RESEARCH OUTPUT PRIZE (FOR EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS)

This note outlines the proposed arrangements for the RETF Research Output prize for 2018.

Eligibility

- The output should have been published between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2017 and relate to research undertaken at Reading, excepting cases where some underlying doctoral level research may have been undertaken elsewhere.
- The output must be recorded in CentAUR and, if a journal article, be compliant with the REF Open Access policy.
- The output should be considered worthy of a minimum of 3* rating in REF terms.
- The nominated author should be an Early Career Researcher, this being defined as normally within eight years of the award of a PhD.\(^1\)
- The nominated author should be the corresponding or lead author on the output. For outputs where this is not the case, it should be demonstrated that the nominated author is the primary/lead researcher.
- Each nominated paper should be accompanied by a short lay description of the research (150 word max), detailing why it is important and why it would be rated (in REF terms) as a 3* or 4* publication.

Process

- The competition will be coordinated through the research executive support team with internal communications and associated promotional support provided by Research Communication and Engagement.
- Individuals wishing their outputs to be considered for the prize should submit the following to the relevant Research Division Lead:
  - The output. This should be sent as a PDF (including monographs) or as a link to the accessible output.
  - A short lay description of the research and, where appropriate, the nature of the author’s contribution (150 words max)
  - A short statement detailing why the research is important and why it would be rated (in REF terms) as a 3* or 4* publication.

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\(^1\) The eight year duration excludes periods of career break, where the author has not had the opportunity to undertake research. In cases where the nominated author does not have a PhD or has been awarded a PhD later in their career, the criteria of within five years of their first academic appointment at a Higher Education Institution or research organisation may be used.
• The Research Division Lead will establish appropriate mechanisms for selection and lead the selection process of the best output. Research Division Leads will submit the output, together with an outline of the process undertaken for selection, to the relevant Research Dean via the Research Dean’s Office (researchdeansoffice@reading.ac.uk) by 5pm on 2 February 2018.

• Each Research Dean will determine a process to select a single winning output for endorsement by the University Research Committee, and ratification by the University Board for Research & Innovation at its meeting of 20 February 2018.

Prize
• There will be one prize for each Research Theme.
• Each prize will be of £1000.

Outcomes and Presentation
• As in previous years, the awards will be presented at the University Court on 19 March 2018.
• Marketing, Communication and Engagement will coordinate the internal communication of the prize outcomes and the presentation at Court.