



Australian Institute of
Interpreters and Translators Inc

Paul Sinclair Excellence Award

For outstanding contribution to AUSIT

Presented to

Dr Jim Hlavac

In recognition of your leadership as Chair of AUSIT's Ethics & Professional Practice Committee (2021–present), and your distinguished contribution to T&I scholarship and industry.

Melbourne, November 2024

Citation

Dr Jim Hlavac has been an active AUSIT member for many years, and has served as the Chair of the Ethics and Professional Practice Committee (EPPC) since 2021. Under his expert leadership, he has overseen bi-monthly committee meetings and convened ad-hoc Board of Professional Conduct sessions, ensuring timely and unbiased resolutions to complaints lodged against AUSIT members. Jim spearheaded several significant initiatives, including the design and implementation of the interpreter feedback form on their experiences in courts and tribunals, updates to AUSIT's Best Practices Guide for translators, the creation of guidelines on sight translation for those who work with interpreters, and the addition of the Ukrainian version of the Code of Ethics. All these resources are now accessible on the AUSIT website, benefiting members across the board. Generous with his time and expertise, Jim provides thoughtful and thorough responses to ethical queries from practitioners and service users. His dedication to EPPC and AUSIT at large has also been evident through his presentations at the 2023 and 2024 AUSIT National Conferences, where he promoted the committee's work and values.

Despite his modesty, Jim is a towering figure in Australia's translating and Interpreting (T&I) industry. His contributions to academia, teaching, and practice have left an indelible mark. He has been instrumental in shaping the language services sector and played a pivotal role in developing AUSIT's Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct, considered one of the most influential documents of its kind in the world. He has worked with fellow academics overseas, and his efforts have resulted in the publication of over 60 refereed journal articles, 20 book chapters, and 4 books, as well as numerous conference presentations all over the world. Highly impactful projects he was involved in include Deafblind communication (2023-24), interpreting for dementia assessments (2021-24), and language mediation in residential aged care (2020-23), to name just a few.

Jim continues to be active in academia as an Adjunct Senior Research Fellow in the Monash Intercultural Lab since 2024. As well as specialising in training for interpreters in the healthcare and other sectors at post-graduate level, Jim is also a mentor to both students and practitioners.

Jim is a deserving recipient of the Paul Sinclair Award.