

Undergraduate Prizes 2014–15

Francis Wright, Director of Undergraduate Studies, 16 June 2015

Summary of prize recommendations

First year	Mathematical Sciences:	████████████████████ ████████████████████
	Lois Hatton:	████████████████████
Later years	Wynne-Roberts:	████████████████████
	College:	████████████████████ ████████████████████ ████████████████████ ████████████████████ ████████████████████
	Reserve:	████████████████████
	IMA:	████████████████████ ████████████████████

Prizes available

The value of each prize is £100 unless a different value is stated. College policy is that we tell the main nominees before the degree ceremony and I will do so by email.

First year prizes (Lois Hatton / Mathematical Sciences)

The Lois Hatton prize is “awarded annually to a female student taking an honours degree course in Mathematics” and we have agreed to regard this as a prize for a female student whose home department is the School of Mathematical Sciences (and hence exclude students on GG41 and LG11). We can also award Mathematical Sciences prizes (funded entirely by the School). The restriction of these prizes to first-year students, as has been our practice in the past, appears to be at our discretion but is reasonable since there are no College prizes for first-year students. For consistency with later years, we have agreed always to award prizes to the best two first-year students. If one or more of these is female then we award the Lois Hatton prize; otherwise we award Mathematical Sciences prizes.

Recommendation

██████████ is clearly the best first-year student and is male, so he should be awarded a Mathematical Sciences prize. The next best two students’ results are very close (separated by 0.3%) and in my opinion indistinguishable. I recommend that we award a Mathematical Sciences prize to ██████████ who is male, and the Lois Hatton prize to ██████████ who is female.

Later year prizes

The Wynne-Roberts prize

As we discussed in the September 2014 School meeting, the University of London Convocation will fund a new undergraduate prize for Queen Mary Mathematical Sciences students from this year onwards. The *Wynne-Roberts prize* will be awarded annually and currently has a value of £400. This prize is significantly more valuable than any other undergraduate prize we currently award so we agreed to award it to a student who is in some sense best overall, and then not nominate that student for a School or College prize. Hence, we agreed to award this prize for the highest yearly average mark in the third or final year, with the proviso that no student can receive it more than once (so an MSci student awarded the prize in the third year could not be awarded it again in the final year).

Recommendation

██████████ is the best student and is in his final BSc year, so I recommend that we award the Wynne-Roberts prize to him and that we do not also award him a College prize.

College prizes

Prizes are allocated in proportion to student numbers and this year we have 6 to be awarded to non-first-year undergraduates. The sole criterion is academic excellence (the definition of which is not specified): finalists must have First Class honours; second- and third-year students must have yearly averages of at least 70%. We are invited to nominate reserves in case there are spare prizes left over from other exam boards. Because of the conditions attached to many College prizes, the actual names of the prizes will be determined centrally after the final allocations have been made. (Prize names are of no particular significance.)

Recommendation

We nominate the 2nd to 7th best candidates for College prizes and the 8th as reserve. The next best two candidates have equal yearly averages and we cannot order them so I propose that we do not nominate a second reserve. (In the recent past I don't think our reserves have ever won prizes anyway.)

IMA prizes

The IMA offers two prizes consisting of a year's free membership for "outstanding performance in the final year of their mathematics course".

Recommendation

We nominate ██████████ and ██████████.

Prize contenders

The following lists are sorted in decreasing order of the yearly mean mark for the current academic year.

First year – best 5 students:

Stu ID	Surname	Forename	Title	Degree	Average
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Mr	BSc	89.3
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Mr	BSc	86.7
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Miss	BSc	86.4
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Miss	BSc	85.3
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Mr	BSc	82.8

Other years – all students with yearly averages of 85% or more:

Stu ID	Surname	Forename	Title	Degree & Year	Average
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Mr	BSc YF	95.8
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Mr	MSci Y3	93.5
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Miss	BSc YF	90.2
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Mr	MSci Y3	90.2
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Mr	BSc Y2	89.6
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Mr	BSc Y2	88.0
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Mr	BSc Y2	87.4
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Miss	BSc YF	86.1
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Mr	BSc Y2	85.5
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Miss	BSc YF	85.5
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Miss	BSc Y2	85.0