doctoral Research for a better world competition 2024

**About the competition**

The Doctoral Research for a Better World award aims to recognise and reward doctoral research projects that are changing lives, enriching creativity, helping shape our understanding of the world and addressing local and global challenges. This award is open to doctoral researchers who undertake high-quality engagement activities during their doctoral studies, increasing the reach and influence of their work,

Shortlisted entries will be invited to present their research / engagement activity at the Doctoral Research Conference on 12 June 2024. The winner will be voted for by a judging panel of University of Reading staff. The winner will receive an award of £100. The winner of the People’s Choice Award voted for by conference delegates will receive £50.

**Eligibility – who can apply?**

Full-time University of Reading doctoral researchers, including professional doctorates (EngD, DBA, Ed.D and DAgriFood) in their second, third and final year and part-time University of Reading doctoral researchers in their third, fourth or fifth year.

**Key dat**

* Entry deadline = 22 March 2024
* Date of shortlisting = 16 April 2024
* Date by which shortlisted entrants will be notified = 19 April 2024
* Presentation to Doctoral and Researcher College Judging Panel = 29 April 2024
* Date by which shortlisted finalists will be notified = 7 May 2024
* Powerpoint presentation to be emailed to Doctoral and Researcher College = 5 June 2024
* Doctoral Research Conference = 12 June 2024
* Overall winner announced = 12 June 2024
* People’s choice award announced = 12 June 2024

**Competition guidelines and rules**

* Each student can submit only one entry, Entries can be submitted by individual researchers or in groups (of up to three doctoral researchers). Group entries may only be submitted with the consent of all members, with one named individual as the main contact for the entry. The prize amounts are the same whether the entry is submitted by an individual or a group.
* The application must result from research / engagement activities undertaken as part of current doctoral studies that have made a difference / resulted in change. The research / engagement activity must either be ongoing or have been completed within the last year.
* Students must have played a leading or substantial role in the research / engagement activity.
* The application must be accompanied by a short statement from the lead applicant’s supervisor outlining the contribution made to the research / engagement activity and the ways society has benefitted / will benefit from it.
* All entries will be considered by the Doctoral and Researcher College Selection Panel. Depending on numbers submitted , those shortlisted by the panel may be invited to attend a Doctoral and Researcher College Judging Panel on 29 April 2024 to present their application and answer questions. This must be attended in person.
* Shortlisted finalists must email their PowerPoint presentation to the Doctoral and Researcher College by 5 June 2024. Students must have obtained all necessary permissions for the inclusion of any copyright-protected works, including illustrations and/or images within their presentation and for presentation of these at the Doctoral Research Conference on 12 June 2024 and within Doctoral and Researcher College promotional activities.
* If the entry is shortlisted, then at least one person per application will be expected to attend the Doctoral Research Conference on 12 June 2024 in person and present the research / engagement activity.
* We reserve the right to disqualify entries that don’t comply with the competition requirements.
* Events may occur that render the competition (or certain aspects of the competition) impossible due to reasons beyond the control of the University. Accordingly, the University may at its absolute discretion change, suspend or cancel the competition (or elements of it) if circumstances beyond its control make it necessary to do so.

**Deadline for competition entry: 22 March 2024**

Research for a better world 2024

Entry Form

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Research title / engagement activity name |  |

**Lead applicant:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| First name |  |
| Surname |  |
| Student number |  |
| Registration status | On campus By distance |
| University email address |  |
| Supervisor |  |
| Department |  |
| School |  |
| Research Division |  |
| Please state what category your research / engagement activity is being entered for: | |
| Research for a better world | Within the local community  Nationally  Globally |
| Role in the research / engagement activity |  |

**If submitting as a group please provide details of the second group member:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| First name |  |
| Surname |  |
| Student number |  |
| Registration status | On campus By distance |
| University email address |  |
| Supervisor |  |
| Department |  |
| School |  |
| Role in the research / engagement activity |  |

**If submitting as a group please provide details of the third group member:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| First name |  |
| Surname |  |
| Student number |  |
| Registration status | On campus By distance |
| University email address |  |
| Supervisor |  |
| Department |  |
| School |  |
| Role in the research / engagement activity |  |

|  |
| --- |
| 1. Research activity description (up to 300 words)   You may wish to include:  (a) your aims and objectives  (b) an overview of the research / engagement activity  (c) what you learned / how successful the research / activity was (including how you measured success)  (e) any particularly innovative or creative aspects to your project leading to key findings / insights |
| 1. Start and end dates of the research / engagement activity |
| 1. Details of project partners   (a) Please list additional members of your team (this may include staff members) and their role in the project.  (b) Where appropriate please list external partner organisations that were integral to the development and delivery of the activity. |
| 1. Supplementary information   This might include links to images, media coverage or participant testimonials relating to your research / engagement activity. |
| 1. Please confirm that you can attend the judging panel in the Doctoral and Researcher College, Old Whiteknights House   29 April 2024 14.00-16.00 |

|  |
| --- |
| **Copyright & Liability**  The University will film the shortlisted entries and make these available online. By entering this competition you consent to the capture of your image in footage by the University. To the extent that such a recording captures a qualifying performance under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, you hereby authorise the University to reproduce, distribute and make available the recorded performance to the general public. You further agree to the use of your name, biographical information and photographs of you taken at the Doctoral Research Conference, for academic and/or marketing purposes.  You hereby grant to the University of Reading a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use and reproduce your talk for academic and/or marketing purposes (including in promotional materials), online and in all media as required, without further permission from, or compensation to, you. Credit will be given that identifies you as the author/performer of your talk.  The University of Reading shall not be liable in any way for the content of your talk PowerPoint slides. You represent and warrant to the University that (i) you are the creator and sole and exclusive owner of your talk, or otherwise have all right and authority to grant to the University the rights described herein; and (ii) nothing in your talk or slide infringes the intellectual property or personal data rights of any third party. |
| I have read the above statements about copyright and liability and accept and agree to them.  **Name (lead applicant):**  **Signature:**  **Date:** |
| **Supervisor’s name:**  **Supervisor’s signature:**  Please ensure you attach a supporting statement from your supervisor to:   1. Provide evidence of your academic record and to confirm that you are on track to complete 2. outline your contribution to the research / engagement activity 3. confirm that you can communicate your research / engagement activity, through an oral presentation, to a non-specialist audience. |
| Please send this form to [DoctoralandResearcherCollege@reading.ac.uk](mailto:DoctoralandResearcherCollege@reading.ac.uk)  Then send a hardcopy of the form signed by yourself and your supervisor (along with the supporting statement) to Doctoral and Researcher College, Old Whiteknights House, Whiteknights, University of Reading, PO BOX 217, RG6 6AH  **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: 22 March 2024** |

Please note if shortlisted, students will be required to be photographed, filmed and/or recorded, for the purposes of participating in the production of University photography, video or audio work.

Any personal data supplied on this form will be used to administer your competition entry and contact winners. Further information can be found in the University’s privacy policy. Shortlisted entrants and winners will be identified at the UoR Doctoral Research Conference and in Doctoral and Researcher College publications, including online.