Tasmanian criminologist honoured with international, national and state accolades

University of Tasmania Professor of Criminology Rob White has been honoured with a series of national and international accolades for his criminal justice work at home and globally.

Professor White, who pioneered Tasmania’s first ever criminology program at the University of Tasmania, has been named a Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology [ANZSOC] at the society’s 30th annual conference in Canberra.

Professor White also recently received a Citation for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning at the 2017 Australian University Teaching Awards ceremony in Melbourne, as well as a University of Tasmania Teaching Award in October for his work at the University and contributions to the criminal justice system in Tasmania.

In November Professor White travelled to the United States, where he was awarded the 2017 Division of International Criminology Freda Adler Distinguished Scholar Award by the American Society of Criminology (ASC).

This prize is awarded annually to an international scholar who has made a significant contribution to the development and growth of international criminology, including international criminal justice, comparative, cross-border and transnational crime or justice research.

Professor White was also honoured with the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award by the Division of Critical Criminology and Social Justice (DCCSJ) of the American Society of Criminology (ASC), for sustained and distinguished scholarship, teaching and service in the field of critical criminology.

Professor White’s research at the University of Tasmania relates primarily to innovative justice, in terms of both restorative approaches to youth offending, and issues pertaining to environmental crime, a field in which he is a pioneering scholar internationally.

He has published a number of books on ‘green criminology’, and his research seeks to find ways to criminalise international acts of harm against humans, biospheres, plant species and animals, and to improve systems of environmental law enforcement.

Professor White said his guiding principles were “the more you give, the more you receive” and “the more we listen, the wiser we will be”.
“The intersections of criminal and social justice are a key focus for me, as is collaboration with a wide range of government and non-government agencies and groups,” he said.

Professor White sits on the Tasmanian Sentencing Advisory Council. He is an affiliated researcher with the Institute for the Study of Social Change.

This year Professor White and his University of Tasmania colleague Dr Katrina Clifford co-wrote Media and Crime, published by Oxford University Press, which adopts an interdisciplinary approach to the study and analysis of media and crime.

Finally, Professor White also this year completed a Master of Laws (LLM) from the University of Tasmania, with his thesis on how environment courts deal with criminal offences such as illegal land clearance and harm to threatened and endangered species, and the penalties imposed for these crimes.

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