



The Vice-Chancellor's Innovation Awards 2018 Guidance Notes

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Introduction

The Vice-Chancellor's Innovation Awards seek to recognise and celebrate high-quality research-led innovation at all levels. Research-led innovation may take many forms, including:

- the creation of new products or models;
- entrepreneurial activity;
- social enterprise;
- influencing policy;
- or cultural engagement.

Each form of research-led innovation shares a commitment to creative and lateral ways of thinking, connecting, problem-solving, and demonstrating real-world application of knowledge.

These awards will celebrate innovative activities and products that are related to research; they do not encompass innovations which are disconnected from the applicant's research or innovations which have their impact solely in teaching. Further information about the University of Oxford's strategy for supporting innovation can be found at:

<http://bit.ly/OxfordUniInnovationStrategy>



The Awards will be overseen by Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation), Professor Ian Walmsley.

The winning and highly commended entries for each of the award categories will receive recognition at the Vice-Chancellor's Innovation Awards Ceremony on Thursday 12 July 2018, 5 pm, at Pembroke College.

Winners will get the opportunity to have a short video made about their innovation project, and one overall winner, who will be announced at the ceremony, will receive a prize of £2,000.

Award Categories

- **Team Work:** celebrating the strong collaborative work of a group of individuals who, together, have accomplished high-quality research-led innovation.
- **Building Capacity:** celebrating Oxford University and college staff who have – individually or in teams – encouraged, facilitated and/ or supported a specific instance of high-quality research-led innovation.
- **Inspiring Leader:** celebrating the achievements of an individual who has accomplished high-quality research-led innovation and, in doing so, has inspired others to do the same.
- **Early Career:** celebrating individuals in the early stages of their research career, as defined as those who have held a post that includes responsibility for developing their own research agenda for less than five years. (This condition will be relaxed proportionately for applicants who have had a career break or who work part-time)

Selection Criteria

The judging panel comprises academics from each of the four Divisions and professional services staff who support impact and innovation across the collegiate University of Oxford. From the entries, the panel will identify the activities and products of the highest quality using the following criteria:



- **Significance** – How transformational has your activity/product been to date? What positive changes has it made?
- **Impact** – How wide-reaching is the influence/effect of your activity/product on its beneficiaries?
- **Distinctiveness** – What makes your activity/product stand out? What is unusual about it?
- **Academic benefit** – How has the project benefited research and/or your department, faculty, division, or the University more broadly?
- **Legacy** – What is the legacy/projected legacy of your activity/product? How sustainable is it?
- **Links to research** – How clear is the link back to research? In what ways is the underlying research, and/or skills/expertise gained through research, integral to the innovative activity/product?

Eligibility

The Vice-Chancellor's Innovation Awards competition is open to current employees of the University of Oxford, or one of its colleges, who will be in post on 31 July 2018.

With the exception of the 'Early Career' award category, the awards are open to Oxford staff at any career stage. The Early Career category is a 'floating' category: applicants need not apply for this award separately as submissions to the other categories, which fit the criteria, will be automatically considered by the panel.

Key Dates

27 April 2018 - IRAMS application portal opens

29 May 2018 - closing date for entries (2 pm)

29 May 2018 - entries sent for review

Early June 2018 - Judging Panel make their decisions

Early-Mid June 2018 - shortlisted applicants informed; winners invited to have videos made

12 July 2018 - Vice-Chancellor's Innovation Awards Ceremony; winning and highly commended entrants will receive certificates, and the overall winner will receive £2000



How to Enter

Entrants may self-nominate or be nominated by someone else. The application process is the same in either case.

1. Ensure that you have read through the application guidance above.
2. Download the Entry Form from: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/research/innovation-awards>
3. Apply via IRAMS: <https://irams.ox.ac.uk> (application portal opens Friday 27 April)
 - Once you click on the link for 'The Vice-Chancellor's Innovation Awards', you will come to this screen:

- In the 'Project Title' tab, please enter the name of your innovation product or activity. In the 'Lead Department' tab, please scroll through the list and choose the University department, faculty, or division that you (or the person you're applying on behalf of) are primarily affiliated with. If you are a college-only employee, you will need to select 'other' in the 'Lead Department' tab and choose your college from the list in the 'Sub-unit' tab. You do not need to worry too much about the 'Start date' and 'End Date' tabs; if you have specific dates for your activity or product please add them in but, if you do not, just input today's date in both tabs. Please read the eligibility criteria in these guidance notes then tick the 'Eligibility' box. Please tick 'no' in response to 'Does the project require ethical review?'.
- On the 'Investigators' screen, please add in details for anyone else who has been involved in your innovation activity or project.
- On the 'Form Editors' tab, please add in details for anyone you would like to be able to edit the form.
- Finally, please upload your completed entry form via the 'Case for Support' screen.



Contact Us

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