

UKeiG announces the winner of its inaugural Early Career Award

UKeiG is committed to encouraging and championing excellence and innovation across the profession with our prestigious awards portfolio. The Group also supports the continuing professional development of library and information students and early career professionals with a range of bursaries to encourage research, information exchange and best practice.

Last year we launched our inaugural Early Career Award to celebrate extraordinary and inspirational enterprise in early career professionals who are members of CILIP.

Earlier this year, David Ball, Chair of the UKeiG Management Committee, was delighted to announce that the winner of the inaugural 2019 Early Career Award was Natasha Chowdory, User Research Consultant at Methods, Information Technology and Services.

Natasha was nominated for the Award by Anna Brown, Information Specialist at Warwick Evidence. ‘Natasha’s ability to continuously seek out new opportunities to develop herself, both professionally and personally, make her an excellent candidate for this award. I continue to be impressed by her passion for the library profession, her strategic approach to her work, her commitment to her own continuing development, her intellectual generosity, and her fearless approach to life. She is also a tireless advocate for diversity, both within professional circles and in the wider world, and it is for this work that I believe she deserves recognition as an Early Career Award recipient. She draws on her personal experience as a female librarian of colour to raise awareness of systemic issues, to support members of other minority groups, and to model the types of progress which we urgently need.’

David Ball comments: ‘Thanks to everybody who submitted nominations for this award. We will launch the call for 2020 nominations in April. Any individual is eligible for the award if they have made a difference in their workplace or in the wider profession. UKeiG is looking for a level of professional commitment that has resulted in achievement beyond what is expected of their “day job.”’

Natasha will receive a trophy and £1000. 'What an honour! I've been given and searched for all the opportunities that have made this possible. I hope that people look at me and think, yes I can do that too.'

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the presentation will be deferred until later in the year, or early next.

For further information about UKeiG's awards and bursaries please [go here](#).