NOMINATION of JULIA JAMES as a FELLOW of ACKMA

Julia James has had a long and distinguished career as a caver, cave scientist, and more recently in management of karst through her membership of such bodies as the Jenolan Caves Scientific and Environmental Advisory Committee, NSW Karst Management Advisory Committee and the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area Advisory Committee.

She was Senior Vice-president (1989-97) and President (1997-2001) of the International Union of Speleology (IUS). Since 2001 she has been Honorary Life President of IUS. She is the only person of her gender to have served in these positions. She has been an office bearer in a number of other speleological organisations, and has been an editor of Helictite.

She has supervised some 35 Doctorate, Masters and Honours students – about half on cave and karst subjects. She has also carried out many consultancies in Australia and overseas on karst related matters.

Julia is the author of some 200 published papers, numerous book chapters and the editor of a number of books as well as many consultancy reports. Notable among the consultancies demonstrating her contribution to cave and karst management are:

Julia has a particular interest in the management of Jenolan Caves, where she has provided specialist advice to various cave management authorities over at least three decades. This interest, or perhaps love, continues to the present day as is evident through her on-going involvement with the Jenolan Caves Survey Program.

Apart from Julia's technical expertise and broad-based experience in karst management, she has mentored and provided practical support to many aspiring karst managers and scientists. In this way she has helped to build a network of karst practitioners who are not only aware of, and understand, the issues surround sustainable karst management, but have a genuine respect for these unique environments.

Based on Julia James significant contributions to the conservation, management and promotion of karst over many decades, at both a national and international level, I would like to nominate her as a fellow of the ACKMA. My nomination is seconded by Stephen Meehan, Manager of the NSW Karst and Geodiversity Unit.

Nominated by: Andy Spate Seconded by: Stephen Meehan on behalf of the Karst and Geodiversity Unit NSW NPWS

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 (1996).



Julia James

Left. Stunned with her nomination at Waitomo.

Right. With Gavin Young, Wee Jasper 2012.

Photos: Steve Bourne

