The Peter Baume Award is the University's most prestigious award. It recognises eminent achievement and merit of the highest order.

Professor David Chalmers is by some measures the most eminent philosopher of mind in the world, and by any measure one of the most eminent philosophers in any field. In a survey conducted by Philosophy Now earlier this year, he was rated the second most influential philosopher in the world (with the #1 slot taken by someone much older). Also this year, he was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, only the third ANU academic in any discipline to have received this honour.

His book The Conscious Mind is one of the most cited and most influential philosophy books of the last fifty years. It is the fifth most cited work in philosophy of mind of the 20th century; and his co-authored paper "The Extended Mind" is the most cited journal article in philosophy since 1990.

In 2010 Professor Chalmers delivered the John Locke Lectures at Oxford University, the most prestigious lecture series in philosophy; and in 2011, he published articles in Philosophical Review, Journal of Philosophy, Mind, and Nous, widely regarded as the top four journals in philosophy. This might be called the 'philosophy grand slam', and as far as we know, no-one has ever achieved this in a single year. Indeed, most philosophers, even at top departments, don't achieve it in a lifetime.

Professor Chalmers has been deeply involved in all aspects of graduate education at ANU, and even though his position does not involve teaching undergraduate courses, he volunteered to co-teach 'Quantum Mechanics and Free Will'. He played a lead role in the creation of the Foundations Seminar, the HDR coursework requirement that gives our students in-depth studies of classic and current readings in central areas of philosophy. He has organized and partly funded undergraduate workshops in philosophy for the very best honours students from all over Australia and New Zealand - a key element in our recruitment strategy. And he has supervised legions of PhD students who have gone on to very successful careers in philosophy - he has had an enormous influence on the next generation of philosophers.

Professor Chalmers was an ARC Federation Fellow, and he created the ANU Centre for Consciousness, which plays a pivotal role in the School of Philosophy. More generally, he has a remarkable record of garnering ARC grants. He has provided great service to the profession by co-creating and co-directing PhilPapers and PhilJobs, respectively the main on-line resources for accessing philosophy papers and for advertising philosophy jobs. He is a past-president of the Australasian Association of Philosophy, and he is a fellow of the Australasian Academy of Social Science.

Professor Chalmers is also a major figure beyond the philosophy discipline. He has collaborated with neuroscientists, and has made contributions to psychology and computer science. And his influence even reaches outside academia. For example, the DVD box set of The Matrix Ultimate Collection includes an interview with him, and
his portrait hangs in the National Gallery of Australia! David Chalmers is a colleague for whom there simply are not enough superlatives—a true superstar!