award, or if you would like to show your appreciation of your work or friendship with Huw by contributing to the Huw Smith Award Fund, please contact Lucy Robertson (contact details below).

Nominations should be marked: Nominee for Huw Smith Award.

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