CITATION – Professor Marilyn Ball, Research School of Biology, ANU College of Medicine, Biology & Environment

The Chancellor’s Award for Distinguished Contribution to the University is awarded for eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree.

Professor Marilyn Ball is an eminent scientist who has been lauded nationally and internationally for her work on how plants cope with environmental stress. She combines field work in diverse challenging locations from tropical estuaries to Antarctica, with experiments under controlled conditions. To gain insight into fundamental mechanisms, she introduced new instrumentation to develop novel approaches. This research has resulted in 122 publications. In recognition of their impact, in 2007 she became the first female recipient of the Ecological Society of America’s honorary lifetime award, which is limited to 20 at any time. In 2009, she was elected to the Australian Academy of Science. She has served in editorial roles on 8 major international journals and contributed her expertise and judgement to numerous ANU committees. Finally, she is a gem in ANU’s teaching resources, contributing to all stages of undergraduate and postgraduate education with inspirational lectures and challenging research topics.