

 The Geological Society	The Geological Society of London REGULATIONS	Number : R/G/14 Issue : 7 Date : 25/11/15 Page : 1 of 3
	AWARD OF SOCIETY MEDALS AND FUNDS	Approval Authority COUNCIL

1 OBJECTIVE

To define the process for the nomination and award of the Society's Medals and Funds.

2 SCOPE

This Regulation covers the procedures for the nomination and consideration of proposals for the award of the Society's Medals and Funds.

3 RELATED REGULATIONS

Reference should be made to the following related Regulations

Regulation R/G/7: Standing Committees of Council

4 PROCEDURES

- 4.1 Fellows may propose nominations for the Society's Medals and Funds. Such nominations will be considered by the Awards Committee (Regulation R/G/7).
- 4.2 The proposer must be a Fellow and although it is preferable for the seconder also to be a Fellow the most important criterion, in order to keep the standard of nominations at the highest level, is for the proposer and the seconder to have sufficient knowledge of the candidate and their work to recommend them for a Society award.
- 4.3 The proposer and seconder must not be from the same institution as the nominee with the exception of nominations for the Lyell, Murchison, William Smith and Wollaston Funds where it is 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.
- 4.4 Council will conduct a ballot to decide which candidates should receive the appropriate Medal or Fund. In the event of a tied vote, the President shall have the casting vote.
- 4.5 This Regulation does not apply to the President's Awards, which are determined solely by the President.
- 4.6 The awards will be conferred at a ceremony held at the same venue and on the same day as the Annual General Meeting.

CRITERIA FOR SOCIETY AWARDS

The Fellows, Awards Committee and Council shall in nominating and selecting recipients of Society Awards be guided by the original terms of awards and shall take due regard of current statute regarding award. Any reference to the male or female gender shall be deemed to include both male and female genders.

MEDALS

Wollaston Medal

This is the highest award of the Geological Society. This Medal is normally given to geologists who have had a significant influence by means of a substantial body of excellent research in either or both 'pure' and 'applied' aspects of the science.

Lyell, Murchison and William Smith Medals

These three Medals are of equal status. The Society regards them very highly and they are not normally awarded on the basis of a few good papers or achievements. In the past, Council has often looked for strength in breadth and depth of contributions before awarding these Medals.

The **Lyell** and **Murchison Medals** are normally given to people who have made a significant contribution to the science by means of a substantial body of research. Workers in both 'pure' and 'applied' aspects of the geological sciences are eligible. The Lyell Medal is normally given for contributions to 'soft' rock studies and the Murchison for 'hard' rock studies.

The **William Smith Medal** was first awarded in 1977. It is awarded for excellence in contributions to applied and economic aspects of geoscience. Candidates must have initiated significant contributions, which will normally take the form of published papers and verifiable achievements in the application of geoscience, although in view of the confidential nature of the work in the case of some candidates, other criteria may be used as the basis of the award.

Major John Sacheverell A'Deane Coke and Major Edward D'Ewes Fitzgerald Coke Medals

The Awards will be made to Scientists for their contributions to Geology as is the case with the Lyell and Murchison Medals, but in addition recognition may be given to significant service to Geology, for example through administrative, organisational or promotional activities resulting in benefits to the community.

Also the field may be extended to include Scientists whose training and interests are outside the main fields of Geology, but whose contributions are of great significance to our science.

Prestwich Medal

This Medal is awarded every three years to persons 'who shall have done well for the advancement of the science of geology'.

Bigsby Medal

Founded by John Jeremiah Bigsby (1792-1881), and to be awarded biennially 'as an acknowledgement of eminent services in any department of Geology, irrespective of the receivers' country; but (s)he must have done no more than 25 years full time equivalent research, thus probably not too old for further work, and not too young to have done much'.

Sue Tyler Friedman Medal

Established in 1987 by the gift of the Northeastern Science Foundation (Inc) of Troy, New York, for distinguished contributions to the recording of the history of geology. The Medal, which is not confined to those with a geological background or to Fellows of the Society, will normally be awarded annually or at such other intervals as Council may determine, on a world-wide basis without regard to nationality considerations.

Aberconway Medal

Established in 1992 by a donation from English China Clays Ltd, the Medal will be awarded normally to persons with no more than 25 years full time equivalent experience and to recognise distinction in the practice of geology with special reference to work in industry. Awards of the medal are made biennially.

FUNDS

R H Worth Prize

The R H Worth Prize is awarded in recognition of meritorious geological research carried out by amateur geologists, or for the encouragement of geological research by amateurs

Wollaston Fund, the Murchison Fund and the Lyell Fund

These are awarded to contributors to the Earth Sciences on the basis of noteworthy published research. Recipients must be within ten years (full time equivalent) of the award of their first degree in geoscience or a cognate subject.

William Smith Fund

This is awarded for excellence in contributions to applied and economic aspects of geoscience. Recipients must be within ten years (full time equivalent) of the award of their first degree in geoscience or a cognate subject.

Distinguished Service Award

Made annually to an individual who has made a significant contribution to geoscience and the geoscience community by virtue of their professional, administrative, organisational or promotional activities.

President's Award

The President's Awards, instituted in 1980 by Professor Perce Allen, are conferred upon geoscientists who are within ten years of their first degree in geoscience or a cognate subject and who have made a notable early contribution to the science.