

Terms of Reference for BLCS Awards Committee
(Constituted January 2016. Revision 26/10/2016)

1. The British Liquid Crystals Society (BLCS) Awards Committee will be constituted with three senior researchers.
2. The length of term of office of the members of the committee will be three years.
3. For the first meeting of the committee the members will be asked to serve a staggered length of term (2, 3, and 4 years for the individual members) such that subsequent appointments of members will be result in staggered membership, thereby resulting in only one appointment to the committee being required per annum.
4. The committee members will be appointed to serve by the Planning and Steering Committee of the BLCS at the Annual Meeting.
5. The objective of the committee will be to recommend to the Chair of the BLCS the award winners for the Young Scientist of the Year Prize, and the Hilsom and Gray Medals.
6. In carrying out this process the committee members will not be able to make nominations of candidates.
7. Where committee members have a conflict of interest with respect to a candidate (e.g. being a previous PhD Supervisor or manager) the member will not be able to vote on the particular award.
8. An award will be made to a candidate of sufficient merit, as judged by the awards panel, even if there is only one nomination submitted.
9. If any member of the committee is approached by a candidate for nomination, the candidate will be disqualified from being nominated for that year.
10. The names of the members of the committee will be released to maintain transparency of the process, and a note made where these names are publicised to the effect that the committee cannot consider self-nominations or requests for nomination.
11. The nominations for all prizes will be made known to the members of the BLCS committee
12. The committee will notify the results of the selection process to the Chair of BLCS, along with a report giving the reasons for the decisions, at least one month before the annual BLCS conference.