

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Guidelines for Research Projects sponsored by the College

Any member of the College may approach the Research Committee with an outline project he or she believes would be suitable as a College Sponsored Project. In making such an approach the member should bear in mind that the College does not have research funds available for distribution and it does not sponsor projects which would be better done by Universities or Research Units. College Sponsored Projects are usually either concerned with a national question (e.g. manpower, practice, resources) or need access to the wide membership of the College or both.

If the Research Committee agrees to sponsor a proposed project, the proposer will be asked to join or form a working party set up by the Committee especially for that project. The Chairman and Secretary of the Research Committee are ex-officio members of all such working parties. The working party will be expected to design the project, find the necessary resources and steer the whole scheme to its conclusion,

whilst reporting regularly to the parent Committee about progress.

Any publication that may result from such a College Sponsored Project should make it clear that the project was indeed sponsored by the Royal College of Psychiatrists and the research workers should give their address as that of the College in London. However, the authors of the work should be named in the usual way, and they would be expected to take personal responsibility for the content of the publication, as it will not be vetted in any way by the Research Committee or other official College body.

Acknowledgement should normally be given to named College officials and staff. A statement along the following lines may be appropriate: 'This project was sponsored by the Research Committee of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. The methods, results and conclusions are the responsibility of the authors alone.'

THE COLLEGE'S MEDALS AND PRIZES

Gaskell Medal and Prize

In addition to the medal the award attached to this prize is £150. The annual examination for the prize will be held in April or May 1980. Entries should be sent in by 31 March 1980.

The Prize has always been considered one of the foremost academic distinctions obtainable in clinical psychiatry, and members are asked to bring it to the notice of suitable candidates at their hospitals who may be eligible to compete.

Full particulars of the Regulations are given below, and entry forms may be obtained on application to the Dean.

Regulations

The examination must be held in England according to the terms of the Trust.

Candidates must produce evidence of (a) having been qualified officers in one or more psychiatric hospitals or clinics in psychiatry in the United Kingdom or elsewhere in the Commonwealth or in the Republic of Ireland for at least two years; (b) having passed the M.R.C.Psych. examination or possessing any other degree or diploma in psychological medicine.

Candidates must be over 23 and under 35 years of age on 1 January of the year of the examination.

The examination includes a written paper, a clinical and an oral.

An entry fee of £5 is charged, returnable to bona fide candidates.

Research Prize

A College Prize will be awarded for Research.

The value of the prize will be £150.

A limit of two such prizes will be awarded each year.

No prize will be awarded if a sufficient standard is not reached.

The Examiners for the Research Prize will be nominated jointly by the Court of Electors and Research Committee.

Entrance for the Prize will be limited to Members (or Inceptors) of the College below the rank of Consultant Psychiatrist (or equivalent).

Reports of research carried out by candidates for the Prize should be submitted to the Dean by 31 March of each year. Reports received after this date will be accepted as entries for the Prize for the following year.