

Professor Cheryl Praeger AM FAA Awards and Recognition

During her prestigious career, Professor Praeger received many awards and honours, recognising her as one of Australia's leading mathematicians.

Her research has focused on the theory of group actions and their applications in Algebraic Graph Theory and to Combinatorial Designs; and algorithms for group computation including questions in statistical group theory and algorithmic complexity. Her mathematical work has been published in more than 400 journal articles and five monographs.

Awards and Prizes

- 1993 awarded an honorary Doctor of Science by the [Prince of Songkla University](#), Thailand.
- 1999 appointed a member of the Order of Australia for service to mathematics in Australia
- 1996 Elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science.
- 2003 received the [Centenary Medal](#) of the Australian Government.
- 2005 awarded Doctor Honoris Causis by the [Université Libre de Bruxelles](#), Belgium.
- 2007 awarded an Australian Federation Fellowship to pursue her examination of symmetry, for her project Group actions: Combinatorics, geometry and computation.
- 2009 named Western Australian Scientist of the Year.
- 2011 awarded the Moyal Medal by [Macquarie University](#), Australia (the first female recipient of the Medal since its establishment in 2000).
- 2011 awarded the Euler Medal of the [Institute of Combinatorics and its Applications](#).
- 2011 University of Western Australia Excellence in Teaching Award
- 2012 became a fellow of the [American Mathematical Society](#).
- 2012 awarded a Citation for outstanding contributions to student learning, by the Australian Government Office for Teaching and Learning
- 2013 Honorary Life Member, Australian Mathematical Society
- 2013 awarded the [Thomas Ranken Lyle Medal](#) by the Australian Academy of Science (the first female recipient of the Medal since its establishment in 1935).
- 2014 awarded the [George Szekeres Medal](#) by the [Australian Mathematical Society](#) (the first female recipient of the Medal since its establishment in 2002).
- 2014 elected an Honorary Member of the [London Mathematical Society](#).
- 2015 awarded an honorary doctorate in Mathematics Education by [Yazd University](#), Iran.
- 2015 awarded the [Mehdi Behzad](#) Prize of the Iranian Mathematical Society, for management in mathematics (the first non-Iranian to be awarded this Prize).
- 2015 awarded Honorary Doctor of Science by the [University of Saint Andrews](#), Scotland.
- 2015 inducted into both the Western Australian Women's Hall of Fame and the Western Australian Science Hall of Fame.
- 2017 awarded Honorary Doctor of Mathematics by the [University of Queensland](#), Australia.
- 2018 awarded Honorary Doctorate by the [University of Primorska](#), Slovenia.
- 2019 received the Prime Minister's Prize for Science (the first pure mathematician, and the first Western Australian-based recipient since establishment of the Prize in 2000).

Other recognition:

Professor Praeger is a Fellow of the [Australian Academy of Science](#), former president of the [Australian Mathematical Society](#) (1992–1994 and first female President of the Society), and was appointed as a member of the [Order of Australia](#) in 1999 for her service to mathematics in Australia, especially through research and professional associations.

First Australian-based mathematician elected to the Executive of the International Mathematical Union, 2007-2014.

Professor Praeger served on Australian Academy of Science Council as Foreign Secretary 2014-2018. She is a Member of the Committee for the Freedom and Responsibility in Science, of the International Science Council 2019-2022.

Since 2014, the Women in Mathematics Special Interest Group of the Australian Mathematical Society bestows the [Cheryl E. Praeger Travel Awards](#) to female mathematicians. Since 2017 the Australian Mathematics Trust has awarded the Cheryl Praeger Medal to the best performing female contestants in the [Australian Mathematics Competition](#).

Professor Praeger has also held memberships with the [Combinatorial Mathematics Society of Australasia](#), [Institute of Combinatorics and its Applications](#), Australian Mathematics Trust Board 1992-2019, [American Mathematical Society](#), the [London Mathematical Society](#) and the Australian Research Council College of Experts 2011-2013.

She was Vice President of the International Commission for Mathematical Instruction 2013-2016, and Chair of the Australian Mathematics Olympiad Committee 2002-2019.

In addition, Professor Praeger has been heavily involved in the direction of mathematics within Australia, within her roles as a member of the Curriculum Development Council of the Commonwealth Schools Commission, Prime Minister's Science Council, WA Science Advisory Committee, and WISSET Advisory Committee to the Federal Minister for Science on participation of women in Science, Engineering and Technology.

Selected Academic Services and Functions (2009-2018)

- 2019-2022 Member Committee for Freedom and Responsibility of Science, Inter'l Science Council
- 2019-2022 Member, International Mathematical Union Committee for Women in Mathematics
- 2019-2000 Member, Nominating Committee, International Commission on
- Mathematical Instruction (ICMI)
- 2017-2022 Member, Executive Board, Association of Academies and Societies of Sciences in Asia, and Chair, AASSA Committee for Women in Science and Engineering
- 2016-2019 Member, Executive Committee, Inter Academy Partnership - Science
- 2016-2018 Member, Nominating and Election Committees, International Mathematical Union
- 2015-2018 Chair, Subpanel 18, Program Committee, International Congress of Mathematicians
- 2014-2018 Foreign Secretary, Australian Academy of Science (mem. AAS Council, ExCom)
- 2013-2016 Vice President, International Commission on Mathematical Instruction (ICMI)
- 2011-2013 Australian Research Council College, Eng., Math. and Informatics panel
- 2011 Member, International Review of Research in Mathematics, Norway
- 2010 Member, International Review of Mathematical Sciences Research in the UK
- 2010, 2013 Member, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) Priority Programm SSP 1489
- 2009 - 2011 Chair, Australian Council of Heads of Mathematical Sciences