

Guideline on Selection of SMP ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS

INTRODUCTION

In line with the updated XJTLU Academic Excellence Awards (AEA) scheme, the School of Mathematics and Physics (SMP) adopts the AEA scheme and also keeps its own featured academic excellence awards to comprehensively recognize and greatly appreciate the contributions from all staff to the delivery of education.

These awards will be presented annually to those staff and students who have made outstanding achievements in the key areas of learning and teaching, research and impact, and teaching-related support.

CATEGORIES OF AWARD

All selection criteria will be given consideration by the SMP Awards Panel. Nominees should provide sufficient details and evidence to facilitate a thorough review by the panel.

**Nominees may prepare supporting documents based on but not limited to the selection criteria listed as below.*

Award Category	Selection Criteria
All-Round Academic Excellence Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing contribution and achievements in all-round aspects of academic, including learning and teaching, research, student advising, etc.; Demonstrable impact and value to the industry and society through educational practice; Dedication to the development of students, peers and the organization in alignment with the strategic directions of the university.
Teaching Excellence Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing professional development with regard to learning and teaching and/or learning support; Development in support and academic advising for students which fosters independent learning, critical thinking, and overall academic, social and cultural experience of higher education; Impact and engagement beyond the nominees' immediate academic or professional roles.
Teaching Innovation Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing initiative and excellence in teaching-related research; Demonstration in innovative learning and teaching for different contexts, through the deployment of new technologies, innovations in teaching methods and reformation of curriculum; The use of AI or other technical tools. Sustained development in learning and teaching which is adaptive to different situations.

Research Excellence Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing excellence with respect to research, research impact and research outputs both within and beyond national boundaries; Significance of the research in contributing to new knowledge and/or innovations in the discipline; Sustained engagement and collaboration with industry which leads to effective and sustained research application and cooperation.
Early-Career Researcher Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceptional potential in the fields of study, as evidenced by significant outcomes generated or the potential for significant contributions through their research; High level of novel and imaginative approach to research that pushes the boundaries of current understanding; Unwavering dedication and enthusiasm in actively engaging with diverse research activities and services.
Industry Engagement Champion Award (Newly Added)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrated excellence in industry engagement activities through impactful collaborations and partnerships that yield mutual benefits for both the community partner and the University; Extensive investment in innovative or creative engagement initiatives with significant impact; Exceptional contributions to enhancing the overall student experience through engagement activities; Demonstration of a commitment to sustainability and social responsibility through initiatives that promote environmental stewardship, social equity, and economic sustainability, showing a long-term vision for the positive impact of partnerships between the university and external entities.
Research Supervision Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of supervised research candidates and the range of supervision activity; The successful outcomes of supervised research candidates; Contributions that have influenced and enhanced supervisory practices among wider groups.
Teaching Technician Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for colleagues and for student learning, and the positive influence that has been brought about; Continuing contributions to the development of lab-related teaching.
Teaching Assistant Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for colleagues and for student learning, and the positive influence that has been brought about; Continuing contributions to the development of teaching assistance.

ELIGIBILITY

Nominees must satisfy the following requirements:

- Full-time academic staff from SMP;
- Full-time Master or PhD students from SMP (Teaching Assistant Award);

To be eligible for the Early-Career Researcher Award, academic staff should normally have obtained their highest degree within the past five years and have not yet reached the academic designation of 'Associate Professor' or equivalent. When a candidate's career was interrupted by non-academic engagements, the time requirement since the completion of the highest degree could be extended accordingly.

Nominations may only be accepted for one category of the SMP Academic Excellence Awards for any individual nominee in any year. Staff or students who have previously received a SMP / XJTLU Academic Excellence Award are eligible to be nominated again three years after receiving the award.

NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

All SMP staff are encouraged to submit their nominations for the SMP Academic Excellence Awards.

Please note that self-nomination is not permitted.

Students via student-staff liaison committees can make one nomination for each category of the awards with full consultation with student chair and co-chair of relevant committees. Nominations submitted by individual students will not be accepted.

Students who have serviced more than one semester as teaching assistant in the SMP can be nominated by the Module Leaders for the Teaching Assistant Award.

The SMP Dean or Deputy Dean will chair a panel of senior colleagues to review the nominations and recommend awardees, with eligibility limited to candidates' achievements up to the past three years at XJTLU. For School award categories fall into the XJTLU Academic Excellence Awards, the school winners will be further recommended by the School to compete at University level.

Appendix:

XJTLU Academic Excellence Awards Nomination Form

APPROVAL AND REVISION LOG

Date	Approval	Description
19 March, 2024	SSMT	Approved

18 March, 2025	SSMT	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Newly Added Industry Engagement Champion Award;2. Added the phrase about AI into the Teaching Innovation Award description;3. Modified nomination flow.4. Added self-nomination is not permitted.5. Added a clause underlining the awards selection will focus on a candidate's achievements over the past three years at XJTLU.6. Added student nomination through student-staff liaison committees related process.7. Removed School only award and PhD Research Excellence Award related contents.
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