



The
Geological
Society

Setting the standards for the earth sciences

**AWARDS, MEDALS
&
FUNDS**

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON AWARDS, MEDALS AND FUNDS

This booklet offers information about each of The Geological Society of London's Awards, Medals and Funds.

To nominate someone, fill in the nomination e-form which can be found on our website (see link below). Please refer to the nomination guidance and return completed forms to the Society's Awards Secretary at awards@geolsoc.org.uk. All forms are treated as confidential by the Awards Committee and Council.

We also offer research grants and travel bursaries, details of which can be found on our website at www.geolsoc.org.uk/About/Awards-Grants-and-Bursaries.

Booklet contents:

- Summary of Awards, Medals and Funds
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- Additional Guidance for Non-Academic Candidates

This is a competitive process and to avoid potential disappointment please do not inform the nominee that they are being nominated for a Society award.

The Awards are conferred at a ceremony held at Burlington House generally on the same day as the Society's Annual General Meeting.

SUMMARY OF AWARDS, MEDALS AND FUNDS

COKE MEDALS

ALL CAREER

significant service to geology

R.H. WORTH AWARD

outreach, public engagement and/or education

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

significant contribution to the geoscience community

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

significant early career promise & future leader potential

EARLY CAREER

WOLLASTON

MURCHISON

FUNDS

LYELL

excellent or noteworthy published research

WILLIAM SMITH

applied and economic geoscience

ABERCONWAY

MID-CAREER

distinction in geological practice (industry)

BIGSBY

eminent services to geology

PRESTWICH

the advancement of the science of geology

SUE TYLER FRIEDMAN

recording of the history of geology

WILLIAM SMITH

excellence in applied and economic geoscience

MURCHISON

significant contributions to hard rock studies

LYELL

significant contributions to soft rock studies

DEWEY

significant contributions through fieldwork

WOLLASTON

significant influence via a substantial body of excellent research

CAREER ACHIEVEMENT

CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

THE WOLLASTON MEDAL

The highest award of the Geological Society. This medal is awarded to geologists who have *significant influence*, through **a substantial body of excellent research** in 'pure' and/or 'applied' aspects of the science.



THE LYELL MEDAL

Awarded to an individual who has made a *significant contribution* to the science by means of **a substantial body of research**. Those working in both 'pure' and 'applied' aspects of the geological sciences are eligible. The Lyell Medal is normally given for contributions to **soft rock** studies e.g. '*sedimentary rocks, processes and systems*'.



THE MURCHISON MEDAL

Awarded to an individual who has made a *significant contribution* to the science by means of **a substantial body of research**. Those working in both 'pure' and 'applied' aspects of the geological sciences are eligible. The Murchison Medal is normally given for contributions to **hard rock** studies e.g. '*metamorphic and igneous rocks, processes and systems*'.



CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

THE WILLIAM SMITH MEDAL



For *excellence* in contributions to ***applied and economic aspects of geoscience***. Candidates will have made *significant contributions* to the application of geoscience. Other criteria may be used to support the nomination, should confidentiality be an issue. (Please see non-academic nomination guidance).

THE PRESTWICH MEDAL



This medal is awarded every three years for a *significant contribution* to the ***advancement of the science of geology***.

THE SUE TYLER FRIEDMAN MEDAL



Awarded for the recording of the ***history of geology***. The Medal, which can be awarded to *those without a geological background, of any nationality, and to non-Fellows of the Society*, is awarded at intervals determined by Council.

CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

THE DEWEY MEDAL

This Medal is awarded for *substantial and significant contributions* to geology through **sustained field mapping** and/or **field observation of rocks**, and for a strong record of training, leading and encouraging others to practise and pursue advances in geology by these means.



MID-CAREER AWARDS



THE BIGSBY MEDAL

Awarded biennially as an acknowledgement of *eminent services* in **any geological specialism**. Candidates must not have exceeded 25 years* of a research career.



THE ABERCONWAY MEDAL

Awarded biennially as an acknowledgement of *distinction in the practice of geology* with special reference to **work in industry**. Candidates must not have exceeded 25 years* of a research career.

*Full-time equivalent

EARLY-CAREER AWARDS

THE WOLLASTON, LYELL, MURCHISON AND WILLIAM SMITH FUNDS

Awarded to early career geoscientists who have made *excellent contributions* to geoscience research and its application, in the UK and internationally. Recipients must be within ten years of the award of their first degree in geoscience or a cognate subject.

The Wollaston, Lyell and Murchison Funds are awarded to contributors to the Earth Sciences based on ***noteworthy published research***. The William Smith Fund is awarded for excellence in contributions to ***applied and economic aspects*** of geoscience.

The Funds are each accompanied by the award of £500.

THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Up to two President's Awards are conferred annually upon early career geoscientists who are within eight years of the award of their first degree in geoscience or a cognate subject, who show *significant early promise* and are judged to have potential to be *future leaders in their fields*.

Awards are made annually at the discretion of the incumbent President.

The President's Awards have a value of £250 each.

SERVICE AND/OR OUTREACH AWARDS

THE COKE MEDALS

The two Coke Medals are named after Major John Sacheverell A'Deane Coke and Major Edward D'Ewes Fitzgerald Coke.

They are awarded to scientists for their *contributions to geology*, but recognition can also be given for *significant service to geology*, for example through administrative, organisational or promotional activities **resulting in benefits to the community**.

The award can be extended to scientists whose training and interests are outside the main fields of Geology, whose contributions are of great significance to our science.



THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

This award is made annually to an individual/s who has made a *significant contribution* to geoscience and the geoscience community by virtue of their **professional, administrative, organisational or promotional activities**.



THE R.H. WORTH AWARD

Awarded in recognition of achievements in **outreach, public engagement and/or education** of an individual or an institution.



NOMINATION GUIDANCE

ELIGIBILITY

- You **do not** have to be a Fellow of the Geological Society of London to be nominated for our prizes and awards, but you **do** have to be a Fellow to submit a nomination.
- In addition, some awards have eligibility restrictions. Please check the criteria carefully for the award you wish to make a nomination for.
- Nominees may be of any nationality and/or geographical location.
- There is no cost associated with the nomination process.

CAREER STAGE CRITERIA

- It is recognised that the work of the nominees may not be widely known in the case of the William Smith Medal and the Aberconway Medal, so an exception can be made that **the proposer should be from a different institution** but **the seconder can be from the same institution** as the nominee.
- In the case of nominations for the Lyell, Murchison, William Smith and Wollaston Funds where it is also recognised that the work of the nominees may not be widely known, **the proposer may be at the same institution** but **the seconder must be from a different institution**.
- Fund nominees should ideally be within ten years (full time equivalent) of the award their first degree in geoscience or a cognate subject. If the person nominated appears not to meet this requirement, please explain on the nomination form in the space "Date of award of first degree or commencement of research career whichever is the later". Career breaks due to maternity/paternity leave are taken into account. Additional allowance may be made for other known career breaks.

NOMINATION GUIDANCE

SUBMITTING A NOMINATION

- Fill in the nomination e-form available at www.geolsoc.org.uk/About/Awards-Grants-and-Bursaries and return electronically to awards@geolsoc.org.uk.
 - A proposer and a seconder is required for each nomination. See note below regarding Specialist Group nominations.
 - Proposers are encouraged to submit statements that directly address how the nominee fits the remit of the Medal or Award they are being put forward for.
 - **The proposer must be a Fellow** and it is preferable, although **not essential**, for the seconder also to be a Fellow.
 - The proposer and seconder must not be from the same institution as the nominee. (See the career stage criteria on page 10 for some exceptions.)
- Note:** For nominations by Specialist Groups, the proposer is the Specialist Group so the details of its President/Chair should be provided

GENERAL INFORMATION

- All sections of the nomination e-form must be completed including the brief statement of **no more than 100 words** stating why the nominee merits a Society Award. This section is character limited.
- The e-form sections must not exceed character limits set. Attachments will not be considered.
- E-forms must be submitted electronically.
- The e-form must include proposer/seconder names, be dated and contact emails provided. For nominations from a Specialist Group, the proposer and seconder can be the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer or similar.

NOMINATION GUIDANCE

- An e-form for the President's Award is located at www.geolsoc.org.uk/awards. Please submit with CV where indicated in the e-form. For queries: awards@geolsoc.org.uk.

- **For those wishing to nominate an individual from industry or government.** Please see the separate guidance notes on 'Additional Guidance for Non-Academic Candidates'.
Note: Nominations are treated as confidential.

- **Nominations put forward by Specialist Groups** only require the name and email details of the Chair/President of the Specialist Group. This nomination must include the name of the Specialist Group on whose behalf the nomination is made.

- *The Awards Committee relies on the proposers to check the accuracy of the supporting information. By naming, dating and providing emails on the nomination form, the proposers are confirming that, to the best of their knowledge, the details given in support of a nomination for an award are accurate.*

This is a competitive process and to avoid potential disappointment please do not inform the nominee that they are being nominated for a Society award.

The Awards generally are conferred at a ceremony held at Burlington House usually on the same day as the Society's Annual General Meeting.

NOMINATION GUIDANCE

To nominate a candidate - complete the nomination e-forms available on our website at www.geolsoc.org.uk/Awards

The e-forms are character limited and any attachments will not be considered. Queries should be addressed to Awards Secretary at awards@geolsoc.org.uk.

← → ↻ 🏠 geolsoc.org.uk/awards

🌐 Geological Society... 🌐 Epicentre 🌐 Council Intranet - H...

Society awards

Nominations for Society Awards 2024

NOW OPEN

Nominations for our **2024 Society Awards** are now open. Guidance on how to nominate, along with full details of each award and medal can be found on our [Awards Medals and Funds Brochure](#).

Nominations forms are found below. These are online forms and you can save and resume at any time.

[Society Awards \(inc. Early Career Funds\) nomination form](#)

[President's awards nomination form](#)

We are committed to supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility (EDIA) across the Society, and this includes our awards programme.

Please refer to our [Privacy Policy](#) which explains how, why and when we process your personal data and how it is protected.

If you have any queries,



Please refer to the guidance notes before completing the nomination form. All relevant information must be completed.

Name of Award *

Details of person nominated

Name *

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Please contact our Awards Secretary with any queries, or visit the Society's webpages for more information.

NON-ACADEMIC NOMINATION GUIDANCE

Please use these additional guidance notes to help you nominate a non-academic candidate for one of our Awards. Note: the information in the nomination form will be treated as confidential.

EVIDENCE OF IMPACT

Evidence, either through career progression or tangible legacy, that the nominee has been and remains technically engaged in the use and development of the Earth Sciences and the building of capability. For example, by creating value individually or through teams.

Specific examples could be:

- In extractive industry: evidence of business success measured in the areas of business development, exploration, production and sustainability.
- In engineering or hydro-geology, business success measured through association with major or innovative projects with sustainable benefit.
- In the public sector (e.g. Environment Agency, British Geological Survey), success measured in the areas of public impact and scientific legacy

EVIDENCE OF PERSONAL LEADERSHIP

- Progression of a geological career including evidence of personal and scientific leadership, relationship building, team building, innovation, people coaching and development, leading and implementing organisational change,

NON-ACADEMIC NOMINATION GUIDANCE

EVIDENCE OF SERVICE TO INTERNATIONAL & NATIONAL GEOSCIENCE COMMUNITY

- Service to professional bodies, e.g. Societies, Conferences, National Peer Review Bodies, Boards and Advisory Groups, lecture tours,
- Publication legacy of international peer reviewed papers.
- Support of outreach to educate and engage new generations of Geoscientists.

EVIDENCE OF PERSONAL VALUES

These values are equally applicable to all candidates, including those of academic background.

- Ethics in work and personal life in line with the Nolan Principles .
- Championing diversity, inclusion, and people development.
- Conscious of sustainability and impact.
- Service to community and society.



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Please email awards@geolsoc.org.uk for more information.

YOUR GUIDE TO THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON'S AWARDS, MEDALS AND FUNDS

The Geological Society of London has been conferring awards since 1831, when its highest award, the Wollaston Medal, was first awarded to William Smith.

For more information please contact:

Awards Secretary
The Geological Society
Burlington House
Piccadilly
London
W1J 0BG

Tel +44 (0)207 434 9944

Email awards@geolsoc.org.uk

Web www.geolsoc.org.uk/About/Awards-Grants-and-Bursaries



The
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serving science, profession & society

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