Professor a pioneer

A CONCORD professor has been recognised as one of the world’s pioneering researchers into ageing.

Honorary Associate Professor at Concord Hospital and Sydney University Arthur Everitt, 83, has received an American Ageing Association (AGE) achievement award in honour of his contribution to unravelling the mysteries of ageing.

Prof Everitt revealed a link between calorie restriction and longer life expectancy after researching the hormonal mechanisms of ageing and the impact of diet restriction in rats for more than 50 years. He said it was wonderful to have his life’s work recognised.

“There was limited interest in research into ageing when I started in 1953 but now the field is of tremendous interest in the scientific world,” he said.

“Our life expectancy is now increasing on average by three months every year and it looks like this will continue.

“That is why research into ageing is so important.”

Professor David Le Couteur, from Concord Hospital’s Centre for Education and Research on Ageing, said Prof Everitt’s research was providing significant insights into ways of improving life expectancy.