



**Australian Government**

**Chief Scientist**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**7 April 2016**

### **CHIEF SCIENTIST ENCOURAGES PRIZE NOMINATIONS**

With three weeks until nominations close for the Prime Minister’s Science Prizes, Australia’s Chief Scientist Dr Alan Finkel called on Australians to keep the great stories coming forward.

“As Chief Scientist, I am encouraged every day by the science stories I hear,” said Dr Finkel. “The depth and breadth of our science community is extraordinary, and its contribution to our nation is profound.

“The prizes celebrate the teachers, researchers and entrepreneurs who show us just how exciting our future might be – with the winners receiving substantial prize money.”

This year the prizes include a new award, the Prize for New Innovators, celebrating early career researchers putting knowledge to work in the community.

“Today, more than ever, we need to recognise that achievement in science takes many forms. We need great scientists – but we also need great teachers, business innovators and community leaders,” Dr Finkel said.

The Chief Scientist will chair the selection committee for the prizes.

Now in their 16<sup>th</sup> year, the Prime Minister’s Prizes for Science recognises the significant advancement of knowledge through scientific research, innovation and teaching.

For further details about the prizes and to nominate, visit [Science Prizes](#).

**Media enquiries:** 0410 029 407 or [Clinton.Porteous@chiefscientist.gov.au](mailto:Clinton.Porteous@chiefscientist.gov.au)