

## DELEGATES OF THE YEAR

### PAUL SUTHERLAND



### ENERGY QUEENSLAND LIMITED

**Nominated by: Queensland (Services & Northern Administrative) Branch.**

Paul Sutherland works in the Energy Industry and has been a Workplace Delegate of The Services Union since 2011.

He started his delegate work at SPARQ Solutions seven years ago and presently works for the newly formed Energy Queensland Limited after the amalgamation of Energex, Ergon Energy and SPARQ.

Paul always stands up for what is right and just even in the face of adversity and The Services Union is proud of him and the work he has done for members in the Energy Industry.

He is well respected amongst his Industry peers and is a wealth of knowledge in the IT space.

Paul was the winner of The Services Union's 2018 Delegate of the Year Award.

### SHANTI THOMPSON



### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND SCIENCE

**Nominated by: Queensland Together Branch.**

Shanti Thompson is a delegate in the Qld Public Service. She has been nominated for her commitment and leadership as a delegate for over 10 years and, particularly, for her outstanding work leading the Core enterprise bargaining campaign throughout 2018.

Together members are very fortunate to have a delegate with the energy and commitment Shanti shows every day.

She is a HR officer; she is a union delegate representing her members in her workplace, in consultative forums and in the central negotiations for the Core agreement; she co-chairs the Core Steering Committee and she is also an elected representative on Together Branch Conference, Branch Council and National Conference.

## COBY ROOMIMANS



## NIB HEALTH FUND

**Nominated by: NSW United Services Branch.**

Coby Roomimans has been a delegate since April 2013 and took over the role of Senior Delegate in 2015. Coby recently, along with her Organiser, pursued NIB to introduce a Domestic Violence Policy that aligned with the ASU provisions to enable a safe and supported Policy and provisions for USU members should anyone find themselves in such a difficult and harrowing circumstance.

Coby also, with the support of her Organiser, pursued and was successful in changing NIB's Paternity Leave Policy to include full payment of Superannuation on Paternity Leave.

One important grievance she has been involved with recently included a major bullying and harassment case which saw a Senior Manager being removed from the organisation and a Team Leader relieved from her position after it was revealed that the Team Leader was proven guilty of harassing our member and the Manager was protecting the Team leader.

Coby is currently undertaking a University Degree and is working towards a goal of working in the Union movement.

Coby's passion, principles and selflessness proves that she is a great delegate who cares about her members and her leadership skills have proven that she can get results which have earned her great respect from Management.

Coby is the 2018 recipient of the United Services Union's Delegate of the Year and we have no hesitation in recommending Coby for ASU National Delegate of the year award.

## SAMANTHA PARKER



## NOMINATED BY NSW & ACT (SERVICES) BRANCH

Sam Parker is a domestic violence worker in Western Sydney, advocating for women and children who have experienced domestic violence. Every day she supports women to live safely, free of the threat and injury of domestic violence.

Sam is a proud member of the Australian Services Union (ASU) and Chair of the ASU New South Wales Women's Subdivision.

Sam works for a Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service, supporting women as they go through the court process of gaining an apprehended domestic violence order (ADVO). The service Sam works for receives 150 referrals each week from police who have attended domestic violence incidents.

Sam has supported women whose employers have stated they risk losing their job if they continued to attend court for ADVO matters. She has supported women who have lost their jobs because perpetrators have repeatedly harassed them in their workplace.

As Chair of the ASU New South Wales Women's Subdivision Sam instigated the We Won't Wait campaign to make paid Family and Domestic Violence Leave a universal right that doesn't rely upon the bargaining power of workers in their workplace.

Through Sam's lobbying of politicians at all tiers of government, there have been changes to legislation and political policies. Sam has inspired others to become active in the campaign and in doing so has built a national movement.

## KRISTY MEIKLE

## CITY OF GREATER GEELONG



**Nominated by: Victorian and Tasmanian Authorities & Services Branch.**

Kristy has been a member of the ASU for over 9 years and a Delegate for six years. She is also the OH&S Representative for her DWG (Designated Workgroup) and has been in this role for a very long time.

Kristy has successfully raised the profile of Occupational Health and Safety in her workplace and has dedicated her time to many health and safety campaigns. Some of her key achievements over the years have included her involvement in the development of a new Uniform Policy at her workplace and getting a new Chemicals Storage Shed placed into her Depot.

Kristy is the only delegate/ health and safety rep in her workplace in a predominantly male workforce.

## SARAH HAAR

## CIVICA AUSTRALIA



**Nominated by: Victorian Private Sector Branch.**

Sarah began working in the Call Centre at Tenix Solutions in 2012. Right from her early days of Union membership she was vocal at our regular union meetings and clearly a young leader in the making.

When there was vacancy for the Delegates role in 2016 Sarah was elected unopposed. This came at a time of maximum upheaval within Tenix which was trying to hold on to its contract to run the Traffic Infringement and Fines management work for the State Government.

A new EBA was due for negotiation in 2017. Sarah led the EBA negotiations from the front and achieved an excellent outcome for the members in ensuring their terms and conditions were enhanced and also providing protections for their employment should Tenix lose the State Government work contract. By late 2017 Tenix did in fact lose that contract to the Civica organisation.

Sarah is selfless and a tireless campaigner and she understands that we can only continue to get good results for our members if they are strongly organised. Sarah recently won our Branch Delegate of the Year award and we are proud to nominate her for the national award.

## JODIE RICHARDSON

## NOMINATED BY WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH



Jodie is a Refugee Worker, working in Perth's south-eastern metro region for an organisation that provides Domestic and Family Violence support services that includes outreach and other programs as well as the refuge.

Since becoming a Delegate in 2004, Jodie has worked to raise and retain union density in her workplace. In an already high density workplace, she increased the membership by 25% this year which has seen her employer become the Refuge with the highest union density of all WA Refuges, and possibly of all SACS organisations, with an 80% Union membership density.

Jodie has also played a key role as Delegate and in negotiating the current EBA, which is one of the best Agreements in the refuge sector. Recognising that Family and Domestic Violence is pervasive across all stratas of society, Jodie's employer was one of the first to include FDV leave in its EBA, a move trailblazed by Jodie.

Jodie, in her sixteen years working in this sector, as a member of her Union and workplace Delegate for almost the entirety of her SACS career and her commitment to her colleagues and clients, means she has literally touched the lives of hundreds of families, work for which she should be extremely proud.