Outstanding Research Awards: Individuals at further stages of careers development (STEM and non-STEM)

ELIGIBILITY

The Outstanding Research Award recognises individual researchers who have recently carried out innovative research or made a significant breakthrough or a major contribution to their field. In 2021, awards will be made in the following categories:

- Researcher at a further stage of their career working in STEM subject areas
- Researcher at a further stage of their career working in non-STEM subject areas

Entries should state whether they should be considered in the STEM or non-STEM category.

Summary of eligibility

1. This prize is open to all staff currently employed at the University of Aberdeen.
2. Applications must demonstrate how the research/publications put forwards have achieved impact and have influenced their field of research/expertise.
3. Only one entry per applicant is allowed.
4. Applications should include research that has been presented or published within the last 36 months (i.e. since November 2017).

Summary of terms

1. Nominations must be made using the form provided. Nominations can be made by Supervisors, Directors of Research or Heads of School. Individuals can also self-nominate.
2. You may include letters of support from external sources explaining the significance or impact of the interdisciplinary research. Multiple letters of support can be submitted preferably as one attachment.
3. The decision of the judging panel is final.
4. References to REF scores are not permitted under the terms of our Institutional Code of Practice.
Outstanding Research Awards: Individual Postgraduate Researcher / Early Career Researcher

ELIGIBILITY

The Outstanding Research Award recognises individual PGR/ECR researchers who have recently carried out innovative research or made a significant breakthrough or a major contribution to their field.

Summary of eligibility

1. This prize is open to all PGRS and ECRs currently employed/registered at the University of Aberdeen
2. Applications must demonstrate how the research/publications put forwards have achieved impact and have influenced their field of research/expertise.
3. Only one entry per applicant is allowed.
4. Applications should include research that has been presented or published within the last 36 months (i.e. since November 2017).

Summary of terms

1. Nominations must be made using the form provided. Nominations can be made by Supervisors, Directors of Research or Heads of School. Individuals can also self-nominate.
2. You may include letters of support from external sources explaining the significance or impact of the interdisciplinary research. Multiple letters of support can be submitted preferably as one attachment.
3. The decision of the judging panel is final.
4. An early career researcher is defined as a researcher who has less than four years’ academic research experience (or full-time equivalent) following the completion of their PhD, or is of equivalent professional standing.
5. References to REF scores are not permitted under the terms of our Institutional Code of Practice.
Outstanding Research Awards: Research Team Award (for researchers working as a team in the same research field)

ELIGIBILITY

The Research Team Award recognises a team of researchers who have worked together on one or more projects and carried out innovative research or made a significant breakthrough or a major contribution to their common field. The research must demonstrate the benefits of team working to the creation of new knowledge or to innovation.

Summary of eligibility

1. This prize is open to all staff currently employed at the University of Aberdeen and postgraduate research students currently registered at the University of Aberdeen.
2. Applications must demonstrate how the research put forward by the applicants was team work and how the members of the team contributed. The judging panel will prioritise identified projects/pieces of research as opposed to applications evidencing achievements across a number of different projects.
3. Only one entry per team is allowed.
4. Applications should include research that has been presented or published within the last 36 months (i.e. since November 2017).

Summary of terms

1. Nominations must be made using the form provided. Nominations can be made by Supervisors, Directors of Research or Heads of School. Teams can self-nominate, and applicants can nominate on behalf of their team.
2. You may include letters of support from external sources explaining the significance or impact of the interdisciplinary research. Multiple letters of support can be submitted preferably as one attachment.
3. The decision of the judging panel is final.
4. This award is open to teams that include researchers at all stages of their career.
5. References to REF scores are not permitted under the terms of our Institutional Code of Practice.
Outstanding Research Awards: Interdisciplinary Research Award
(for researchers from different fields working on an
interdisciplinary project)

ELIGIBILITY

The Interdisciplinary Research Award recognises one or more researchers who have recently worked as part of an interdisciplinary team and carried out innovative research or made a significant breakthrough or a major contribution to their field through interdisciplinary working. The research must demonstrate using and integrating knowledge and methods from different disciplines and teams to generate new approaches to create new knowledge or innovation.

Summary of eligibility

1. This prize is open to all staff currently employed at the University of Aberdeen and postgraduate research students currently registered at the University of Aberdeen.
2. Applications must demonstrate how the research put forward by the applicant was interdisciplinary and how their contribution to the interdisciplinary team made a difference. The judging panel will prioritise identified projects/pieces of research as opposed to applications evidencing achievements across a number of different projects.
3. Only one entry per applicant is allowed.
4. Applications should include research that has been presented or published within the last 36 months (i.e. since November 2017).

Summary of terms

1. Nominations must be made using the form provided. Nominations can be made by Supervisors, Directors of Research or Heads of School. Teams can self-nominate, and applicants can nominate on behalf of an interdisciplinary team.
2. You may include letters of support from external sources explaining the significance or impact of the interdisciplinary research. Multiple letters of support can be submitted preferably as one attachment.
3. The decision of the judging panel is final.
4. This is open to researchers at all stages of their career.
5. References to REF scores are not permitted under the terms of our Institutional Code of Practice.
Outstanding Research Project: COVID-19 Response and Recovery

ELIGIBILITY

The Outstanding Research Project – COVID-19 Response and Recovery award will recognise a project aimed at either developing a response to, or to assisting with recovery from, the COVID-19 crisis.

This award is open to projects from all disciplines, to interdisciplinary teams and to joint projects with the NHS, industry, other universities or other partners.

We recognise that many eligible projects may still be underway and therefore projects will be assessed by their potential for health, societal or economic impacts.

Summary of eligibility

1. This prize is open to all staff currently employed at the University of Aberdeen.
2. Applications must demonstrate how the project put forward has the potential to make a significant impact to the response and recovery to the COVID-19 crisis and how this impact will be realised.
3. Only one entry per applicant is allowed.

Summary of terms

1. Nominations must be made using the form provided. Nominations can be made by Directors of Research or Heads of School. Individuals can also self-nominate.
2. You may include letters of support from external sources explaining the significance of the project to the COVID-19 response and recovery. Multiple letters of support can be submitted preferably as one attachment.
3. The decision of the judging panel is final.
4. References to REF scores are not permitted under the terms of our Institutional Code of Practice.
Public Engagement with Research Awards

Summary of eligibility

1. Applications can be submitted by the nominee or by another member of University staff.
2. Eligible candidates must be current University of Aberdeen staff or postgraduate student.
3. Applications may not be submitted to a category the applicant has previously won.
4. Applications must demonstrate a substantive research-led approach to the public engagement undertaken. Examples may include:
   - Engaging publics about research (e.g. talks, workshops, broadcasting and media).
   - Supporting communities (e.g. working with pupils and teachers, community groups, engaging with policymakers).
   - Inspiring the next generation.
   - Addressing societal concerns.
   - Fostering collaborative or partnership approaches.
5. Supporting evidence must include contributions within the past 24 months.
6. Applications that demonstrate creative and innovative approaches to public engagement are particularly welcomed.
7. Applications should indicate any learning outcomes and experiences achieved though the public engagement and successful nominees should be willing to share these.
8. Staff and students whose primary role is around public engagement and members of the Public Engagement with Research Unit at the University of Aberdeen are ineligible for this prize.
9. Application should select the category for which they wish to be considered.
10. Applications which focus on research areas in the biomedical sciences covered by the Wellcome Trust remit will be considered for the biomedical sciences prize. Applications do not necessarily need to be funded by Wellcome Trust. The disciplines within this remit can be found here https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding

Summary of terms

1. The Principal’s Prize for Public Engagement with Research is an annual award to reflect outstanding achievement in the field of research and researcher-led public engagement.
2. Nominations should be submitted by completing the online form linked at abdn.ac.uk/excellenceawards
3. The decision of the judging panel is final.
Development Trust Award for Philanthropy / Alumni Engagement

The Development and Alumni Relations Office is delighted to recognise the contributions of staff and students to philanthropic fundraising and alumni engagement. We have received tremendous support over the past year and this award will recognise any of the following activities that have contributed to the University’s strategic aims:

- engagement with our alumni, including events, visits and other activities;
- engagement with donors and potential donors;
- personally giving or fundraising in aid of University initiatives;
- raising awareness of the impact and importance of philanthropic giving.

The benefits of fundraising and alumni relations impact the whole University community and this Award is intended to recognise the people that enable this across the institution.

ELIGIBILITY

The Excellence Award for Philanthropy / Alumni Engagement recognises any member of staff who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of the University through philanthropic (charitable) or alumni engagement activities (UK and/or overseas).

Summary of eligibility

1. This award is open to all staff currently employed at the University of Aberdeen
2. Applicants must demonstrate how they have contributed to the University’s philanthropic aims or alumni engagement activities.
3. Only one entry per applicant is allowed.
4. Applications should include examples of impactful activities from the past 12-24 months.

Summary of terms

Nominations must be made using the form provided. Self-nominations or nominations from the Development and Alumni Relations Office are welcomed.

The decision of the judging panel is final.
Success in Engagement with Industry Award

ELIGIBILITY

The aim of this prize is to recognise successful engagement with industry that has resulted in a significant impact on the industry partner’s processes, products or services.

Summary of eligibility

1. Applications must be submitted by the industry partner or an industry body.
2. The judging panel will prioritise submissions that cover dedicated projects (with individual or multiple industry partners) over submissions that showcase multiple projects with industry, although the latter may also be submitted.
3. The judging panel will be seeking projects that have had a significant impact on the industry partner’s business without regard to the amount of funding or length of project.
4. More than one academic can be named within nominations, but the nomination has to make clear the contribution of each academic to the project.
5. A letter of support from industry must accompany the submission. Multiple letters of support can be submitted.
6. This prize is open to all staff currently employed at the University of Aberdeen and postgraduate research students currently registered at the University of Aberdeen.
7. Applications must demonstrate that the industry engagement has had a real effect on or benefit to the industry partner e.g. through the development of a new procedure, process or service.
8. Industry is defined broadly as any organisation with a mission to create economic or social impact. Note that public sector organisations are not eligible.
9. Industry engagement which has started or finished within the last 36 months (i.e. since November 2017) is eligible for submission.
10. Staff or students whose primary role within the University is industry engagement are not eligible to apply.

Summary of terms

1. Nominations must be made using the form provided.
2. The decision of the judging panel is final.
3. Winning entries may be used for case studies to promote industry engagement internally and externally. Case studies will be provided to the industry partners and confidential information will not be used in case studies.
4. References to REF scores are not permitted under the terms of our Institutional Code of Practice.