

## 2012 Science Communication Awards Winners

The 2012 Science Communication Awards were presented to Dr Chris Smith, Senior Research Associate and Consultant Clinical Virologist at Cambridge University (Established Researcher category) and Elizabeth Granger, a PhD student at the University of Manchester (New Researcher category).



Chris is better known to many as 5 Live's The Naked Scientist. A medical doctor and a clinical lecturer in virology, Chris has presented The Naked Scientists on BBC radio since 2001 and recently wrote a book on the experiments featured on the show. Sue Thorn, chair of the judging panel, said: "Chris' audience is in the millions. But what is key is that his programmes don't strike depth or detail." Accepting his award, Dr Smith described the various zany experiments that had enthused his listeners over the years, including proving that a chocolate teapot can be "useful" and measuring the speed of a sneeze.

Elizabeth is a postgraduate researcher at the university's Faculty of Life Sciences working on microtubule associated motor proteins. She won the New Researcher category for her numerous science workshops and the development of communication materials for young people. Key activities include decorating biscuits to look like either an animal or plant cell at the Science Spectacular Fair, a science themed stand-up routine for Bright Club, an online careers video and workshop and a board game about oxygenation of organs by red blood cells.

