

## Report of the BSG Research Sub-Committee 2023/4

The Research Sub-Committee (RSC) met twice during the year, in November 2023 and in March 2024. Both meetings were held online via MS Teams.

### Grant funding

Two grant rounds were held across the year: September 2023 (£30,000 available) and February 2024 (£15,000). The RSC previously had a large surplus to award, due to drawing down funds in line with the Charity Commission guidelines, and due to fewer awards over COVID. For 2024 the budget resumed pre-COVID levels of £35,000 per year split over the two rounds. After deliberation to accommodate the reduction the Research Network Grant was withdrawn, the Early Career Grant was reduced to its previous amount (£5,000 from £7,500) but it was felt that other grant funding amounts should be retained but the number awarded reduced per round, including having only one Decolonising Geomorphology grant per year (September grants round).

In total, 26 grants were awarded to a total value of £41,993 (overall success rate: 29.5%). The outcomes and allocations for each grant, summed for the September 2023 and February 2024 rounds, are as follows (also including success rates and gender split):

- Early Career Grant: 2 awarded, totalling £5,962 (9%; 1F, 1M)
- Research Grants: 9 awarded, totalling £15,930 (25%; 4F, 5M)
  - o Full member: 3 awarded, totalling £6,000 (43%; 0F, 3M)
  - o PGR member: 2 awarded, totalling £9,930 (21%; 4F, 2M)
- PG Conference Attendance Grants: 10 awarded, totalling £5,901 (45%; 6F, 4M)
- Decolonising Geomorphology Grant: 1 awarded, totalling £5,000 (50%, 0F, 1M)
- Research Network Grant: 1 awarded, totalling £7,700 (50%, 1F, 0M)
- Carers Grant: 1 awarded, totalling £1,000 (100%, 1F, 0M)
- Conference Support Grants: 1 awarded, totalling £500 (100%; 0F, 1M)
- University of Liverpool-BSG Luminescence Dating Award: 1 awarded, no cost (100%; 0F, 1M)

RSC members grade and rank the applications, and provide detailed feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

Work has been undertaken this year by the RSC to streamline the online application process for grants, and to ensure that the criteria, guidance and review process for all grants is clearly outlined on the website to ensure a fair and transparent application process. This year also saw the establishment of the [grants@geomorphology.org.uk](mailto:grants@geomorphology.org.uk) email which both the VC and Grants Officer have access to, which will improve communication around grants.

### Society Awards

Decisions were taken on the society's Awards (Linton, Warwick, Chorley). Nominations for the Mike Kirkby Best Paper Award and Fiona Kirkby Award for Excellence in Reviewing are provided by the ESPL Editorial Board (ratified by the RSC).

The 2024 awards are conferred as follows:

- Linton Award: winner Professor Sanjeev Gupta (9 nominations; 1F 8M)
- Warwick Award: winner Professor Georgina King (4 nominations; 3F 1M)
- Chorley Award: winner Dr Anya Leeman (3 nominations; 3F 1M)
- Mike Kirkby Award: winner Alexander Neely and Roman DiBiase (DOI:10.1002/esp.5553)
- Fiona Kirkby Award: winners Dr Heinrich Bahlburg, Dr Constanza Carbonari, Dr Irene Delgado Fernandez, Dr Inci Guneralp, Dr Harrison Martin, Dr Nicole Pietrasiak and Dr Charlotte Priddy

The window to nominate candidates for the BSG Awards 2025 is now open until 31 December 2024. Nominations can be made through the BSG website via “My Account” and selecting “Award Nominations”, note that you must be logged in as a member to nominate. Awards can only be made based on nominations received, so we urge any member - at any career stage - to think carefully about who should be recognised. Please do help the Society recognise deserving individuals and nominate. In particular please give consideration to meritorious individuals from groups who may be under-represented in our discipline.

**Lucy Clarke (VC Research, and on Behalf of the Research Sub-Committee)**