

## **Procedures and Rules for the Malvern PANalytical Thesis Prize for Physical Crystallography**

- 1) The prize will be awarded for the best use of techniques or methods of Physical Crystallography in a thesis successfully examined at a UK university, submitted in the two year period from 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2022.
- 2) **In addition to a prize and a certificate, the winner will be invited to give the Malvern PANalytical Thesis Prize lecture at the 2023 PCG Winter Meeting.**
- 3) In order for a thesis to be eligible for the award, the physical crystallography element must be central to the work of the thesis. The term Physical Crystallography should be understood broadly to include any area within the PCGSCMP's remit (for more information, see our group website [www.pcg-scmp.org](http://www.pcg-scmp.org)). In particular, areas of study such as solid state chemistry, condensed matter physics and materials science are all eligible. However, the winning thesis must demonstrate a context over and above structure determination for its own sake, for instance to understand the properties of existing materials or develop new ones with more desirable properties. The Group Officers will judge thesis eligibility with reference to the above definitions.
- 4) To be eligible for the prize, candidates must be a member of the Structural Condensed Matter Group of the IoP and/or the Physical Crystallography Group of the BCA. Non-members may enter the competition but will be required to join the IoP/SCMP or the BCA/PCG at the student rate to progress their nomination further.
- 5) Unsuccessful entries will automatically be entered into the 2023 competition if still eligible, unless the candidate informs us they wish to withdraw their entry. For a thesis submitted for the 2022 competition to be eligible for the 2023 competition the thesis must be submitted between the 1st January 2021 and the 31st December 2022.
- 6) To enter the competition, candidates must submit: (a) a copy of the thesis in electronic format. (b) a personal statement of not more than 500 words explaining why the thesis should be considered for the prize and including a clear description of the role of Physical Crystallography in the research. (c) the names and contact details of two academic referees, one of whom may be the thesis supervisor, who will be able to comment on the thesis research of the candidate.
- 7) **The Prize will be awarded at the 2023 PCG Winter Meeting. By entering the competition the candidate is agreeing to attend this meeting to receive the prize should they be named the winner. By accepting the prize they are also agreeing to (a) be interviewed by Malvern PANalytical for a write-up in their X'Press magazine and (b) give a lecture on an aspect of the work that contributed to their thesis at the Winter Meeting.**
- 8) Nominations for the prize must be submitted to the PCG-SCMP Chair, Dr Alexandra Gibbs ([a.gibbs@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:a.gibbs@st-andrews.ac.uk)), by 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**Dr Alexandra Gibbs**  
**PCG/SCMPG Chair**