

SENATE REGULATION 8: University Prizes and Academic Dress

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UNIVERSITY PRIZES

1. The University has a wide range of student prizes to reward excellence and achievement. Most of these are administered by Colleges or Departments, and are open to students in those areas; there are a small number of University Prizes, as set out below.
2. Nominations for prizes will be invited annually, and, unless stated otherwise, will be considered by the Prize Panel. The Prize Panel shall normally meet annually; it is comprised of representatives from each College and the Union of Brunel Students, and chaired by the Registrar.
3. In the event that no nominations are received for a prize, or the nominations are not of suitable merit, it shall not be awarded.
4. All those nominated for a University Prize will be notified.

Taught Students

University Prizes

5. University Prizes are awarded annually to students in the final year of an undergraduate honours degree programme. Each Department, at the end of each academic year, shall nominate the student with the best overall average mark at the end of their programme. Departments may only award one University prize each year, irrespective of the number of programmes they are responsible for.
6. Nominations are normally be made by the Board of Examiners, with the Chair of the Board submitting all nominations to the Head of Department following the meeting. When all Board of Examiners' nominations have been received, the Head of Department shall determine which student across the Department has the best overall mark, and shall inform them of their award, and notify the Registrar. University Prizes comprises of a certificate.

Bishop Memorial Prize

7. The Bishop Memorial Prize was established in memory of Brunel's late Vice-Chancellor, Professor Richard Bishop, and is awarded annually to a student in Engineering and Design for exemplary academic performance and outstanding contribution to the life of the University. Nominations are invited from the Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and the Brunel Design School. The Prize comprises a payment of £500 and a certificate.

Peter Swain Memorial Prize

8. The Peter Swain Memorial Prize is awarded annually to the undergraduate or postgraduate student who has made the most outstanding contribution to the cultural, social or sporting life of the University in their programme of study. Nominations are invited from Colleges, the Union of Brunel Students and other University Departments. The Prize comprises of a certificate.

Trier Prize

9. The Margaret Trier Memorial Prize was established by the late Dr Peter Trier, a former Chairman of the University Council and Pro-Chancellor, in memory of his wife. The

Trier Prize is awarded annually to a female student from any discipline graduating with a first class degree, who has demonstrated outstanding mathematical ability in their final year project. Nominations are invited from Colleges. The Prize comprises a payment of £200 and a certificate.

Ede and Ravenscroft Prize

10. Ede and Ravenscroft, the University's photographers, sponsor an annual prize which is awarded to a FHEQ Level 5 undergraduate student, prior to their final year of study. The prize will support the student to enhance and enrich their course of study. Nominations are invited from Level 5 undergraduate students. The Prize comprises a payment of £1,000.

Giffard Prize

11. The Giffard family name dates back to the time of William the Conqueror, and notable family members include two peers of the realm. The first, Hardinge Stanley Giffard, was Lord Chancellor for the latter part of Queen Victoria's reign; the second, Lord Halsbury, was an eminent scientist and the first Chancellor of Brunel University London. The memory and contribution of both illustrious members are embodied in the Giffard Prize. The Giffard Prize is awarded annually to an undergraduate student studying Law or Sciences who has made the most significant contribution to the study of their subject at the University during the course of their degree. Nominations are invited from across the University. The Prize comprises a payment of £250 and a certificate.

Research Students

12. The 'Vice-Chancellor's Prize for Doctoral Research' is awarded annually to six doctoral research students who have demonstrated research excellence, evidenced by research papers or other outputs. All home and overseas students awarded a doctoral research degree within the academic year, and who have submitted their thesis within their maximum period of registration, are eligible for the Prize.

13. Each College, at the end of the academic year, shall nominate two candidates for the Prize. Vice-Provosts and Deans of Colleges (or nominee) shall submit the recommendations to the Vice-Chancellor. One College prize will normally be awarded at the Summer Graduation ceremony and one at the Winter Graduation ceremony. The Prize comprises a payment of £500 and a certificate.

All students

Jock McKeon Prize for Inspirational Leadership

14. The Jock McKeon Prize for Inspirational Leadership was established by family and friends in memory of Mr Jock McKeon, a former Students' Union President. The Prize is awarded annually to a final year undergraduate or postgraduate student, who has demonstrated leadership skills, or who has inspired others in their social, academic or professional development during their time at the University. Nominations are invited from Colleges, the Union of Brunel Students, and other University Departments. The Prize comprises a payment of £500 and a certificate.

The Toby Berriman Enduring Legacy Award

15. The Toby Berriman Enduring Legacy Award was established by fellow alumni and friends in tribute to the encouragement and support that Brunel alumnus, Toby Berriman, who passed away in 2021, offered to those he met during his time as a student. The prize

will be awarded annually to a student of any discipline, whose multiple acts of kindness through a variety of endeavours during their time at Brunel have had a significant impact on the Brunel community. The prize comprises a certificate and £250 will be donated to the Student Hardship Fund in the student's name.

Alumni

All categories reflect alumni who have demonstrated success and achievements in their professional career, a significant involvement and contributions to their community, or an ongoing commitment and contribution to Brunel University London through volunteering and advocacy.

Rising Star Award

16. The Rising Star Award is awarded annually to a former student who graduated in the last three years. Nominations are invited from the alumni body, University staff and students. A shortlist of nominees will, with their agreement, be circulated to the alumni body to vote on the nominations. The Prize comprises a certificate.

Lifetime Achievement Award

17. The Lifetime Achievement Award is awarded annually to a former student who graduated more than 30 years ago. Nominations are invited from the alumni body, University staff and students. A shortlist of nominees will, with their agreement, be circulated to the alumni body to vote on the nominations. The Prize comprises a certificate.

Outstanding Contribution to Brunel Award

18. The Outstanding Contribution to Brunel Award is awarded annually to a Brunel graduate who supports Brunel University London. Nominations are invited from the alumni body, University staff and students. A shortlist of nominees will, with their agreement, be circulated to the alumni body to vote on the nominations. The Prize comprises a certificate.

Outstanding Contribution to Science and Engineering Award

19. The Outstanding Contribution to Science and Engineering Award is awarded annually to a Brunel graduate who has made an outstanding contribution in the world of science. Nominations are invited from the alumni body, University staff and students. A shortlist of nominees will, with their agreement, be circulated to the alumni body to vote on the nominations. The Prize comprises a certificate.

Outstanding Contribution to Culture & Creativity Award

20. The Outstanding Contribution to Culture & Creativity Award is awarded annually to a Brunel graduate who has made an outstanding contribution to arts and culture. Nominations are invited from the alumni body, University staff and students. A shortlist of nominees will, with their agreement, be circulated to the alumni body to vote on the nominations. The Prize comprises a certificate.

Outstanding Contribution to Society Award

The Outstanding Contribution to Society Award is awarded annually to a Brunel graduate who has made an outstanding contribution to creating positive social change and improving the lives of others. Nominations are invited from the alumni body, University staff and students. A shortlist of nominees will, with their agreement, be circulated to the alumni body to vote on the

nominations. The Prize comprises a certificate.

Outstanding Contribution to Business Award

21. The Outstanding Contribution to Business Award is awarded annually to a Brunel graduate who has made an outstanding contribution to business, entrepreneurship, tech or finance. Nominations are invited from the alumni body, University staff and students. A shortlist of nominees will, with their agreement, be circulated to the alumni body to vote on the nominations. The Prize comprises a certificate.

Alumni Advisory Board Award

22. The Alumni Advisory Board Award is a special award chosen by the Brunel University London Alumni Advisory Board (AAB). The Board will select a winner from a list of runners-up who were finalist at the Alumni and Supporter Awards. A shortlist of nominees will, with their agreement, be circulated to the alumni body to vote on the nominations. From there, the Alumni Advisory Board will choose a single winner from the runners-up from all categories. The Prize comprises a certificate.

Staff

Ken Darby-Dowman Memorial Prize

23. The Ken Darby-Dowman Memorial Prize is awarded annually to a staff member in recognition of their contribution to the student experience, in terms of exceptional and inspiring teaching, exceptional support for students in their studies, contribution to the development of the student experience, provision of service to students, or provision of exceptional pastoral support for students. Nominations are invited from Colleges, the Union of Brunel Students, and other University Departments. The Prize comprises a payment of £500 and a certificate.

ACADEMIC DRESS

24. Non-degree awards (e.g. Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education, Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma (from August 2014))

Gown	Blue, undergraduate style gown trimmed with Brunel red velvet ribbon on front facings and yoke.
Hat	Navy blue mortar board.

25. Foundation Degree (from July 2020)

Gown	Navy with separate facings and Brunel red insertion piping sewn in to the outside edge of the front facings.
Hood	Brunel Simple shape, navy outer, fully lined in white. Edged with red insertion piping continuing on to the bottom of the neck band
Hat	Navy blue mortar board.

26. First Degree (to include Honorary Bachelors of Education Awards from 2024) (from August 2014)

Gown	Navy, with separate facings and Brunel red insertion piping sewn in to the outside edge of the front facings.
Hood	Brunel Simple shape navy outer, fully lined with white and tipped in red. Edged with red insertion piping continuing on to the bottom of the neck band.
Hat	Navy blue mortar board.

27. First Higher Degree (Integrated Masters) (from August 2014)

Gown	Navy, with separate facings and Brunel red insertion piping sewn in to the outside edge of the front facings.
Hood	Brunel Full shape navy outer, fully lined in red. Edged with red insertion piping continuing on to the bottom (long edge) of the neck band.
Hat	Navy blue mortar board.

28. First Higher Degree (Masters) (from August 2014)

Gown	Navy, with separate facings and Brunel red insertion piping sewn in to the outside edge of the front facings. Sleeve ends with own 'B' shape ends, straight arm hole slit with red insertion piping top and bottom.
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Hood	Brunel Full shape navy outer, fully lined in red. Edged with red insertion piping continuing on to the bottom (long edge) of the neck band.
Hat	Navy blue mortar board.

29. Second Higher Degrees (DBA, EdD, EngD, PhD) (from August 2014)

Gown	Brunel Red, London style, long rounded cape sleeves, lined in navy, which turn back at the front to form a cuff, held in place by white cord and a red button. Sleeves faced on the bottom edge with white ribbon, navy facings with the outside edge faced with white (so that approximately 3.5" of navy shows when finished).
Hood	Brunel Full shape, red outer, fully lined and cape edged, in navy. Inside cowl edged with white ribbon. Neckband red, bottom edge bound navy, and top edge faced with white ribbon. Blue velvet bonnet, red tassel.

- Third Higher Degrees (DUniv [Hon only], DD, DEd, DEng, DHum, DLitt, DMus, DSc, DSocSci, DTech, LLD, MUniv [Hon only]) (from August 2014)

Gown	Brunel Red, London style, long rounded cape sleeves, lined in navy, which turn back at the front to form a cuff, held in place by gold cord and button. Sleeves faced on the bottom inside edge with white ribbon, navy facings with the outside edge faced with RTD gold Mylar, white placed on the inside edge of gold (so that approximately 3" of navy shows when finished).
Hood	Brunel Full shape, red outer, fully lined and cape edged in and out with white ribbon, in navy. Inside cowl edged with RTD gold Mylar. Neckband red, bottom edge in and out white, and top edge faced with RTD gold Mylar.
Hat	Blue velvet bonnet, gold tassel.

30. Honorary Fellow (from August 2014)

Gown	Navy, with separate facings of red with white ribbon sewn in to the outside edge of the front facings. Sleeve ends with own 'B' shape ends, straight arm hole slit with red insertion piping top and bottom.
Hood	Not worn
Hat	Blue velvet bonnet, red tassel.

(Updated November 2025)