



Press release

London, November 30th 2011

TOPRA ANNOUNCES AWARD WINNERS IN SECOND ANNUAL EVENT

The winners of this year's TOPRA Awards for Excellence in Regulatory Affairs have been announced at a gala celebration in London. Professor Trevor Jones hosted the glittering event held at London's Four Seasons Hotel on 24 November.

The winners of the second TOPRA Regulatory Affairs awards were:

- Horizon: **Hayley Hanvey, Pfizer**
- Inspiration : **Luis Herrera Martinez, Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Cuba**
- Communication: **Ann O'Connor, Irish Medicines Board, Ireland**
- Education: **Alison Bowers, Consultant, USA**
- Support : **Regulis**
- Lifetime Achievement : **Professor Stuart Walker**

Professor Walker was lauded for making a seminal and profound impact in regulatory affairs. Professor Jones said: "He founded the Centre for Medicines Research and built this to become arguably the premier group for benchmarking both research and development in the pharmaceutical industry and the regulatory process ". Miranda Pothiwala, Software Director of Samarind, who sponsored this Award, made the presentation.

The Horizon award, which aims to reward a regulatory professional with less than three years experience who has shown outstanding skill and promise, was presented by Paul Bridges, Corporate Vice President of Parexel, who sponsored the Award. Hayley Hanvey was praised for having taken on challenging submissions and delivering consistently high-quality work.

Cuban Luis Herrera Martinez took the Inspiration award for being one of the most important scientists and leaders in his nation's biotechnology community. His award was presented by Odile le Roy Des Barres, Director of Product Management and Regulatory Information at Thomson Reuters who sponsored the Award and was accepted for him by Her Excellency the Ambassador of Cuba to the UK, Mrs Esther Armenteros.

The Communication award, which is a new category for this year, was given to Ann O'Connor, of the Irish Medicines Board, who was praised for showing the highest level of communication skills.

The second new category for 2011, Education, was awarded to US-based consultant Alison Bowers for her creativity in designing, developing, delivering and evaluating numerous training solutions. Since her nomination, Alison has joined Parexel consulting.

Regulis took the Support award, which is intended to celebrate the crucial role which the support sector plays in regulatory affairs. They were praised for showing a high level of commercial awareness and production scheduling as part of their regulatory support.

Lynda Wight, TOPRA Executive Director commented: "Our eminent judging panel, drawn from agencies, industry, law ,academia and patient groups, had a tough job to assess the excellent nominations we received in every category. All the shortlisted nominees are to be congratulated in showing excellence in regulatory affairs. Our international list of winners from major pharma, agency, CRO sector, R&D and independent consulting shows the breadth of regulatory skill and the important contribution it makes to the delivery of safe and effective medicines. Our individual Award sponsors and NDA who were overall Award champions have helped us deliver a wonderful event worthy of our winners".

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The Organisation for Professionals in Regulatory Affairs (TOPRA)

TOPRA is the global organisation for Regulatory Affairs professionals and for those who have an interest in Regulatory Affairs in the healthcare sector. Current membership is drawn from over 40 countries and members worldwide are actively involved in delivering the services needed by busy regulatory specialists. Members are drawn from industry, the regulatory agencies and the consultancy community and work in all sectors including medical technologies, biotech, borderline products and pharmaceuticals.