Young Persons’ Lecture Competition final

The annual Young Persons’ Lecture Competition, organised by the Institute and co-sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Armourers and Brasiers and the Midland Institute of Mining Engineers, was held on 16 April at the Armourers’ Hall, London.

The seven finalists were Joe Nwaejike representing Northern Ireland; Hadeer Jawad of the South East region; Alison Patrick of the North West; David Marshall representing Scotland; Diana Edwards of the South West region; Sinan Al-Bermani from the North East and Ian Edmunds representing the Midlands. They presented a range of topics, including impact energy absorption using rubber balls and the design of hydrogel particles for the detection and removal of enzymes.

The winner was Al-Bermani, who is a postgraduate at the University of Sheffield. He presented a lecture on digital manufacture for medicine, looking at the advantages of layer-based manufacturing.

The runner up was Diana Edwards, studying at the University of Bristol. Edwards is investigating lime mortar/tesserae adhesion in medieval Italian mosaics.

Joint third place was awarded to David Marshall, who works for BP Aberdeen, and Ian Edmonds, studying at the University of Birmingham with Rolls-Royce. They presented methods of integrity management of an offshore production well and an examination of the oxidation of nickel superalloys, respectively.

The winner goes forward to represent the UK at the World Lecture Competition to be held in Florida, USA, in September.