THE 2018 RUSKELL MEDAL

Since receiving its Royal Charter in 1629, the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers has been at the forefront in encouraging research into ways of helping the visually impaired to see better.

Each year, the Company awards a bronze medal to recognise research in ophthalmology and/or vision science which contributes significantly to the advancement of our understanding of vision and the prevention of unnecessary blindness.

The 2018 Ruskell Medal and the accompanying purse of £750 will be awarded to the first-named author of the best paper in the fields of ophthalmology or visual science for studies undertaken within the United Kingdom and published during the qualifying period (1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018). Submissions are welcomed from entrants at any stage of their research career.

The 2017 Ruskell Medal was awarded to Geraint Williams, Honorary Consultant Ophthalmologist at the University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust for his paper “Conjunctival Neutrophils Predict Progressive Scarring in Ocular Mucous Membrane Pemphigoid”.

Entrants for the 2018 Medal should forward one copy of their full paper (not an abstract) by email to clerk@spectaclemakers.com by 5pm on Friday 6 July 2018, together with a covering letter giving full details of the entrant, certifying that the entrant is the first named author and stating where and when the research paper has been, or will be, published. The Clerk, Mrs Helen Perkins, will acknowledge all entries received and is the contact point for any queries about the competition.

Submissions are assessed by the Company’s Professorial Committee, a small group of eminent scientists and academics drawn from various UK universities and colleges. The Committee will make its final decision by 7 September 2018.

The winner will then be invited to attend the Company’s Court Luncheon at Apothecaries’ Hall on Wednesday 3 October 2018 to receive the medal and purse from the Master Spectacle Maker and meet leading figures in the world of optics and the City of London.

27 March 2018