



## The Furness Prize for Science Communication

### Overview

This prize was created to:

- cultivate awareness amongst pathology trainees about the importance of public engagement and to
- reward and recognise trainees who have undertaken sustained high-quality science communication activities.

One award will be made each year to a single trainee who has shown excellence in their science communication activities and is judged by the Panel to meet the selection criteria.

The award is generously funded by Professor Peter Furness, President of The Royal College of Pathologists.

### Nomination process and timescale

There are two methods of nomination:

- candidates may nominate themselves;
- candidates may be nominated by a colleague who is familiar with their work (but the candidate must give their explicit consent for nomination).

Submission of a nomination will be assumed to indicate consent that informal inquiries can be made to confirm the accuracy of any claims made in the nomination.

Nominations should be made by email. All nominations should consist of a single application containing the reasons why the candidate should receive the prize (maximum 750 words), two references, and a short CV.

Nominations will be confirmed by email.

A nomination is valid for that year's award only. Unsuccessful candidates are welcome to apply or be nominated again. Previous winners may not be nominated again.

The closing date for receipt of fully completed nominations is 22 November 2009.

We shall inform the winner and other candidates by the end of January 2010.

### The Selection Criteria

The decision shall be made by a selection committee composed of the President, the Registrar, Chairman of the Lay Advisory Committee (LAC) and a member of College staff involved in public communications work, identified by the President. The President and Registrar may delegate their positions to other members of Council if they wish.

Selection by the committee will be based on evidence of a sustained commitment to high quality public engagement activities.

### Guidance

We are looking for someone who has taken part in science communication over a period of time, explaining the importance of pathology (including pathology research) to good healthcare. Involvement in a single event will not usually be sufficient to qualify. This person may have developed resources for teachers and students, run an outreach session, produced a high quality public dialogue event, worked with other organisations such as museums or science centres, evaluated their activities and encouraged colleagues to take part in science communication



activities. An evidence-based evaluation of the effectiveness of the event(s) will usually be expected.

### **Eligibility of the Candidate**

The prize is open to all pathology trainees in the UK. Trainees must be in a training post on the closing date but it is recognised that some applicants may no longer be in training by the time the prize is awarded.

### **The Prize**

The prize consists of a gift of £200 payable directly to the Prize Winner, and a certificate.

### **Obligations of the Prize Winner and Conditions of Award**

The Prize Winner will be required to attend a presentation as part of an appropriate College meeting at 2 Carlton House Terrace. Reasonable travel and accommodation costs for the recipient to attend the presentation will be payable by the College.

The Prize Winner will be required to cooperate in producing a publicity photograph for our use in connection with publicising the Award and is expected to contribute to an article in the public engagement section of the College *Bulletin* about their work.

The Prize Winner must notify the College of any change in their status or location.