

wotton  
kearney |



# 2024 AUS W+K APIG Scholarship

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

EDUCATION

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

LIFE EXPERIENCE



# Boost your career in Fin Lines with \$9.5k towards a lifetime learning experience

APIG and W+K are committed to supporting the career development of young APIG members practising in financial lines insurance in Australia.

For nine years, the annual Australian W+K APIG Scholarship has recognised outstanding contribution and talent in our industry and connected the successful candidate with a lifetime educational experience aimed at enhancing their professional career. Funded by W+K, past scholarship winners have attended the international PIF Conference at Cambridge University and taken part in a hosted visit of Lloyd's in London.

There are also excellent personal profiling opportunities, with the winner sharing their experiences with other APIG members and the market.

Applications for the 2024 Scholarship are now open with the winner receiving \$9.5k towards attending an international conference of their choice with direct relevance to their career.

**Applications open: 31 July 2024**

**Applications close: COB 23 August 2024**

**Winner announced at the APIG Conference on 19 Sep 2024**



## PRIZE / LEARNING PACKAGE

The 2024 Scholarship Package consists of **AUD9,500** funding towards attending an international conference of your choice directly related to professional indemnity insurance or your specialist product area.

A key part of the package is for the winner to share their experience with APIG members on return by way of a brief update and video Q&A. We will also share the winner's submission at [www.apig.com.au](http://www.apig.com.au).

## HOW TO APPLY

Provide a written submission (no longer than 500 words) or short video (no longer than 3 minutes) addressing:

- what you see is a major issue for your area of insurance and how it could be resolved.

Plus:

- in a few words, what makes you proud to work in the financial lines insurance industry in Australia.

Simply email your submission and the application form before COB 23 August 2024 to [APIGScholarship@wottonkearney.com.au](mailto:APIGScholarship@wottonkearney.com.au).

[APPLICATION FORM](#)





# Funding to attend a global conference of your choice

PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY FORUM CONFERENCE  
ROBINSON COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY



## CONFERENCE SELECTION

The W+K APIG Scholarship recipient will be able to select an international conference of their choice related to professional indemnity insurance or their specialist product area (for example, cyber or environmental insurance).

The annual Professional Indemnity Forum (PIF) Conference at Cambridge University, with an organised visit to the Lloyd's Market in London arranged by Wotton + Kearney (with the assistance of AXA XL Australia), will remain an option.

Conference selections will require approval from the judging panel and the recipient's employer to travel on the required dates.

## ELIGIBILITY

The W+K APIG Scholarship is open to current APIG members under the age of 36 on the submission close date (23 August 2024).

Applicants must be actively involved in financial lines or professional indemnity insurance in Australia.

Members of the APIG National Committee and employees of Wotton + Kearney are ineligible.

Full terms and conditions are available in this pack and at [www.apig.com.au/WKScholarship](http://www.apig.com.au/WKScholarship).



## PAST WINNERS

### 2023 AU



#### Ben McCallum

WTW

The judging panel was particularly impressed by Ben's video submission which looks at the imposition of cyber exclusions in PI and D&O policies. Ben explores real-life cyber breach scenarios to demonstrate how litigation and regulatory action resulting from recent data breaches have revealed potential gaps in coverage for third-party claims. He also speaks about the importance of brokers and insurers examining these exclusions and developing tailored market solutions to address potential coverage gaps.

[View Ben's video](#)

### 2022 AU



#### Ben Hine

Swiss Re

Ben's video submission on *Fighting climate change and bolstering energy security through financial lines insurance risk transfer* impressed the judging panel for showing real thought leadership on a topic not often associated with the financial lines industry. Ben's suggestions included financial lines insurers collaborating with government to create a green risk fund to help create risk transfer and drive product innovation and know-how for both insureds and insurers, while also creating positive environmental outcomes.

[View Ben's video](#)

### 2021 AU



#### Raymond Loh

AXA XL

Raymond's impressive video submission identified and analysed different commercial interests at play in D&O insurance towers and proposed a series of innovative solutions to avoid conflict. The judging panel were ultimately swayed by Raymond's clear, concise and thoughtful delivery on this very topical (and sometimes controversial) issue.

[View Raymond's video](#)

### 2021 NZ



#### Euan Osborne

Chubb

The judging panel was highly impressed with Euan's entry showcasing his unique insights into the cyber area of insurance and his contribution to the financial lines industry in NZ.

Euan is pictured receiving the award from W+K partner and NZ APIG committee member Mathew Francis.



## PAST WINNERS

### 2020 AU



#### **Nikolce Stojcevski**

Berkshire Hathaway  
Specialty Insurance

Nik's submission was selected from a high calibre of entrants for his well-considered views on the SMEs insurance market, and how consolidating data across the industry can have a positive impact on the ability of small to medium diversified financial services, such as financial planners and mortgage brokers, to attain adequate professional liability insurance.

[\*\*View Nikolce's paper\*\*](#)

### 2019 AU



#### **Kelvin Hui**

Proclaim

Kelvin's paper was selected by the judging panel for his forward-thinking solution on what can be done to make PI insurance within the construction space more viable, and the positive ramifications for PI insurers in doing so.

[\*\*View Kelvin's paper\*\*](#)

### 2019 NZ



#### **Abigail Leach**

Marsh

Abigail's submission impressed the judging panel with her pragmatic and honest approach when it comes to developing client relationships as a financial lines broker in a hardening market.

### 2018 AU



#### **James Skiba**

DUAL

James's submission was selected for his topical analysis on how the rise in securities class actions will impact on D&O insurance policies and the need for reforms to continuous disclosure obligations.

[\*\*View James's paper\*\*](#)



## 2018 NZ



### Akshay Subramanian

Delta Insurance

Akshay's application was selected because it showed his significant contribution to the financial lines industry through thought pieces across multiple risk areas. His insights into the future of financial lines, and how end-to-end services can be utilised to bolster the relationships and trust which underpin the industry, were compelling.

## 2017 AU



### Mitchell Spurr

AIG

Mitchell's insightful paper shared his views on the increasing exposure of directors to potential claims relating to climate change.

[View Mitchell's paper](#)

## 2016 AU



### Michael Forster

Suncorp Group

Michael's submission was selected for his unique account on integrating technology and different management techniques to the financial lines industry – reflected via Sherlock Holmes.

[View Michael's paper](#)

## 2015 AU



### Kristine Salgado

Willis Towers Watson

Kristine was the inaugural scholarship winner and received her award from W+K's Cain Jackson and APIG Committee member Lisa Biggar. Kristine's submission was selected because of her thought-provoking account of the way forward for the insurance industry, and her contributions to financial lines insurance at such a young age.

[View Kristine's paper](#)



# TERMS & CONDITIONS



## 1. Scholarship Purpose

The Wotton + Kearney APIG Scholarship has been established to support the career development of young professionals practising in professional indemnity and financial lines insurance in Australia. The annual scholarship recognises an outstanding contribution to the industry by a current APIG member each year, with the winner benefitting from a Scholarship Package which provides financial assistance for them to attend a nominated conference specifically relevant to their career anywhere in the world the following year.

## 2. Scholarship Package

AUD9,500 funding towards attending a nominated conference, comprising of:

- AUD2,000 towards a single conference ticket,
- AUD4,000 towards return economy airfares and transfers to attend the conference, and
- AUD3,500 towards accommodation and spending.

Funds will be provided to the winner once the nominated conference is approved by the Judging Panel and agreed on by the winner's employer in terms of travel dates and leave. The winner is required to confirm receipt of the funds in writing (email).

## 3. Conference Approval

The scholarship recipient can select a global conference of their choice related to professional indemnity insurance or their specialist product area (eg. cyber). The annual Professional Indemnity Forum Conference at Cambridge University with an organised visit to the Lloyd's Market in London will remain an option. The nominated conference is to be approved by the Judging Panel and agreed in writing by the winner's employer in terms of travel dates or leave required.

## 4. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible, entrants must:

- be a current APIG member,
- be under the age of 36 on the submission closing date,
- be actively involved in a capacity where the candidate has a significant involvement in an aspect of financial lines insurance within Australia,
- not be a current member of the APIG National Committee,
- not be an employee at Wotton + Kearney, and
- have approval from their employer to travel and attend their nominated conference, including any leave required.

## 5. Submission Requirements

To be considered for the scholarship, all submissions must:

- include a completed application form, including signed acknowledgement that the applicant is able to travel to their nominated conference when applicable,
- include a written submission (no more than 500 words) or a short video (no longer than 3 minutes) addressing:
  - what you see is a major issue for your area of insurance and how it could be resolved.

Plus:

- in a few words, what makes you proud to work in the financial lines insurance industry in Australia.
- be emailed to [APIGScholarship@wottonkearney.com.au](mailto:APIGScholarship@wottonkearney.com.au) no later than 5.00pm (AEST) on Friday, 23 August 2024.

APIG and Wotton + Kearney accept no liability for late, lost or misdirected entries.

## 6. Judging Panel

The successful candidate will be selected by a three-person Judging Panel comprising:

- the APIG Chair (or representative thereof),
- the APIG Deputy Chair (or representative thereof), and
- a Wotton + Kearney representative (or representative thereof).

## 7. Selection Process

The Judging Panel will select the successful candidate entirely at their discretion, but taking into account the following criteria:

- the merit of the candidate's submission,
- the relative benefit of the award to the particular candidate, and
- the relative benefit to the industry arising from the selection.

The panel may decide to interview the best three candidates before awarding the Scholarship. The panel will seek the specific input of each APIG State President as to who the Scholarship should be awarded to. If a deadlock is reached, the APIG National President will have the deciding vote.

If for any reason the winner is unable to accept the Scholarship Package or attend the nominated conference, the judging panel will award the Scholarship to the next applicant they deem has best met the Scholarship criteria.

The panel's decision is final and no discussions with candidates will be entered into.

### 8. Scholarship Holder's Obligation

The successful candidate acknowledges that:

- the Scholarship cannot be exchanged for any other benefit,
- attendance at every session of the nominated conference is required,
- inability to attend the nominated courses will result in forfeiture and the panel may, at their sole discretion, re-award the Scholarship and request the return of all provided funds as they see fit, and
- on return, they will be required to:
  - publish a short report regarding the highlights of their trip,
  - take part in a short Q&A video on their experience for LinkedIn, and
  - if required, assist with other profiling opportunities, including speaking briefly at the start of an APIG webinar.

In no event will APIG or Wotton + Kearney be liable if unforeseen circumstances arise which prevent the successful candidate from attending the conference.

### 9. Announcement of Winner

The winner will be contacted in writing and announced at the APIG Conference on Thursday, 19 September 2024. APIG members will also be notified of the winner via a broadcast email and the winner will also be posted on the APIG website.

The recipient of the Scholarship and their current employer give permission for APIG and Wotton + Kearney to publicise the recipient's name, company and position title as part of the Scholarship announcement and related communications.

### 10. Liabilities

- APIG and Wotton + Kearney are not liable for any loss or damage to property or persons including, but not limited to, direct or consequential loss and loss from personal injury as a result of participation in the activities from the Scholarship Package, and
- Liability for any tax on benefits provided to entrants pursuant to the Scholarship is the sole responsibility of the successful candidate.

### 11. Key Dates for 2024 Scholarship

- Submissions open on Wednesday, **31 July 2024**.
- Submissions close at 5.00pm (AEST) on Friday, **23 August 2024**.
- Winner will be announced at the APIG Conference on Thursday, **19 September 2024**.

### 12. Application Form

An application form is available from:

<https://www.wottonkearney.com.au/ApplicationForm>

### 13. Additional Information

For additional information, visit:

<https://www.apig.com.au/WKScholarship>