Heriot-Watt University Principal’s Public Engagement Prize 2018

“Public engagement describes the myriad of ways in which the activity and benefits of higher education and research can be shared with the public. Engagement is by definition a two-way process, involving interaction and listening, with the goal of generating mutual benefit.” - National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement (NCCPE)

The public are defined as “including individuals and groups who do not have any formal relationship with an HEI through teaching, research or knowledge transfer”.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Applications can be submitted by the nominee or by a third party.
2. Eligible candidates must be currently affiliated with Heriot-Watt University
3. Applications must demonstrate a substantive research-led approach to the public engagement undertaken. Examples may include:-
   • Engaging publics about research (e.g. talks, workshops, broadcasting and media).
   • Supporting communities (e.g. working with pupils and teachers, community groups, engaging with policymakers).
   • Inspiring the next generation.
   • Addressing societal concerns.
   • Fostering collaborative or partnership approaches.
4. Supporting evidence must demonstrate significant contributions within the past 24 months
5. Applications should demonstrate there was an impact of your public engagement on the audience and you have employed mechanisms to assess the impact
6. Applications should show that you match your target audience with the most appropriate activities, and demonstrate that the audience have experienced an enjoyable and high quality activity.
7. Staff and students whose primary role is around public engagement and members of the Public Engagement Taskforce at Heriot-Watt University are ineligible for this prize.

Terms

1. The Principal’s Prize for Public Engagement with Research is an annual award to reflect outstanding achievement in the field of research and researcher-led public engagement.
2. Nominations must be made using the form provided (Word and PDF versions available) at www.hw.ac.uk/ppep
3. Nominations for the 2018 prize must be received by 5pm on Monday 11 November 2018
4. Nominations should be submitted by email to hwengage@hw.ac.uk indicating ‘Principal’s Prize’ in the subject field.
5. The decision of the judging panel is final.
6. Shortlisted applicants will be informed by 30 November
7. Prizes will be awarded at a ceremony at Heriot-Watt University on 11 December 2018
8. The funds provided for public engagement activity/development are intended for use by the recipient, on direct costs of activities. The funds may not be used to pay for external speakers.
9. Winners may be asked to contribute to University websites or other materials in respect of their prize or public engagement activity.
Future activities

The questions the judging panel will use to assess your proposed public engagement activities are listed below:

1. Are the outcomes and anticipated impact of the activities clearly defined?
2. Are the activities well planned, with consideration given to audience size, demographics and aims of the engagement?
3. How will past experiences be used to ensure the planned activities are successful?
4. To what extent will the activities encourage others to get involved in public engagement?
5. To what extent will the activities depend on the award?
6. Are the benefits to the researcher &/or University of the proposed activity clearly identified?

Completed application forms should be sent to: HWEngage@hw.ac.uk by 5pm, 12 November 2018