The nominee must have had a demonstrable impact on ED&I through initiatives that have enhanced inclusion, promoted/valued diversity or created an environment free from discrimination. This may have, for example, been through promoting career development, minimizing unconscious bias or advocating/championing ED&I. Nominees should be members of the LMCB who can be held up as examples, through their impact either at the LMCB, UCL or in the wider UK community.

Nominees: Lotte de Winde, Agathe Chaigne, Louise Cramer and Sian Culley. All nominees satisfied the basic criteria – all had done significant work in their own time that benefitted others. We would have been pleased to give the award to any of the nominees. But we had to choose one.

Two had provided opportunities for career development that were considered examples of very good practice (Agathe’s organization of a local EMBO course on Laboratory Leadership, and Lotte’s online list of travel funding opportunities which has 73 entries and an amazing >9000 visits). These initiatives truly benefit everyone and are excellent examples of #simplygoodpractice.

Two nominations were particularly targeted to help underrepresented groups, so they stood out for this reason. Louise has identified a key difference in attainment between coursework and exams for BME UGs at UCL that has led to plans to adopt changes on three undergraduate modules in the division of Biosciences to counteract this. The potential impact of this work as it is followed through will certainly reach nationally if not further and credit will be given to Louise for initiating and carrying out a really detailed analysis. We really look forward to hearing more about this over the next 2-3 years. Sian has considered the challenges of a male-dominated scientific field and produced a simple online international database of female PIs in microscopy, categorized by speciality and visible through an interactive world map, in collaboration with the Royal Microscope Society - that has already had >2360 views and contains >50 names & locations of female microscopists. It is easy to add names to this using an online form. The existence of this list means there is no excuse for not knowing or inviting a female speaker or chair for future meetings in this field.

We therefore chose to award this first LMCB prize for outstanding contribution to EDI that has had international impact to Sian Culley.