

**ASMR MEDICAL RESEARCH WEEK® KICKS OFF IN HOBART!
Gala Dinner Features ASMR Medalist 2016**

Professor Theodore Berger – Neuroprosthetics Pioneer

Hobart kick starts ASMR Medical Research Week® with the Annual Gala Dinner which celebrates health and medical research in Australia, and today, particularly in Tasmania.

Our Keynote Speaker at the dinner, is Theodore (Ted) Berger, Professor of Biomedical Engineering at the Viterbi School of Engineering at the University of Southern California and the ASMR Medalist 2016.

He could be described as a ‘neuroprosthetics pioneer’, leading a multi-disciplinary collaboration to develop a microchip-based neural prosthesis for the hippocampus, a region of the brain responsible for long-term memory.

He and his trans-disciplinary colleagues have developed a brain prosthesis designed to help people suffering from memory loss. The device implanted into the brain has performed well in animal tests and is currently being evaluated in human patients.

Professor Berger was named as one of “The 100 Leading Global Thinkers of 2013” by Foreign Policy Magazine. He is that rare embodiment of bold vision, brilliance, courage and tenacity; the attributes which expand the boundaries of science and create the future.

Recognition of Distinguished Service to Medicine, Science and Community

The dinner also honours Professor Haydn Walters, a senior physician and scientist who lives in Hobart and has worked at the highest levels of the Tasmanian health system. Professor Walters is retiring after more than 40 years of service to the sector and to the community.

ASMR Awards for best Student Presentations will also be announced during the evening.

Dr Sarah Meachem, ASMR President said today, “*I am delighted to be in Hobart today for the commencement of ASMR Medical Research Week®. The week celebrates health and medical research and highlights its value and importance in underpinning the health of the community*”.

Where: The Old Woolstore

When: June 2, 7pm

Interview and photo opportunities

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