

Faraday Institution Community Awards 2026 – Success Criteria

When nominating individuals/teams for awards please address as many of the points below in your nomination.

Battery Innovation Programme Innovation Award

- Awarded to the individual or team that have made significant contributions via the development of an outstanding innovation towards its commercialisation. This might be a novel experiment, technique, product, technology, approach or process.
- Submissions should articulate:
 - the real-world problem the innovation is attempting to solve.
 - the level of original thinking and creativity. How the innovation is unique or novel? How it is better than previous state-of-the-art?
 - the significance or impact or potential impact of the innovation (for example, on researchers, society, research directions, industry, performance, efficiency of process etc.) and progress towards its commercialisation.
- The submission can relate to pre-published work, but nothing that is commercially sensitive should be shared in the nomination process.

Collaboration Award

- Recognising outstanding examples of advancement and progress through teamwork and multi-university, multi-disciplinary and/or academic-industry collaboration.
- Success metrics could include examples of the following:
 - A description of how synergistic / integrative interactions have opened up research directions/gaps in knowledge previously inaccessible in an important area of research.
 - Demonstration of an effectively managed team utilising robust methodology and experimental design that operates in an integrated way and leveraging many skills-sets.
 - Teams demonstrating that they foster a diversity of ideas from many sectors of the community – cross-disciplinary, gender, ethnicity, career stage - in a very effective and inclusive way – that demonstrates allyship.
 - Demonstration of clear quality and/or quantity indicators of the impact of the collaboration, which might include journal impact factor, patents, technology transfers or future funding.
- Submissions relating to international collaborations are encouraged.

Public Engagement / STEM Outreach Award

- Given in recognition of an individual's or team's outstanding contribution to the local or national community in relation to science communication or the promotion of STEM careers.
- Examples could include:
 - Organisation of an impactful workshop/online event/public lecture/explainer video or article that has reached a wide audience or a group to which STEM outreach activities are not generally accessible.
 - Demonstration of commitment to the public understanding of science, through clear and effective communication to a wide range of audiences, or through the leadership/training of others or development of impactful resources and dissemination for use by other researchers.
 - Excellence in the use of social media or other platforms with the objective of public engagement and dissemination of the FI's research.

- Delivery of impactful STEM outreach activities to school groups – in person or online – with a demonstrable change in pupils’ attitudes to STEM careers.
- Please detail audience numbers, participant quotes and/or external recognition for the initiative.
- Successes originating from initiatives directly organised by the FIHQ are specifically excluded in this category.

Researcher Development Champion

- Awarded to an individual who goes the extra mile in the role of supervisor, mentor or training champion (in a formal or informal capacity) to guide early career researchers (ECRs) and inform career paths. The awardee may:
 - Have developed innovative or impactful training resources for ECRs that have expanded the understanding of techniques or fundamental concepts and impacted on wider research.
 - Have developed a particularly inclusive research culture in their team/group in which its members exhibit allyship.
 - Have enabled ECR(s) to take ‘the next step’ in their career, developing their research excellence and facilitating the promotion of young talent in the field of electrochemical energy and storage research.
 - Submissions should specify both the numbers of researchers that have benefitted from initiatives and the impact to researchers’ careers and development from the interaction. Metrics could include number of researchers with high quality personal development plans in place and/or % of training budget utilised.

Guidance on submitting a strong nomination

When making a nomination, to help with the objectivity of the panel review and selection process please submit as much supporting evidence as possible to strengthen submissions. This could come in the form of links to external reports, articles, external recognition or papers, or substantiating statement(s) from one or more other researchers. If external links are not available, non-confidential report(s) can be uploaded as part of the submission process.

For example, we encourage the following types of information to be shared:

- Agendas, presentations or recordings of training or outreach sessions
- Anonymised feedback or quotes from session participants
- Details of numbers of people impacted and how
- Numbers of people and research institutes involved in research collaborations over a given period
- Please name all individuals you would like to be recognised e.g., in the collaboration award.

Confidentiality: Nothing commercially sensitive should be shared through the nomination process.