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## INTERNATIONAL GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER EXPERT FROM 'THE ROYAL' RECEIVES PREMIER'S AWARD

Professor Neville Hacker, Director of Gynaecological Oncology at the Royal Hospital for Women, has received a Premier's Award for Outstanding Cancer Research at the annual event held in Sydney on Friday 2 August, 2013.

Professor Hacker, an acknowledged international expert in gynaecological cancer and head of the Royal Hospital for Women's Gynaecological Cancer Centre, received the 2013 Professor Rob Sutherland Make A Difference Award.

This annual event run by the Cancer Institute NSW, and held at the NSW Art Gallery, is the State's leading awards program that celebrates excellence and innovation in cancer research. The Professor Rob Sutherland Make a Difference Award 2013 recognises a researcher who has made a significant difference to cancer care or research practice. These contributions must have had a lasting impact on the cancer field and must have demonstrated sustained progress against cancer.

Professor Hacker was Director of Gynaecological Oncology at the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) before returning to Australia in 1986. He then established the Gynaecological Cancer Centre at 'The Royal', which has become the model for cancer units in Australia and many other countries. He has been director of that centre for 27 years.

He is widely regarded as an innovator in the care of women with gynaecological cancers having written over 160 peer reviewed scientific papers and published two textbooks on the subject.

The Premier's Award follows just one month after Professor Hacker received the Federal Government's inaugural Jeannie Ferris Cancer Australia Recognition Award, for his work in gynaecological cancer.

The Director of Operations at the Royal Hospital for Women, Leisa Rathborne, said it was delightful to see Professor Hacker's excellence in his field was being recognised once again.

'The Royal' is fortunate to have some of the country's most outstanding clinicians caring for the women of NSW - and Professor Hacker receiving the Premier's Award for his commitment to women with gynaecological cancer is another great testament to that," Ms Rathborne said.

Professor Hacker said it was an honour to receive a Premier's Award – especially given his friendship with the award's namesake.

"It's a great thrill to win this award named in honour of Professor Rob Sutherland because he and I had a very close working relationship extending back to the late 1990s when we established a joint ovarian cancer collaboration between the Garvan Institute and the Royal Hospital for Women," Professor Hacker said.

For interviews with Professor Neville Hacker, please contact Jennifer Connell at the SESLHD Media Unit.