

AAOU MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

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PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATION AND THE ADJUDICATION PROCESS

Each year, AAOU recognizes an individual for his/her outstanding services and contributions to the areas of open and distance education with the distinguished AAOU Meritorious Service Award. This prestigious award shall consist of a plaque and a citation.

The Executive Committee of AAOU will have the honour of selecting the recipient of this award based on dedication, effort and contributions upon recommendations by the Adjudication Committee. Presentation of this award shall be made at the AAOU Annual Conference.

1. Period

The Panel of Adjudicators will take a broad view of the meritorious services rendered by any person to the cause of Distance Education in Asia during the preceding decade or so.

2. Nominations

Individual academics or administrators may be nominated by the member institutions of the AAOU. Nominations may also be made by senior faculty (not below the rank of Full Professor) working in AAOU member institutions. Nominees need not be restricted to persons presently working for or associated with the member institutions of the AAOU. Nominations must be signed either by the Chief Executive of the nominating institution, or by at least three Senior Academics of the AAOU member institutions. More than one nomination can be made. Each nomination must be accompanied by a statement of not more than 1,000 words describing the reasons for making the nomination. A copy of the nominee's Curriculum Vitae MUST also be attached.

3. Form of the Award

The purpose of this Award is to provide tangible recognition for exceptional service or achievement of an individual. The Award comprises a citation and a plaque of appropriate size as symbols of acknowledgement that will be presented by the AAOU President to the recipient during the AAOU Annual Conference.

4. Support

While it may not be possible for the AAOU to contribute towards the travel cost, accommodation and the local hospitality will be provided by the conference organizer. The recipient of this award shall be granted with free registration to the AAOU Annual Conference.

5. The Adjudication Committee

The President of the AAOU will appoint three to four members from AAOU institutions representing various countries to form the Adjudication Committee. The Committee shall be responsible to review the nominations and make their recommendations to the President of the AAOU.

The President will seek the endorsement and approval of the Executive Committee of AAOU for final selection of the Awardee. The President will announce the recipient of this award and inform the deserving recipient prior to the award presentation ceremony in the AAOU Annual Conference.

RECIPIENTS OF PAST AAOU MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

No.	Recipients	Year
1.	<p>Tan Sri Professor Emeritus Dato' G. Dhanarajan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> former Director of the Open Learning Institute (now Open University) of Hong Kong former President and CEO of the Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver former CEO and Vice Chancellor of the Wawasan Open University, Malaysia currently the Chairman of Board of Governors, Wawasan Open University 	1997
2.	<p>Professor Shinya Obi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> former President of the University of the Air, Japan 	1998
3.	<i>On the recommendation of the Adjudication Panels, no awards were made for these 2 years</i>	1999 & 2000
4.	<p>Professor Wichit Srisaan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the founding Rector of Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University, Thailand 	2001
5.	<p>Professor Tam Sheung Wai</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> former President of Open University of Hong Kong 	2002
6.	<p>Professor Ran Takwale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> founder Vice-Chancellor of the Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University 	2003
7.	<p>Professor Dr. Setijadi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> former Rector of Universitas Terbuka 	2004
8.	<p>Professor Kyoo-Hyang Cho</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> former President of Korea National Open University 	2005
9.	<p>Dr. Tong-In Wongsothorn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> former President of Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University, Thailand 	2006

10.	Professor Dr. Zhang Yaoxue ● President of China Central Radio and Television University	2007
11.	Dr. Weiyuan Zhang ● Head and Chief Researcher of the HKU SPACE	2008
12.	<i>No award was made for this year</i>	2009
13.	Professor Atwi Suparman ● former Rector, Universitas Terbuka	2010
14.	<i>No award was made for this year</i>	2011
15.	Professor Tian Belawati ● Rektor, Universitas Terbuka	2012
16.	Professor Emeritus Dato' Dr. Wong Tat Meng ● former Vice Chancellor, Wawasan Open University	2013
17.	Professor Asha Kanwar ● President and Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth of Learning	2014
18.	Professor Emeritus Tan Sri Anuwar Ali ● President / Vice-Chancellor, Open University Malaysia	2015
19.	Professor Grace Javier Alfonso ● former Chancellor, The University of the Philippines Open University	2016
20	Dr. Yoichi Okabe ● former President, The Open University of Japan	2017
21	Dr. Naveed A. Malik ● founder and former Rector, The Virtual University of Pakistan	2018

22	Dr. Yang Zhijian <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • former President, The Open University of China 	2019
23	Prof. Dr. Melinda dP. Bandalaria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chancellor, University of the Philippines Open University 	2021
24	Prof. Dato' Dr Ansary Ahmad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President, Asia e-University 	2022
25	Dr. Kam-Cheong Li <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dean, School of Open Learning, Hong Kong Metropolitan University 	2023
26	Dr. Zahid Majeed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of International Affairs, Allama Iqbal Open University 	2024