

The Royal Society Armourers & Brasiers' Company Prize (1984)

Terms of reference

The Royal Society Armourers & Brasiers' Company Prize is awarded biennially, in even years, for excellence in basic research in functional or structural materials where the research is clearly motivated by use of these materials. The award, established in 1984 by agreement with the Armourers & Brasiers' Company, consists of a silver gilt medal and a gift of £2,000.

Scheme (adopted by Council on 8 November 1984 and subsequently amended):

1. The Prize, to be awarded by the Council of the Royal Society, is for excellence in use-inspired basic research in structural or functional materials science and technology.
2. The Prize shall consist of a silver gilt medal and a personal prize of £2,000. The Prize is awarded at mid-career or at the culmination of a long and distinguished career. The Prize shall normally be made to one individual. The Prize is open to citizens of a Commonwealth country or of the Irish Republic, or those of any nationality who are ordinarily resident and working in a Commonwealth country or in the Irish Republic and have been for a minimum of three years immediately prior to being proposed.
3. Council shall be advised on suitable candidates for the Prize by a Committee appointed by Council.
4. Nominations for the Prize shall be invited from Fellows of the Society in the appropriate areas and from such other sources as the Committee may decide.
5. Committee members are not permitted to make nominations. If they made a nomination before being appointed to the committee, and that nomination was carried over, that can be allowed but they should not participate in discussion of the candidate concerned.
6. Committee members may not referee candidates, and if suggested then another referee should be sought. A committee member of course has a chance to speak highly (or otherwise) of any candidate at the meeting anyway, so obtaining another reference is important. If a committee member previously submitted a reference for a candidate when they were not on the committee, and that nomination was carried over, then this is allowed. Another independent referee could be sought if the committee requests this.
7. Committee members should declare any conflicts of interest before candidates are discussed. If a candidate is from the same institution, or is a close collaborator, or has been a close collaborator, the committee member should inform the committee before speaking about the candidate.
8. The nominations shall consist of:
 - (a) Full name and address of candidate.
 - (b) Academic and professional qualifications and appointment.
 - (c) An appropriate description of 500 words of the candidate's achievements in relation to the purpose of the Award supported by any published or other relevant evidence.
 - (d) The names of at least two referees from whom further supporting statements could be sought.
 - (e) Name of proposer.

9. A candidate's work and evidence should be of international standing, and should demonstrate originality and breadth of impact in use-inspired basic research on functional or structural materials.

10. The Prize shall be presented at the Society's Anniversary Meeting.

11. The Prize may not be given to any person who is a member of the Council at the time when the Council decides who shall be the recipient.

12. The Prize may not be given to any person who is a member of the Committee at the time when the Committee decides who shall be the recipient.

SMK/CL/30 September 2011