



David and Valerie Solomon Award

for Leadership in Fostering
Industry-Research Collaboration

GUIDELINES

The David and Valerie Solomon Award is an early-mid career award for a science or technology graduate working in academia / research or industry R&D who demonstrate substantial ability to foster research-industry collaboration and knowledge transfer for the benefit of Australia. The winner will receive a unique award, a cash prize of \$15,000 and 12 months mentoring from a senior entrepreneur / industry Fellow of ATSE with \$5,000 travel expenses to enhance this mentoring experience.

The Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering administers the award, which will be presented at the Innovation and Excellence Awards dinner on 11 June 2020 in Melbourne.

Award purpose

The benefits of Australia's world-class research system can only be really realised with the translation of its outputs into economic and societal benefits. The effective translation of research will be at the core of Australia's future competitiveness and prosperity. This requires effective collaboration between our universities and publicly funded research organisations and industrial research and development organisations. Australia undertakes world-class scientific research through universities and other publicly funded research organisations, and while research excellence is desirable in its own right, it is not a sufficient driver of innovation and is only one dimension of the research endeavour. Research collaborations with the private and public sectors, entrepreneurial behaviour and knowledge transfer are equally important activities, which are largely driven by researchers who are engaged with industry and end-users of research. The David and Valerie Solomon Award recognises and incentivises public sector researchers who are engaged with industry and engaged industrial researchers and drive collaborative activities to produce real-world impact.

Specifically the Award will:

- Highlight the importance of collaboration between industry and research, and the translation of research for economic, social and environmental benefit.
- Recognise the achievements of an early-mid career researcher who has worked across the research-industry divide, beyond purely academic research or only experimental development.
- Bring to the attention of policy makers the key role applied science, technology and innovation play in the nation's development.

The Academy honours David Solomon this named award as an example for industry-research collaboration and knowledge translation for economic social and / or would benefit Australia. David is a Foundation Fellow of the Academy and has been supported in his career by his wife Valerie.

The award is made available through a generous donation from David and Valerie Solomon.

Award selection criteria

The Awardee will:

- Have demonstrated excellence, innovation and impact in a field of academia /research or industry R&D
- Have clearly demonstrated a track record of substantial ability to foster research-industry collaboration and knowledge transfer for the benefit of Australia

Award eligibility criteria

The Awardee will:

- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident.
- Be 40 years or under on the first day of the year in which the Award is made. Applicants who have experienced career interruptions for family or carer responsibilities are eligible for an extension to this age limit, for the period equivalent to the interruption.

Eligibility and nomination of candidates

Candidates for the David and Valerie Solomon Award must be nominated by an individual Proposer and an individual Secunder. At least one of these must be a person currently working in industry.

The Proposer is to complete the 2019 David and Valerie Solomon Award Nomination Form and submitted by the closing time and date.

The Secunder will support the nomination with a letter clearly indicating her/his detailed knowledge of the work and experience of the Nominee.

Self-nominations will be excluded.

The Referee for the application should be an industry or technical expert in the nominee's field who can comment on the nominee's contribution to research-industry collaboration.

It is strongly encouraged that referees not be the nominee's direct supervisor or manager.

Eligibility is limited to:

- Australian citizens or permanent residents.
- Persons who are 40 years or under on the first day of the year in which the Award is made. Applicants who have experienced career interruptions due to family or carer responsibilities are eligible for an extension to this criterion, for the period equivalent to the interruption.
- The Nominee must acknowledge the nomination by signature, thus confirming the facts attested in the nomination (electronic signature acceptable).
- Winners of other professional, state, national or international awards are eligible for the David and Valerie Solomon Award, providing they meet all other eligibility criteria.

All eligible nominations for the David and Valerie Solomon Award will be considered by the David and Valerie Solomon Award Selection Committee.

The Selection Committee will be drawn from leading science and technology specialist members of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering.

The Selection Committee may seek assistance from appropriate learned specialists, professional associations or consultants.

The Selection Committee will assess all eligible nominations against the following key criteria:

- Have demonstrated excellence, innovation and impact in a field of academia /research or industry R&D.
- Have clearly demonstrated a track record of substantial ability to foster research- industry collaboration and knowledge transfer for the benefit of Australia.

Each sub criterion will be given equal weighting by the Selection Committee.

The Selection Committee will, in its absolute discretion, select the proposed winner of the David and Valerie Solomon Award on the basis of the key criteria.

The winner will be notified by the Academy by end of April 2020.

All decisions taken by the David and Valerie Solomon Award selection committee shall be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Obligations of winner

Each nominee will give permission for details contained in the nomination to be released to the members of the Selection Committee (both those listed in the nomination form and external referees) for the purposes of the selection process.

Whenever such material is considered by the Selection Committee, this information and details of their deliberations and recommendations will remain confidential. The Nominee should note that a description of the work being acclaimed and images of the winner will be publicised.

The winner of the David and Valerie Solomon Award will be expected to:

- Attend the Innovation and Excellence Awards dinner on 11 June 2020 in Melbourne.
- Be available for any associated media activity.
- Participate in activities within 12 months of receiving the award to promote the importance of science and technology to Federal and State Parliamentarians and administrators, and the technology and innovation communities, to reinforce with these communities the contribution science and technology makes to Australia's reputation as a centre of technology and innovation leadership.
- Interact with the ATSE Forums to promote the importance of science and technology.

DEADLINE

9:00am AEST Monday 16 March 2020

Nomination documents

The Proposer must complete and submit the following materials that constitute a complete submission, available from www.atse.org.au

PART A – Nominee, Proposer and Seconder details

PART B – Application Executive Overview (100 words)

PART C – Selection Criteria

CRITERION 1 – Have demonstrated excellence, innovation and impact in a field of academia /research or industry R&D (500 words)

CRITERION 2 – Have clearly demonstrated a track record of substantial ability to foster research-industry collaboration and knowledge transfer for the benefit of Australia (500 words)

PART D – Eligibility Criteria

CRITERION 1 – Graduate of an Australian university (the nomination should attach legally certified evidence of graduation from an Australian university)

CRITERION 2 – Age (PDF evidence attached. This includes evidence of career interruptions, if applicable, in the form of a letter from the nominee's employer(s) clearly stating the length and nature of the interruption)

PART E – Proposer Statement (300 words)

PART F – Seconder Letter

PART G – Nominee Statement of Consent

REFEREE FORM

The Proposer and Nominee may be called upon by the Selection Panel to provide evidence of claims made within submitted documentation.

The selection panel will only consider nomination material provided in the submitted nomination form by the closing date 9:00am AEST Monday 16 March 2020. Applications received after this time and date will not be considered.

All attachments should be named clearly, for example: David and Valerie Solomon Award Nomination Form: CITIZEN, Jane. Incomplete Nomination submissions will not be considered.

Only electronic submissions of nominations and attachments will be accepted.

Nominations must be lodged by email by 09.00am AEST Monday 16 March 2020 to solomon@atse.org.au

The David and Valerie Solomon Award Selection Committee is of the view that the confidentiality of information exchanges must be strictly observed and its deliberations will remain confidential.

All decisions taken by ATSE shall be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

In accordance with the Privacy Act, ATSE protects the privacy and security of information provided by you. By completing this form, you agree to the use of your personal information by ATSE for purposes related to the David and Valerie Solomon Award program; that ATSE may contact you about our products and services; and that ATSE may use this information for internal purposes. If you do not wish to receive further information, please email info@atse.org.au or call 03 9864 0900.

For advice or further information regarding nominations, contact:
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