

AIM Appreciation Awards



Elwin has been an inspiration to the Young Professionals Group over the last five years on the committee. She was asked to join the YPG committee while on the LDG committee, to act as a mentor for the group by the staff member from AIM on the committee. True to her nature, Elwin seized the opportunity to mentor this “Young” committee and she has brought a host of life skills to our group. In this outline, I would like to highlight Elwin’s key strengths and contributions to both the YPG and more broadly to the Special Interest Groups as an entity.

Elwin’s enthusiasm is contagious; it infects both the committee and those who attend the sessions. She has been described as a “mini revolution.” She is friendly, warm natured and very inclusive, which is important in breaking down the barriers and fostering networking among our members. She almost always attends both the committee meetings and the sessions. Her dedication is unparalleled. She always brings a unique perspective to the table and encourages us to expand our thinking.

Elwin has helped our committee to gain the confidence to approach potential speakers. She sees no boundaries or impossible tasks and was instrumental in providing the support to a fellow committee member in successfully approaching Senator Alston to speak at our launch this year. She has provided the YPG with an extraordinary range of interesting contacts and people to tap into. I cannot count the number of times Elwin has “saved the day” by finding a speaker at the shortest of notice, when a previous speaker has cancelled. One of her most notable contributions are the Stress Busters workshops that she developed from a concept to reality. Even after three successive years, they are one of the most popular sessions we run, with people loving the “fun” workshop style.

Elwin is a great listener and importantly always finds the time to listen. She is always there for the committee members to bounce ideas off and also encourages us to think outside the square. She challenges and stretches us, to facilitate our development. Over the years, Elwin has seen committee members come and go, but she is never judgemental. She enjoys being a part of the journey of our personal and professional development. She is always encouraging people to join the committee and provides positive feedback to all participants. She has always provided her house for committee meetings on the weekends for brainstorming or planning sessions (even when she is out of town!).



More broadly Elwin is involved with various other networking groups outside the AIM and is a true advocate of the benefits the Special Interests Groups have to offer to the broader community. She has actively encouraged a host of people to come to sessions over the years and who have followed on to join. What is most fantastic is her skill of networking and her true caring nature. This has led Elwin to meet many people through her association with the Special Interest Groups, but more importantly she has actively fostered growing these relationships and has made a great deal of friendships.

In summary, the YPG committee nominate Elwin for a Certificate of Appreciation for her service to AIM because of her unparalleled commitment to the YPG and the AIM over the last decade. She is of great value to our committee and group as a fabulous mentor, friend, supporter, advocate and role model.

Nominated by: Maria Koutsimpiris, YPG Committee Chair, On behalf of YPG Committee

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