Rupert Ford Award

The Royal Meteorological Society has been asked to administer the Rupert Ford Fund which has been set up by his family, friends and colleagues to honour the name of the late Dr Rupert Ford, whose brilliant scientific career was cruelly cut short by illness. The Fund is used to sponsor travel by outstanding young scientists from any part of the world to enable them to undertake research work or study in meteorology or associated physical oceanography (air-sea interaction) at a centre of excellence outside their own countries.

Applications for travel in 2018 are now open.

Early career scientists are defined as no more than 15 years into their career, excluding career breaks. Applicants do NOT need to be members of the Royal Meteorological Society.

All applications must include a description of the work to be undertaken and an assessment of its relevance and importance, a clear statement at an appropriate level from the Institution where the work is to be done indicating acceptance of the applicant for a short term research or study placement, and a statement of support from a senior academic colleague (Head of Department or Professor) in the applicant’s research field.

The awards are competitive and dependent upon the quality of the applications. Applications will be assessed and award decisions made by a panel of distinguished scientists set up for the purpose. Up to two awards may be made but there is no mandate to offer any awards in any given year. The value of each award for 2018 will be in the order of £1,500.

See the bottom of this page for reports from recipients.

Terms of Reference

1. The Rupert Ford Travel Award shall be made annually to an early career scientist (which we define as no more than 15 years into their career, excluding career breaks) who shows great promise.

2. The Award commemorates the brief but outstanding scientific career of Rupert Ford (1968-2001) in dynamical meteorology and oceanography. Rupert was also Secretary of the Society’s Dynamical Problems Specialist Group. As described in the Obituary by M E McIntyre (Quarterly Journal, vol.127 no. 574, 2001), Rupert’s travel as a young scientist to
institutions such as Woods Hole and Scripps was a formative influence on his research. The Rupert Ford Travel Award is therefore intended to support opportunities of a broadly similar kind, for suitably outstanding candidates.

3. The Award is funded by a generous endowment from Rupert’s family, friends and colleagues (the Rupert Ford Memorial Fund). It is administered by the Society but not restricted to Society members.

4. Nominations for the Award shall normally be made by senior academic colleagues, and shall be accompanied by some evidence of the work of the nominee. It is anticipated that nominees shall normally be in the later stages of a PhD studentship or in early stages of post-doctoral work. A more detailed specification of the nomination requirements shall be advertised with the call for nominations.

5. The supporting evidence of nominees’ work may be drawn from any area of meteorology or physical oceanography. If nominations are deemed equally meritorious then the relevance to Rupert’s scientific interests shall be taken into account (advice may be taken from the Dynamical Problems Special Interest Group or others). Evidence of participation in the scientific community shall also count in favour of a nomination.

6. The Award shall be made only if a nomination of sufficiently high standard is forthcoming.

7. No person shall be eligible for the Award a second time.

Resources

Donation Form

- ford-donation.doc [1] MSWORD 27.5 KB

Award Reports

- Gerard Kilroy [2] PDF 220.9 KB

Rupert Ford Award Forms

- Application Form [3] VND.OPENXMLFORMATS-OFFICEDOCUMENT.WORDPROCESSINGML.DOCUMENT 125.46 KB

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