

TMI Simon Curtis Postgraduate Prize 2026

The **TMI Simon Curtis Postgraduate Prize 2026** recognises outstanding student contributions to the tourism industry. This is an opportunity for the student to showcase their work, gain important recognition both for themselves and their university and make an impact in the evolving world of travel and tourism.

We are delighted that our 2026 Student Awards have the support of VisitEngland – the national tourist board for England.

Eligibility

- Open to all students on TMI Recognised Postgraduate courses
- Course leaders are asked to invite up to 2 students to apply for the 2026 Award

Submission Requirements

Applicants are invited to submit the following:

- A 5 minute narrated PowerPoint video presentation (mp4 format) based on one of the below:
 - Final year consultancy project
 - Independent research project
 - Professional placement
 - Organisation of an event

The chosen topic above must relate to a specific tourism destination (can be a city, region, country or rural destination) and the presentation should highlight the relevance to the destination and/or the destination management organisation.

- A brief testimonial (maximum 100 words) from their course leader supporting the submission.

Format

Submit a digital presentation file as a narrated PowerPoint video (mp4 format), 5 minutes in length, along with a pdf version of the PowerPoint presentation.

Presentation should include:

- Introduction: introduce yourself and the presentation purpose
- Main content
- Conclusion: a summary slide at the end
- Length: 5 minutes

Judging Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Innovation and creativity – originality of ideas/approach
- Relevance – connection to current or future trends in tourism

- Practical Impact – real-word application or benefit to the industry
- Clarity & Presentation – Professionalism, communication and overall quality

We are delighted that VisitEngland will be part of our judging panel for our 2026 Student Awards.

The Award includes:

- A one-to-one professional mentor meeting with an experienced destination practitioner which will deliver valuable career advice
- A complimentary delegate place at the 2026 TMI Annual Convention to hear the latest developments in destination management and be able to network with leading professionals in the sector
- A small bursary will be available to cover reasonable UK public transport travel costs to attend the event
- One year's FREE Associate membership of TMI, the voice of destination management
- Opportunity to write a blog piece about your submission for publication on the TMI website
- A certificate recognising your achievement
- Be featured in a TMI Press Release to showcase your achievement and that of your University's recognised course.

Key Dates

Applications open	Wednesday 22 April 2026
University confirms applicant names	Friday 22 May 2026 (Maximum 2 applicants per institution)
Course leader submits application/s	Friday 26 June 2026
Finalists announced	September 2026

Please email:

1. Applicant names (up to 2) **By 1700 hrs Friday 22 May 2026**
2. Award Applications **By 1700 hrs Friday 26 June 2026**

To: Joyce Cawthorpe, Project Manager (HE Recognition Scheme), TMI
E: joyce@ricconsulting.co.uk

APPLICATION COVER SHEET - TMI Simon Curtis Postgraduate Prize 2026

Student Name		
Course Title		
University Name		
Name of Course Leader		
Student University Email & Mob No		
Tutor University Email & Mob No		
Student Signed		Date
Tutor Signed		Date

Written introduction from the student applicant – Appendix 1

Student applicant to submit a short explanation (maximum 100 words) outlining why they have chosen this topic.

Testimonial – Appendix 2

The course leader is asked to attach a short quote (maximum 100 words) supporting the students' application.

Please email the application to include:

1. This completed and signed application cover sheet
2. Written introduction (as above) – Appendix 1
3. Testimonial – Appendix 2
4. Narrated PowerPoint video presentation – mp4 format
5. Pdf version of the PowerPoint presentation

Joyce Cawthorpe E: joyce@ricconsulting.co.uk by **1700 hrs on Friday 26 June 2026**