Wednesday 12th September 6:00-6:30, AUT Millennium Finish Line

High Performance Sport New Zealand Chief Executive Michael Scott
Michael Scott will welcome the assembled company to the AUT Millennium Finish Line for the ceremony. Michael joined HPSNZ as Chief Executive in January 2018. Michael has over 20 years’ experience in high performance. Michael was most recently Chief Executive of Rowing Australia having previously held a number of leadership roles internationally and across the system including Performance Director at Swimming Australia, National Performance Director at British Swimming and Chief Executive of the 2007 World Swimming Championships Corporation. Michael was the sixth Director of the Australian Institute of Sport having previously been the inaugural New South Wales Institute of Sport Director. Michael holds a Master of Science in Physical Education from Eastern Kentucky University.

Auckland University of Technology Vice-Chancellor Derek McCormack
Dereck McCormack will address the assembled company to read the citation to honor Sir Graeme Avery for his support of sport scientists working to help improve athlete development and elite performance in New Zealand. Derek has been the AUT Vice-Chancellor since 2004. He is the academic and administrative head of AUT as New Zealand’s most contemporary, fastest changing, and second largest university. Derek was instrumental in supporting the vision of SPRINZ and development of AUT Millennium. Derek is the Chair of the AUT Millennium Board.

Olympian athlete Richard Patterson and ISBS President Young-Hoo Kwon
Richard Patterson will speak about the effects of Sir Graeme’s support for athletes from an elite athlete’s perspective. Professor Young-Hoo will speak about the international effects of Sir Graeme’s support for sport scientists and athletes. Richard and ISBS President Young-Hoo will give the award to Sir Graeme.

Richard Patterson is a weightlifting competitor for New Zealand. He is one of two weightlifters to become a 3 time Olympian (Beijing, London and Rio) with the other being the legend weightlifter Don Oliver. Richard is also a 4 x Commonwealth Games representative winning Silver at the 2010 Commonwealth Games. Four years later, at the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, he won the gold medal in the same event and was named New Zealand’s flag bearer in the closing ceremony for his contribution to the wider team. Richard has a long association with AUT Millennium and credits his performances at the 2000 Sydney Olympics, and the 2002 Commonwealth Games Gold medal lift, to Graeme’s son Nigel as his inspiration to pursue his ambitions of representing New Zealand on the world stage. Richard has been Vice President of Olympic Weightlifting New Zealand for the past five years and is a member of the NZOC Athletes Commission.

Professor Young-Hoo Kwon of Texas Woman’s University, is ISBS President. He has expertise in Rehabilitation Medicine, Physiotherapy, and Sports Medicine. “It is fantastic to see support of biomechanists to conduct applied research and work with athletes at all levels in New Zealand. AUT Millennium is an exemplary model for the world in the application of sport science research, education and service. It is a privilege that we can honor Sir Graeme Avery with this special ISBS 2018 Conference Award for his contributions to athletics and sport science in New Zealand”.

New Zealand Olympic Committee President Mike Stanley
Mike Stanley, will thank the assembled company for attending the awards event hosted in partnership by AUT, AUT Millennium, HPSNZ, ATEED and ISBS. Mike has been Chief Executive of AUT Millennium since 2003. Mike is President/Chairman of the NZOC and is a board member of HPSNZ. Mike has been a competitor, coach, commentator and an administrator for rowing. He was a member of the NZ rowing eight which won back-to-back world championships in 1982 and 1983 and finished fourth at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games. Mike was inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame in 1995 and shared the NZ Sportsman of the Year trophy with the world champion crew of 1982. From 1994 to 2003, Mike was Chief Executive of Rowing New Zealand.

Finish of ceremony, and photos with Sir Graeme Avery
Sir Graeme Avery’s 2014 knighthood was for services to business and sport. He was admitted to the New Zealand Business Hall of Fame in 2014. Sir Graeme was a 400m runner and played first grade rugby in Sydney. He has more than 45 years involvement in athletics at club, regional, national and international level.

Sir Graeme founded Adis International, the medical publishing company he developed from scratch in 1963. This company is well known to sports biomechanists as it publishes the high impact factor journal *Sports Medicine*.

A strong supporter of sport, especially athletics, Sir Graeme led the fundraising campaign to create the $85 million AUT Millennium, which is the site of AUT’s Sport Performance Research Institute New Zealand (SPRINZ) and the national training centre for high-performance sport and site of High Performance Sport New Zealand (HPSNZ). Since 2009, Sir Graeme has served as chairman of the AUT Millennium Ownership Trust, a position now held by AUT Vice Chancellor, Derek McCormack. He remains on the Trust as President.

300 elite athletes regularly train at AUT Millennium, and there are over 600,000 user-visits annually.

Auckland University of Technology conferred Sir Graeme with an honorary doctorate in 2006 for his contribution to health publishing and contributions to elite and developmental sport in New Zealand.

Sir Graeme is now leading the development of a scaled down version of the AUT Millennium in Hawke’s Bay to help support local sports talent and promote healthy lifestyles and enhanced mental wellbeing in the community.

“I am so pleased that Sir Graeme Avery is being recognized, as he is such a kind man who was fundamental to athletics survival on the north shore and the Robin Tait Classic.” Beatrice Faumuinā NZOM.

World Champion, World Cup Champion, four-time Olympian, Halberg Award-winner and two-time Commonwealth Champion and record holder. Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations’ Food and Agriculture Organization. New Zealand Officer of Merit for services to Athletics. Trade Commissioner – Consul General, New York.