

THE SIR ALCON COPISAROW MEDAL

The Award, which takes the form of a hallmarked sterling silver medal, is named in honour of Sir Alcon Copisarow, Patron of IESF British Section for 21 years between 1992 and 2013. In the course of a long and distinguished career spanning public and private sectors, including 6 years based in Paris when Scientific Counsellor at the British Embassy, Sir Alcon did much to foster and promote international cooperation, particularly to encourage innovation and collaborative enterprise to translate scientific and engineering achievements into the means of benefitting future generations. He died in August 2017 at the age of 97.

Purpose

The medal recognises and celebrates individuals making a significant contribution to the furtherance of these aims.

Criteria

Recipients will be professionally qualified engineers or scientists from any background who, in the opinion of IESF British Section Council, have fulfilled this purpose either in an Anglo-French or wider international context. This may be in a creative, operational, advisory or other leading role. The quality and significance of the contribution, rather than the period over which it is made, are the key criteria.

Nomination and selection process

Potential recipients will be identified by nomination. Selection will be undertaken by a Panel under IESF British Section Council chairmanship in consultation with the Section's current Patron. The successful recipient will be notified directly, and announced publicly via the British Section website.

Award

Recipients will be invited to give a short presentation of their work at an IESF British Section meeting, when the medal will be presented in person by Sir Alcon Copisarow's widow, Lady Diana Copisarow.

Timetable

The medal will be presented at the British Section's Centenary Dinner in London on 1st July 2019 at the Institution of Civil Engineers in London. Nominations are invited by **Friday 17 May 2019** – a form can be downloaded from the IESF British Section website (www.iesf.co.uk). The recipient will be notified by the end of May.

Further guidance is below in Annex B.

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GUIDANCE NOTES****Significant contribution**

A “significant contribution” is one that stands out by virtue of its nature and quality. It is not simply a question of sustained effort, however commendable. Some degree of innovation will normally be involved

There is no specific requirement regarding the period over which the contribution has to be made – it could be over a relatively short timescale or over the course of several years depending on the circumstances. However, the shorter the period, the greater the need to be assured of its significance

The contribution may take one of many forms, and may well involve a combination of several, the emphasis being on collaboration.

It may be related to a creative, operational, advisory or other leading role. This could include, but not be limited to:

- Providing advisory or consultancy input, which could include mediation or diplomacy
- Directly managing and delivering assignments or projects, as a leader of a team or sub-team, or substantially contributing to them
- Developing and applying new approaches or tools for the delivery of assignments or projects
- Promoting, supporting or delivering engineering (and associated sciences) research or education

The significance is to be judged in relation to the outcomes, whether in terms of immediate impact or contribution to the future – ideally both. Whilst outcomes should be quantified where possible, it is likely that qualitative outcomes will also feature strongly

International collaboration

“International collaboration” may be broadly interpreted. The contribution may be in an Anglo-French or wider international context. Candidates do not have to be English or French nationals to be considered for the award

Qualifications and experience of candidates

The award is directed at engineers and scientists who are postgraduate and hold a professional qualification or higher degree or broad equivalent. The length of post-qualification experience is not itself a criterion, the key requirement being the significance of the contribution made.