

## Vice Chancellor's Impact Awards 2017

### Guide for Applicants 2017

The awards have been established to recognise and reward those whose research has led to excellent impact. Awards will initially be judged by School, with one prize of £1,000 being awarded to the best impact in each School. The overall best impact award will be awarded to the best of these School winners, and given an additional £1,000 prize.

The deadline for nominations is **5pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017**.

All applicants will be invited to attend the award ceremony and reception on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July at 3pm in the Old Schools Combination Room.

### Scope

For the purpose of the Awards, the broad field of 'impact' is understood as:

***An effect on, change or benefit to the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia.***

Impact includes, but is not limited to, an effect on, change or benefit to:

- the activity, attitude, awareness, behaviour, capacity, opportunity, performance, policy, practice, process or understanding
- of an audience, beneficiary, community, constituency, organisation or individuals
- in any geographic location whether locally, regionally, nationally or internationally

Impact includes the reduction or prevention of harm, risk, cost or other negative effects.

Impact on research or the advancement of academic knowledge within the higher education sector (whether in the UK or internationally) is excluded. Major impacts on curricula and teaching pedagogy which extend significantly beyond the University of Cambridge are included.

### Eligibility

1. The underlying research must have been undertaken by at least one researcher (post-doctoral researcher or academic) **employed by the University of Cambridge at the time research was conducted**. Postgraduate students are not eligible to apply; research conducted jointly by research staff and postgraduate students is eligible, but the research staff must be the named nominee(s).
2. The **impact must have occurred no earlier than 1st August 2013**, the day after the REF 2014 impact period ended. Impact case studies submitted to REF 2014 are eligible as the basis for Awards, but only if there has been further impact; impact case studies submitted verbatim from REF 2014 will not be eligible.
3. At least five entries must be received from a School, otherwise no winner will be declared from that School.
4. Impact cases nominated for the 2016 Vice-Chancellor's Impact Awards are eligible, but must be updated to reflect new developments. Impact nominations submitted verbatim from the 2016 Impact Awards will not be eligible.

## Process

1. As part of the process, you will have the opportunity to learn how to add an impact case to the University's Impact Repository. Speak to your Department Administrator who will either give you access to the Repository or upload the nomination on your behalf. After the Impact Awards, you may wish to update and expand the nomination in the Repository, adding more information as and when new impact occurs, so that the nomination can potentially become a REF 2021 impact case study. Questions about the process can be sent to [impact@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:impact@admin.cam.ac.uk).

## Assessment

The award is intended to recognise a strong commitment to the creation of impact underpinned by research undertaken at the University of Cambridge. We expect to recognise researcher staff at all levels of seniority. The judging panel will look at both the reach and significance of impact, recognising that significant and meaningful impact may be evidenced among smaller groups of people where this is the target audience, as well as projects with broader reach.

The judging panel will be looking for:

- A clear relationship between the impact and the underpinning research
- The benefits of the impact, which should be clear and evidence-based.

## Nomination and award process

1. Those eligible for awards may self-nominate or can be nominated by someone else.
2. Nomination must be made by email to [impact@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:impact@admin.cam.ac.uk) by no later than **5pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017**. The nomination form is available on RSO website.
3. The winner will be invited to collect their award from the Vice-Chancellor at an event on 13 July 2017.
4. The winner may be asked to contribute to University websites and other materials in respect of their award.
5. Unsuccessful candidates may be nominated for the Awards in subsequent years, subject to their meeting other relevant eligibility criteria.

## Resources

The following resources might assist you in writing your nomination.

The Research Strategy Office website including lessons learned from REF 2014:

<http://www.research-strategy.admin.cam.ac.uk/research-excellence-framework>.

For further information or guidance, please contact Stephanie Swain, University REF and Impact Officer: [impact@admin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:impact@admin.cam.ac.uk), 01223 7 64987.