



Royal
Irish
Academy
Gold
Medals
2020

Acclaiming Ireland's
foremost contributors
to the world of learning



Royal Irish Academy Gold Medal in the Life Sciences

In 2020, the Royal Irish Academy will award the Academy Gold Medal in the Life Sciences to an individual who has made a demonstrable and internationally recognised outstanding scholarly contribution to the Life Sciences (Agriculture, Biology, Biochemistry, Hydrobiology, Pharmacology, Nutritional Sciences, Veterinary Sciences and other cognate or related areas).

Eligibility

- Eligibility for candidature is restricted to persons who are usually resident in Ireland.
- Candidates are currently making a distinguished, demonstrable and internationally recognised scholarly contribution to the Life Sciences. The work underpinning this will have been undertaken while candidates have been working in Ireland.
- Candidates are expected to be research active at the time of nomination.

Nomination procedure

A nomination must be made using the online Academy Gold Medal Award Nomination Form, available from ria.ie

The closing date for the receipt of nominations is Wednesday, 1 July, at 5 p.m.

A proposer and a seconder are required, at least one of whom is a Member (or Honorary member) of the Academy, and/or a current member of one of the Academy Multi-disciplinary Committees, and/or the head of an institution designated under the HEA Act (1971).

The completed nomination form should contain a short (approx. half-page) citation for the candidate, prepared by the proposer and seconder, as indicated in the nomination form. This should be supplemented by:

- a supporting statement of not more than one A4 page outlining the candidate's scholarly achievements and contributions;
- a brief (no more than four pages) up-to-date CV; and
- a list (no more than twenty) of the candidate's most important publications to date, including evidence of current research, with an evaluation (no more than two pages) by the proposer and seconder of the five most ground-breaking publications.

Assessment procedure

The assessment of candidates is made by the Life Sciences Award Committee. The committee will consist of:

- the Academy Sciences Secretary (chair) and at least one other member of the Academy, nominated by the Senior Vice-President;
- up to three others nominated by the Senior Vice-President, having consulted with the Sciences Secretary; and
- one or more international external assessors, who will be invited to provide a report for the final assessment. The committee will consider the external assessors' reports when determining the final choice for the award.

The tasks of the committee are to select:

- a shortlist of candidates (this will normally be two to three, and only exceptionally more than this); and
- a list of appropriate international external assessors.

The Life Sciences Award Committee procedures will be subject to Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality processes.

The Academy Gold Medal in the Life Sciences will be awarded again in 2024.

