

**Cara Danis-Jacques  
Shanti Rajagopalan Memorial Award  
Melbourne August 2013**

**CITATION**

At the 2013 Conference Opening Ceremony, ASEG President Koya Suto had much pleasure in announcing and presenting the inaugural Shanti Rajagopalan Memorial Award in memory of the late Dr Shanti Rajagopalan.

The award is to be presented at each ASEG Conference for the best paper published by a Student in *Exploration Geophysics* in the period prior to each ASEG Conference. President Suto outlined the background to the naming of the award in memory of Shanti, who passed away in 2010 aged 49 after a long battle with cancer. Shanti was one of the best known and respected members of the ASEG, and was well known within the geophysical profession for her outstanding contributions and service to the profession and the ASEG.

Shanti was a major contributor to the advancement of the Society in many ways. She was President of the Victorian branch in 2001 and 2002 and was involved in organising the first ASEG conference held in Hobart. As well as being an Associate Editor of *Geophysics* from 1998 to 2009, she took on the role of Managing Editor of *Exploration Geophysics* in 2000 and 2001.

It is particularly noteworthy in the context of this new award that Shanti came to the attention of many ASEG members in 1987 when, as a student member, she was awarded the inaugural Laric Hawkins Award for the most innovative use of a geophysical technique from a paper presented at the ASEG Conference. It is therefore very appropriate that an award to encourage technical excellence by our Student Members should be named in honour of Shanti, thus recognising not only Shanti's enormous contribution to our profession, but also the example she set to all young geophysicists.

It was particularly pleasing that Shanti's husband Andrew and daughter Janaki were present at the Award ceremony to present the inaugural Shanti Rajagopalan Memorial award.

The recipient of the Shanti Rajagopalan Memorial Award for 2013 is Cara Danis-Jacques of Macquarie University for her paper published in *Exploration Geophysics* in 2012, entitled: "Sydney-Gunnedah-Bowen Basin deep 3D structure". (*Exploration Geophysics* Vol.43, No.1, pp26-35).