

February 23rd 2013

Canterbury Health Laboratories Scientist Awarded Scholarship

For the second successive year, a Canterbury Health Laboratories Scientist has been awarded the Barrie Edwards and Ross Kennedy Scholarship.

CHL Medical Laboratory Scientist Mary Stevens was awarded the scholarship by the New Zealand Institute of Medical Laboratory Science (NZIMLS), which provides the winner with support to attend an international or national scientific meeting up to a maximum value of \$7500.

Mrs Stevens says she was delighted to win the scholarship and is planning to use the award to attend the American Society of Microbiology Meeting to be held in May in Denver, Colorado. She will be presenting her work on culture, identification and susceptibility testing on *Clostridium difficile* isolates obtained from EIA positive faecal samples. This work also won the Hugh Bloor Poster prize at the 2012 NZIMLS Annual Scientific Meeting.

The Barrie Edwards and Ross Kennedy Scholarship has been in existence since 2010 to commemorate the significant contribution to the medical laboratory science profession of both Rod Kennedy and Barrie Edwards who worked at CHL before his sudden death in 2008. The 2012 scholarship was won by Sandy Woods from Specialist Biochemistry at CHL for her work on sweat testing in adults. This work is due to be published within the next few months in the NZ Journal of Medical Laboratory Science.