

Sample citation for the Royal Society of Chemistry Inspirational Member Award

Purpose

To recognise the contribution of individual members who, through our member networks, have been instrumental in introducing and driving new ideas and approaches to support the full breadth of our community.

This award only recognises activities undertaken under the auspices of our member-led networks (normally Local Sections, Interest Groups, Division Regions and Early Career Network).

Citation criteria

- All nominations must be supported by a citation which demonstrates how the activities of the individual relate to the purpose of this award.
- Citations longer than 350 words will be cut off at the word limit.
- Citations should not include references to academic achievements, paid work, voluntary work for other organisations or to length of service.
- While we value the roles that members hold through other organisations and within their communities, our awards were established to recognise the volunteering contribution made to the RSC. As such, we do not/will not consider the contributions of roles such as school governor etc. as part of the judging process.

Citation

Example of an **excellent** citation which includes:

- Details of how the nominee was personally responsible for driving forward a new idea/approach.
- Details of how the nominee engaged others in their activities.
- Details of the impact on the community and committee of their activities.
- Details of how the nominee has impacted the future of the network.

Robin Smith is a member of the XYZ committee and has been instrumental in developing our new programme of networking activities. We were struggling with low attendance at social events and it was obvious that the same small group of members were coming along but nobody new wanted to get involved.

Robin asked for information about our membership and while this showed that we have a large industrial member including lots of younger members Robin realised that these members were not engaging with our activities. Robin made a short survey to understand what members want to attend, why they didn't come to our events and to ask for volunteers for the committee. The results showed that our events were always planned for either during the day or very early evening and that members based in local industry were not able to get to the events at those times. There was a lot of interest in networking events and also a number of early career members stated that they didn't know that they could be on the committee.

Robin suggested that we trial a social event later one evening to encourage more people to come along to find out what we do. Robin organised a fun chemistry quiz and invited members to form teams of colleagues. The event went really well and after the quiz Robin started some discussions about running some networking events.

There were some really enthusiastic members who were really keen to be more involved in organising the events and one team offered their company as a venue for this type of event.

Robin worked hard with these new volunteers to organise a series of networking meetings nearer to the companies which are the main employers of our members. These have been really successful and we plan to continue these events next year.

Thanks to Robin we now have much better engagement with our wider membership and we now have some early career and industrial members on our committee.

We would like to nominate Robin for this award because they really has transformed our programme and committee.