

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF SPECTACLE MAKERS



THE 2020 MASTER'S MEDAL

Since receiving its Royal Charter in 1629, the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers has encouraged research into the prevention and treatment of vision impairment.

The Company now invites submissions for the 2020 Master's Medal, which is awarded each year, by competition. The Medal is intended to encourage those taking higher degrees to publish their work. The Medal is accompanied by a purse of £750.

Applications are invited from any individual studying within the UK for a doctorate or higher degree in any aspect of vision eg optometrists, ophthalmologists, orthoptists and scientists working in the field of optics and vision science, whose first research paper has been accepted for publication in a refereed scientific journal, or presented at a national or international assembly during the qualifying period (1 July 2019 to 30 September 2020).

The Committee encourages applications from all eligible candidates. No account is taken of nationality, age, race, gender or disability. Studies must have been carried out under UK supervision and the entrant should be the sole or first named author. Entries can be accepted from candidates who have attained a doctorate or higher degree within the last 12 months whose paper was generated during the course of their studies.

Entrants for the 2020 Medal must submit a copy of their published paper, or a preprint or manuscript based on their paper, reporting the original work: **commentaries, abstracts, reviews and editorials will not be considered**. Papers submitted should explain the basis on which research has been conducted, the findings to date and potential applications. Basic audits of results will not qualify.

One copy of the paper should be forwarded by email to clerk@spectaclemakers.com by **5pm on Friday 2 October 2020**, together with a covering letter giving full details of the entrant, certifying that the paper submitted is, or will be, his/her first publication and stating where and when it has been, or will be, published or presented. Supervisors may nominate entrants but letters of support will not be taken into account in the scoring of entries.

The Clerk, Mrs Helen Perkins, will acknowledge all entries received and is the first point of contact for any queries about the competition.

Submissions will be assessed by the Professorial Committee, a small group of eminent scientists and academics drawn from various UK universities and colleges. Care is taken to ensure that submissions are assessed by individual with no supervisory or professional connection with a candidate.

The Committee will confirm the winner of this year's Medal in the first week of November. The winner will be invited to attend the Company's formal Luncheon at Apothecaries' Hall in London on **Tuesday 8 December 2020** where they will receive their medal and purse from the Master Spectacle Maker and meet leading figures in the world of optics and the City of London. Further publicity for the individual and their sponsoring institution can be expected as the Medal award is usually well reported in professional optical journals.

23 April 2020