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|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1) Award Overview     | 6) ACG Judging Panel |
| 2) Award Criteria     | 7) Award Prize       |
| 3) Award Eligibility  | 8) Previous Winners  |
| 4) Nomination Timings |                      |
| 5) How to Nominate    | 9) Appendix          |

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### **Award Held in Even Years for Individuals**

#### **1) Award Overview**

The Applied Catalysis Award is held every two years, for individuals who have contributed significantly in the field of applied catalysis, and is not limited to one field in catalysis. Applications are welcomed from all fields including but not limited to homogeneous, heterogeneous, bio, pharma, photo and process catalysis in an applied context.

This document provides an overview of the processes the ACG intend to use to ensure the award reputation is retained.

The Applied Catalysis Group is one of the RSC Interest Groups and exists to bring together and cover the interests of all members who have a professional interest in applied catalysis.

Their Aims:

- To promote heterogeneous, homogeneous & enzymatic catalysis in a wide range of applications which benefit society: energy, petrochemicals, industrial intermediates, pharmaceuticals, fine chemicals, consumer products & environmental protection.
- To share "best practices" for applied catalysis in academic & industrial settings.
- To promote interaction between industry & academia through specialist conferences, training & networking events.

For more information on the Applied Catalysis Group and its activities, please visit the webpage, LinkedIn, Twitter or Facebook pages for more information.

**We are looking for nominations for the ACG Applied Catalysis Award 2024 from our wider catalysis community. The Nominations window opens on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023...**

## 2) Award Criteria

The award aims to recognise the impact of significant contributions to the field of applied catalysis typically where research and development has potential or actual commercial application. This may include industrial or academic contributions that are applicable to processes of commercial interest. There is a 1000-word limit for the nomination statement. The award is not limited to senior researchers on the basis of their whole distinguished career, and the committee welcome nominations from mid/early career researchers where the criteria are met.

**This award is for individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the field of applied catalysis.**

Criteria for Nomination Statement include:

Criteria	Guidance and Interpretation
a) <b>Significance</b> of the work in applied catalysis	A brief summary of the work and how it furthers the knowledge and scientific understanding in the application of catalysis.
b) <b>Originality</b> of the work	How does this work fundamentally change the current state of the technology or deliver transformative aspects to a process
c) <b>The 'applied' nature</b> of work	A summary of how this work is 'applied' and examples of its potential or existing application. The applied nature of this award is a key aspect, and nominees should ensure they provide clear evidence for the application of the work.
d) <b>Publications including patents</b> , articles, and press releases, where the research has been applied	The judges do not require a full list of all publications, nominations should focus on the key publications that support the nomination. This includes patents where a catalysis development has been protected and/or used in an applied process
e) <b>Sustainable or Green</b> credentials	Any examples where this supports sustainable or improved environmental impacts as a result of the work. For clarity, this should focus on the nominee's contribution rather than the technology/process.
f) <b>Overall contribution</b> to Catalysis	For this award, individuals & nominators are asked to submit a short section describing how their nominee has contributed more broadly to the scientific and/or applied catalysis community.

## 3) Award Eligibility

The award is for individuals where a contribution has led to innovations and improvements in the field of applied catalysis. Eligibility for the award is NOT restricted by location or RSC/ACG membership, and nominations are welcomed from UK or international scientists with/without RSC membership.

The ACG reserve the right not to make the award if there are no nominations that satisfactorily meet the criteria and standard

#### 4) Nomination Timings

The award runs every two years with the next award in 2022. Nominations for this will open in November 2021:

- Nominations open 13 Nov 2023, closing deadline 15 January 2024
- Pre-screening and judging by mid Feb
- Notification of outcome mid-March
- Award from 1<sup>st</sup> April onwards



Advertising for nominations will be through the RSC email shot to the membership of the ACG and related groups, on social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, RSC/ACG website), and connections to related groups (such as the UK Catalysis Hub, etc). If you are unsure of the process or missed the award nomination publicity, then please contact the ACG secretary to find out more.

#### 5) How to Nominate

Nominations are welcomed for the award by email to the ACG secretary. We welcome nominations of colleagues **as well as self-nominations** for the award. In either case the process is the same, with a one CV, nomination statement and details of two referees.

A brief CV 1-page and a supporting statement/nomination (up to 1000 words) should provide details and context of why they are deserving of this award and how the nominee meets the criteria set out in section 2. It should also state any other recent RSC awards received as a result of the same/overlapping research.

The referees will be contacted by the secretary for a short citation (up to 500 words) to support the nomination.

**Any documentation submitted beyond the 1000words nomination, 1 page CV and 500word referee citations will not be considered by the judging panel**

Nominations may be roll over from the previous award process for a maximum of 2 awards – and will be arranged by the secretary with the nominee, inviting them to update any information

We welcome nominations from all fields of applied catalysis, and career stages who meet the criteria. A nominator may support multiple nominations.

	<b>Nomination</b>
<b>Details needed</b>	Nominators name and email address Nominees name and email address Nominee Institution or location RSC membership numbers (where appropriate)
<b>CV (1 page)</b>	✓
<b>Nomination/supporting statement (no more than 1000 words)</b>	✓
<b>Two Referees (name &amp; email) Who will be contacted by the ACG secretary for a citation</b>	✓ ✓

A pre-screening of nominations will be completed by the judging panel, and referees will be contacts for strong candidates. Referees will be asked to provide a short citation of the nominee and their work for use by the judging panel only. The judges will review the feedback from both referees along with CV and supporting statement to rank the candidates. All submission details and documents will be treated as confidential and used solely for the award process. The nominator can be one of the referees. Referees

should be familiar to the work that you been nominated for, and one of the two referees should where possible (but not essential) be external to your current and past group/business.

**Referees are required for the nomination as a whole, and will be asked to provide their opinion on the merit of the nomination, and this will be provided to the judging panel to assess.**

All information provided will be treated as confidential to the ACG secretary and the judging panel.

**To nominate or for more information, please email to secretary of the ACG at [James.Paterson@uk.bp.com](mailto:James.Paterson@uk.bp.com)**

## **6) ACG Judging Panel**

The panel will be made up from members of the ACG committee and where appropriate may include invited judges to get obtain a suitable diversity in backgrounds.

It is the responsibility of the panel chair to review the judging panel diversity before judging begins. D&I in this case includes but not limited to gender, research areas and academia-industry balances. The ACG Secretary will also attend the judging to oversee and manage the process as well as an independent witness (such as the someone from an appropriate RSC Community or RSC staff).

The judging panel will be members of the ACG committee, with a range of expertise and backgrounds in applied catalysis. These will include the ACG chair, representatives from industry and academia, an independent witness from the RSC and the ACG secretary to oversee the process

Candidates will be judged against the above criteria in section 1 on a scale of 1-5 to provide guidance to the judges, the final decision will be based on the scores and the judging panel discussions to deliver a winning nomination. The ACG reserve the right to invite other members to the panel where great knowledge around the field of the nomination is helpful to support the decision process.

The judges scores will not be published. In the event of an appeal or review, the scores will be shared with the RSC along with the judges comments to resolve the issue. The judging panel will be published at the time of the opening of nominations, although the committee reserves the right to amend the panel in the event of a conflict of interest or unforeseen circumstances.

## **7) Award Prize**

The prize will consist of a medal and certificate which would be presented at an appropriate meeting. The recipient would also receive £1000 and will be invited (but not required) to present at the UK Catalysis Conference in the ACG session or at a suitable ACG event. The award would also be publicized more widely through social media and ACG/RSC outlets to uphold the prestigious nature of the award.

## 8) Previous Winners

<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Citation for Recognition</b>
2022	Dr Peter Johnston	Johnson Matthey	For his contributions in gold catalysis chemistry, including the replacement of mercury catalysts in the commercial production of vinyl chloride from acetylene hydrochlorination and the vinyl acetate monomer process.
2020	Dr Carin Seechurn	Johnson Matthey	For diligent and passionate work to develop and commercialize precious metal complexes to promote homogeneous catalysis for real world industrial applications
2018	Prof. Ying Zheng	University of Edinburgh	For the development and application of recyclable, heterogeneous nanocatalyst
2016	Dr David Johnson	Lucite International	for the development of the Lucite Alpha process
2014	Prof. Douglas Stephan	University of Toronto	For the development of new commercially viable, transition-metal based and metal-free catalyst technologies for polymerization, hydrogenation and metathesis
2012	Dr Thomas Colacot	Johnson Matthey	For exceptional contributions to the development and availability of ligands and catalysts crucial for the advancement of metal-catalysed synthetic organic chemistry
2010	Dr Martyn Twigg	Johnson Matthey	For his pivotal and innovative role in creating new catalysts and catalytic processes for use in the automotive industry

## Appendix

### a) Unconscious Bias

*Unconscious bias* is a term that describes the associations we hold, outside our conscious awareness and control. Unconscious bias is triggered by our brain automatically making quick judgements and assessments, influenced by our background, personal experiences, societal stereotypes and cultural context.

Unconscious bias can have a significant influence on our attitudes and behaviours, especially towards other people. It can influence key decisions and can contribute to inequality. As part of the judging, the panel will complete an unconscious bias training to support the fair and transparent award process.

Examples of this training includes:

- RSC Unconscious bias course
- The Harvard Unconscious Bias IAT tests, at <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

Further information about unconscious bias can be found at:

- Understanding unconscious bias: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVp9Z5k0dEE>
- Unconscious bias in higher education: literature review: <https://www.advance-he.ac.uk/knowledge-hub/unconscious-bias-higher-education-literature-review>

### b) Evaluation of nominations

The Royal Society of Chemistry has recently signed the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA), of which a key recommendation is that journal-based metrics should not be used as a surrogate measure of the quality of individual research articles, or to assess an individual scientist's contributions.

Nominations for any prize should be evaluated based on:

1. The information submitted by the nominator and (where applicable) referees, and the selection criteria for that prize,
2. The overall quality of relevant contributions made by nominees, and not on quantitative measures. The scientific content of any supporting publications, as described in the supporting statement, is much more important than publication metrics or the identity of the journal in which it is published.

If the committee decides no nominee demonstrates a contribution significant enough to receive the prize they have been nominated for, then the committee must not award.

### c) Conflict of Interests

Judges must declare a conflict of interests for any of the nominees before the judging process begins.

#### For Judging

A conflict of interest arises if you:

1. are closely related to the nominee, e.g. spouse or sibling
2. are currently working in the same institution as a nominee
3. have previously had a close working relationship with the nominee in industry, academia or research institutions etc. (e.g. PhD/post-doctoral supervisor, co-workers on the same project, collaborators)
4. are close collaborators with the nominee (e.g. co-author of papers, joint funding co-bidder)
5. have any other relationship with a nominee or

The judge will be excluded from the scoring and judging of the entire prize if:

- point 1 above applies, where they have a close relationship with a nominee.

The judge will be excluded from scoring and the judging of only the conflicted nomination if:

- They are assessing any nomination where points 2 to 5 apply.

In either case, the panel may wish to invite another judge to join the panel if they feel it necessary.

### d) Nominees with previous RSC prizes

Nominees should not receive more than one RSC prize for substantially the same body of work. Where a nominee has received other RSC awards previously, the Applied Catalysis Award nomination statement should make clear how this is 'substantially different' and mention any previous awards they know about. This will be reviewed by the ACG/RSC prior to any award being made.

#### e) Confidentiality

All submission details and documents will be treated as confidential and used solely for the award process. No details of nominations, nominees or submission documents will be made public without consent. When the award is made, the ACG hopes to liaise with the winner to publish some details of the work, the significance, and their contributions. This will be discussed prior to any public announcement being made.

#### f) Contact Details

For more information, please contact the ACG Secretary at [James.Paterson@uk.bp.com](mailto:James.Paterson@uk.bp.com) or visit the social media pages on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/170975283277002>



[https://twitter.com/RSC\\_ACG](https://twitter.com/RSC_ACG)



<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13552909/>



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APPLIED CATALYSIS <https://www.rsc.org/membership-and-community/connect-with-others/through-interests/interest-groups/applied-catalysis/>