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WALKLEY FOUNDATION FOR JOURNALISM

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Nic Christensen is 2009 MEDIA Super Student Journalist of the Year

University of Technology Sydney (UTS) student Nic Christensen is the winner of this year's MEDIA Super Student Journalist of the Year Award..

Nic's story on "The Chinese Businessman Bankrolling Australian Politics" stood out not only for the months of research he put into it, but also because it became a national story that made it to the pages The Age and The Sydney Morning Herald.

To uncover the story Nic spent four months investigating Australia's foreign-based political donation system and key donor, Dr Chau Chak Wing.

The judges said the piece was "A considered and impressive effort."

"Nic Christensen's piece was selected as it demonstrated the combination of a good instinct for a story, a commitment to extensive research to execute it and the ability to write news with flair."

The announcement was made alongside the finalists for the 54th Walkley Awards at simultaneous events in Sydney and Melbourne on October 14.

Nic will attend the Walkley Awards as a guest of MEDIA Super in Sydney on November 26, where he will be formally congratulated.

Open to all tertiary students studying journalism, communications and media-related degrees who have not previously worked full-time in the media, the MEDIA SUPER Student Journalist of the Year Award recognises student journalism across print, radio, television and online.

All students were encouraged to enter an example of their best work, and the resulting strong field of almost 100 entries was judged by a panel of journalists. They were: **Don Lange**, NSW news editor for ABC; *mX* editor **Melissa Stevens**; and **Yaara Bou Melhem**, videojournalist for SBS Television and the Walkleys' 2009 Young Australian Television Journalist of the Year.

For more information on the award, contact Fleur Mitchell at the Walkley Foundation for Journalism on 02 9333 0956, email fleur.mitchell@alliance.org.au, or visit the Alliance's student website at <http://www.walkleys.com/students-prize>

For more information about MEDIA SUPER please visit www.mediasuper.com.au

The Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance – Proud trustee of the Walkley Awards since 1956

