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MEDIA RELEASE

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CRAWFORD FUND 2014 FOOD SECURITY JOURNALISM AWARD

The Crawford Fund is again joining with the Australian Council of Agricultural Journalists to launch a competition that aims to encourage working Australian journalists to investigate the important roles that agricultural research, training and rural development play in global food security.

Professor Kaye Basford, Board member of the Crawford Fund and President of the Academic Board of the University of Queensland made the announcement in Brisbane during the Fund's seminar on Queensland involvement in and benefits from international agricultural research.

"Events like our seminar today provide good opportunities to raise awareness of food security issues and the importance of science, research and training that involves Australians and the Crawford Fund," said Prof Basford, who chairs the Fund's Queensland Committee.

"The journalism award provides an opportunity to acknowledge reporting to highlight the positive contribution that Australia's farmers and our development, research and education sectors can make," she said.

"We are delighted to team up again with the Australian Council of Agricultural Journalists to deliver this award and recognise excellence in reporting on food security," she said.

The winning journalist will be provided with a Crawford Fund 'seeing is believing' visit to a developing country to view and report on Australian and international research and training underway with a focus on food security.

Entries are open for print, broadcast and internet-based reports by working Australian journalists around food security within the 12 months prior to the closing date of Monday, 2 June. The winner will be announced at the Fund's annual conference on 27 August.

Last year's winner of the inaugural Crawford Fund Food Security Journalism Award was Ms Elizabeth Finkel, Chief Editor of Cosmos Science Magazine for a feature article which imagined global agriculture 50 years in the future.

Further details, including the application and judging process, are available at www.crawfordfund.org

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The Crawford Fund's mission is to increase Australia's engagement in international agricultural research, development and education for the benefit of developing countries and Australia.