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# Edinburgh biologists win L'Oreal fellowships

*28 July 2008*  
*Life Sciences team*

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**Two researchers at the University of Edinburgh have beaten more than 100 applicants from the UK and Ireland to win L'Oreal fellowships for Women in Science.**

Dr Sarah Reece and Dr Ashleigh Griffin, both biologists, are among four overall winners, and each receive £15,000 from the cosmetics company to support their ongoing research.

The researchers were among eight shortlisted candidates chosen from 120 applicants. They were each independently awarded the fellowships after impressing a line-up of judges including Baroness Susan Greenfield, brain expert and director of the Royal Institution, and Hugh Pennington, the food safety expert best known for chairing the Pennington Group enquiry into an E.Coli outbreak in Scotland in 1996.

Dr Reece plans to use her prize money to further her research on malaria parasites. Dr Griffin will use her award to support research on microbial diseases.

Following an award ceremony in London, Dr Reece said:

"I'm delighted to have won this award, which recognises the contribution made by women to science.

"Also, it's fantastic that two researchers from the University of Edinburgh have been chosen independently as winners."

The annual awards were supported by Unesco, the Royal Institution of Great Britain, and the UK Resource Centre for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology.

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