

UST STUDENT AWARDS AY 2020-2021

POLICY STATEMENT

The University emphasizes student excellence in various human endeavors: academic, scientific, community development, sports and the arts, leadership, and teamwork, as well as gives due recognition thereof to individual students and student groups.

THE STUDENT AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Student Awards Committee shall be composed of the following:

1. Secretary-General, ex-officio Chair;
2. Registrar, ex-officio Member;
3. Director for Student Affairs, ex-officio Member;
4. a member of the Council of Regents; and
5. a member of the Academic Senate.

THE STUDENT AWARDS CATEGORIES

The categories of Student Awards are the following:

1. **Rector's Academic Award** for academic excellence;
2. **Pope Leo XIII Community Development Award** for active involvement in community development with partner communities or sectoral groups;
3. **Quezon Leadership Award** for exceptional leadership;
4. **Benavides Outstanding Achievement Award** for outstanding achievement in the academic or scientific field;
5. **Pope John Paul II Outstanding Achievement Award** for outstanding achievement in sports and arts (dance, music, theater, visual arts, literature, film and broadcast arts, architecture and allied arts, design, and military arts) field;
6. **St. Dominic de Guzman Award** for outstanding teamwork;
7. **St. Albertus Magnus Award** for outstanding research work;
8. **St. Thomas Aquinas Award** for exceptionally outstanding performance; and
9. **Tradition of Excellence Award** for exemplary performance of a student organization on a sustained level by having been granted the same award for five (5) consecutive years.

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GENERAL GUIDELINES AND CONDITIONS

1. Each nominating Unit (*referring to the Faculty/College/School/Institute/Office*) must have its own Screening Committee that, in the process of their evaluation, will already filter and sort the nominations according to the level of the award --- as COLLEGE CITATION ONLY, as COLLEGE-LEVEL Award, or as UNIVERSITY-LEVEL Award, per category. In this way, the University Screening Committee will early on have a clear view of the recommendations being presented for approval. Likewise, this ensures the significant role of the nominating Units in maintaining the high standards of the Student Awards.
2. The Faculty/College Screening Committee should be chaired by the SWDC, whose other two members include the Adviser of the Student Council and an Organization Adviser. The Chair of the Screening Committee must affix his/her signature on all Nomination Forms.
3. For verification purposes, the list of the Screening Committee members and their respective specimen signatures must be submitted to the Office of the Secretary-General, using a prescribed template (please see the attached copy), before the submission of the nomination forms and corresponding attachments.
4. All nominations strictly require the endorsement of the Unit, with nomination forms duly signed by their respective Chairs of the local Screening Committee, Deans/Directors/Principals, and Regents (when applicable). NO SELF-PROMOTED APPLICATIONS will be accepted for evaluation by the University Committee on Student Awards.
5. When submitting their nominations, the Unit must include a brief background of the nature of the competition/event which the students participated in and should already provide their professional assessment of the prestige level of the competition/event and the corresponding award received.
6. The nominee should be a student of *good standing* and has not been imposed a serious disciplinary sanction during the awarding year. This must be certified by the Dean, Regent, and Office for Student Affairs.
7. All the University level awardees shall receive their corresponding medals and certificates during the Student Awards Day, in May 2021. However, in view of government regulations, particularly on the prohibition of in-person activities, a virtual Student Awards Day may be considered; hence the medals and certificates will be distributed to the awardees through the concerned academic or administrative units.

8. College Level and College Citation awardees will be presented the corresponding medal/certificate of recognition during the Recognition Program of the nominees' respective Units.
9. All UAAP athletes and athletic teams (i.e., Most Valuable Player, or those with exceptional performance awards) nominated for the Pope John Paul II Award and who qualify to receive the award will be presented their medal(s) of recognition for the Student Awards. Otherwise, they will be awarded during the Recognition Day of the Unit that nominated them. Similarly, this holds to the case of nominees in the arts field (dance, music, theater, visual arts, literature, film and broadcast arts, architecture and allied arts, design, and military arts).
10. If a Unit nominates an athlete because of winning in a National or International Sports Competition other than the UAAP, the nominee who received a National award shall be recognized at the Unit level if it is below the Gold or Champion rank. With a Gold or Champion rank, the student receives the Pope John Paul II Award at the University level. If the award received is on an International Level, whether Gold, Silver, or Bronze, this shall be awarded at the University level.
11. Only those nominees who fully complied with the specific requirements of their category shall be included in the screening process.
12. All documents to be submitted by the nominating Unit should be arranged according to the sequence of the summary of achievements. These achievements must a) be limited to those that are directly related to the awards category being nominated to, b) are within the awarding period, and c) must be checked and certified correct by the Unit's Chair of the local Student Awards Committee.
13. The Student Awards AY 2020-2021 covers student activities from 13 August 2020 to 26 March 2021.

SPECIFIC GUIDELINES AND CONDITIONS

A. **Rector's Academic Award:** For Academic Excellence

This award stands for the University's recognition of consistent academic excellence – the primary objective of the University as an academic institution.

1. **Criteria/Conditions:**

- a. The nominee for each Faculty, College, School, or Institute should be a graduating student who has obtained the highest scholastic rating (general weighted average) for the whole program.
- b. The nominee must have completed at least 76% of the total number of academic units or hours required for graduation in the University. He/she must have taken not less than 15 academic units during each term unless a lighter load is taken due to justifiable causes as may be determined by the Dean/Director.

2. **Specific Guidelines:**

- a. The nominee's grades in the second term of the current academic year shall be included in the computation of the general weighted average.
- b. The general weighted average shall be computed up to the third decimal place. If two nominees from the same Unit have an equal general weighted average, both will receive the Rector's Award.
- c. With regard to shifters and transferees, grades of all academic courses, whether prescribed or not, for the program, shall be taken into account when computing for the general weighted average.
- d. For students taking a second academic program, only the academic courses prescribed for the second program will be taken into account when computing for the general weighted average.
- e. For students of the UST Junior High School (USTJHS), Education High School (EHS), and Senior High School departments, credits for involvement in extracurricular activities, as prescribed by the Department of Education (DepEd), should already be factored into the final scholastic average of the candidate. The Rector's Academic Award is conferred during the Moving-up / Completion Ceremonies of EHS / JHS or Commencement Ceremonies of the UST SHS.

B. **Pope Leo XIII Community Development Award:** For Active Involvement in Community Development with Partner Communities or Sectoral Groups

In recognition of the University's role in social transformation, this award is conferred on a student or group of students for active and exceptional involvement in community development programs or services duly recognized by the UST *Simbahayan* Community Development Office and the Office for Student Affairs, following a well-defined and planned advocacy, and a set of clearly stated Key Result Areas (KRAs) and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

1. **Criteria/Conditions for Individual Nominee:**

- a. The nominee must have been an outstanding enabling agent in any of the different phases of a community development program or service, specifically to the reasonable number of beneficiaries and sustainability as indicated by specific KPIs. This must be supported by a feedback report from the beneficiary.
- b. The nominee must not have failed in any course prescribed in his/her current academic program.

2. **Criteria/Conditions for Group Nominee:**

- a. The group must have been an outstanding enabling agent in any of the different phases of a community development program or service, specifically to the reasonable number of beneficiaries (not less than 50) and sustainability.
- b. The organization must not have been involved in any violation of the University rules and regulations.

3. **Conditions for the Award:**

- a) The community development program must be a continuous process during the whole span of the Academic Year or beyond and covering a scope outside the regular partner communities of the Faculty/College/School/Institute.
- b) The impact of the program on the beneficiary community must be outstanding, by percentage or number of expected results, as reflected

in the project KPIs. This must be supported by a feedback report from the beneficiary.

- c) When the community development program is limited to beneficiaries within the Faculty/College/School/Institute of the University, the individual or organization shall only qualify for the same award at the Faculty/College/School/Institute level.

C. **Quezon Leadership Award:** For Exceptional Leadership

Symbolic of the exemplary leadership of one of the great heroes of the Philippines and alumni of the University, the award is given to a deserving officer of a duly recognized organization of the University for his singular ability to lead and organize activities of meaningful significance to the entire University other than community service. This award is also given to a deserving student who has shown exceptional leadership in organizations outside the University.

1. **Criteria/Conditions:**

- a. The nominee must have exhibited exceptional leadership qualities, as shown by the track record, in the planning and execution of a project(s) that strongly promote(s) **advocacy** of the University.
- b. The organization outside the University must be of good name/ reputation and upholds the mission, principles, ideals, and values of the University.
- c. The nominee must not have failed in any course prescribed in his/her current academic program. However, in the case of a second degree, only the grades in the said degree will be considered.

2. **Conditions for the Award:**

- a. The nominee's project(s) is(are) innovative and not merely repetitions of his predecessors'. If the project(s) is(are) a continuation of previous programs, it(they) must be significantly improved or enhanced from the original.
- b. The impact of the project(s) must be on the national and/or international level. When its reach is limited within the Faculty / College / School / Institute, a Citation will be given; when its reach is

within the University, the nominee shall qualify for the same award at the level of the Faculty/College/School/Institute.

- D. **Benavides Outstanding Achievement Award:** For Outstanding Achievement in the academic and scientific field.

A tribute to the pioneering spirit of the founder of the University, the award is conferred on student(s) whose performance in prestigious national or international competitions, conferences, or congresses in academic or scientific field is aligned with his/her/their discipline/program and symbolizes the University commitment to excellence.

1. **Criterion:**

- a. The nominee must have, within the academic year, **won first prize (gold medal or its equivalent)** in a prestigious national or international academic and scientific competition sponsored by a reputable organization.

2. **Specific Guideline:**

Achievements received after the nomination process of the academic year will be duly recognized in the immediately succeeding academic year.

3. **Conditions for the Award:**

- a. To qualify at the University Level, the nominee should have won at least a bronze medal or a third place in a reputable international competition; or a gold medal or first place in a national competition.
- b. To qualify in the College/Unit Level, the nominee should have won silver and bronze or its equivalent in a national competition.
- c. Delegates and presenters in a national or international event shall be given a Citation, unless the College/Unit can demonstrate that being a delegate or presenter in such an event underwent a very stringent selection process, that to be a participant is in itself considered a rare honor. If such is the case, the same award is given at the College/Unit Level.

- E. **Pope John Paul II Outstanding Achievement Award:** For Outstanding achievement in sports and arts (*dance, music, theater, visual arts, literature, film and broadcast arts, architecture and allied arts, design, and military arts*) field.

A tribute to the spirit of the versatility of Pope John Paul II, the award is conferred on student(s) whose performance in prestigious national or international competitions, conferences, or congresses in sports and arts (*dance, music, theater, visual arts, literature, film and broadcast arts, architecture and allied arts, design, and military arts*) field, symbolizes the University's commitment to excellence.

1. **Criterion:**

The nominee must have, within the academic year, **won first prize (gold medal or its equivalent)** in a prestigious national or international athletic, literary, performing arts and visual arts, music, or design competition sponsored by a reputable organization.

2. **Specific Guideline:**

Achievements received after the nomination process of the academic year will be duly recognized in the immediately succeeding academic year.

3. **Conditions for the Award:**

- a) To qualify at the University Level, the nominee should have won at least a bronze medal or a third place in a reputable international competition; or a gold medal or first place in a national competition.
- b) To qualify in the College/Unit Level, the nominee should have won silver and bronze or its equivalent in a national competition.
- c) Delegates and presenters in a national or international event shall be given a Citation, unless the College/Unit can show evidence that being a delegate or presenter in such an event underwent a very stringent selection process, and being a participant is in itself considered a rare honor. If such is the case, the same award is given at the College/Unit Level.

- F. **St. Dominic de Guzman Award:** For Outstanding Team Work

This award is given to a student organization for its outstanding performance in organizing activities that are of significance to the entire University during the current academic year other than community service. The award will be given to a student organization for its outstanding performance in the promotion and execution of well-planned activities that promote **the strengthening of the Christian faith, exercise of virtues and sound morals, nation-building, or the strengthening of the family**, with clearly stated project objectives aligned with the SEAL (servant leaders, effective communicator and collaborator, analytical and creative thinker, lifelong learner) of the Thomasian education. It will be granted **only at the University level.**

Criteria/Conditions:

- a. The nominee must be a duly recognized student organization.
- b. The nominee must have an exemplary record of student activities, which also includes a project description, participants, beneficiaries, and accomplished teamwork form that summarizes the highlights of the team effort.
- c. The organization must not have been involved in any violation of the University rules and regulations.

G. **St. Albertus Magnus Award:** For Outstanding Research Work

This award is given to a student or group of students who excelled in research by winning as best paper presentation, oral or poster, in a national or international conference or symposium that is dedicated to research. According to research cluster, the award will be categorized, namely, Social Science and Education, Arts and the Humanities, Health and Allied Sciences, Science and Technology, and Faith/Religious Studies.

1. **Criteria:**

- a. The nominee must have, within the academic year, won the **first (gold medal or its equivalent)** prize in a national or international research

competition sponsored by a reputable organization; or whose research work was published in a reputable (non-predatory) peer-reviewed journal within the awarding year.

- b. For verification purposes, links that show the description of the organization and the published research work(s) must be submitted.

2. Specific Guideline:

- a. Achievements received after the nomination process of the academic year will be duly recognized in the immediately succeeding academic year.

3. Conditions for the Award:

- a) To qualify at the University Level, the nominee should have received the first prize/gold award in a national or international competition;
- b) To qualify at the College/Unit Level, the nominee should have won the first prize / gold award in a regional competition.

H. St. Thomas Aquinas Award: For Exceptionally Outstanding Performance

This award is conferred only upon those students who received the Rector's Award and any two of the other personal awards, namely, the Quezon Leadership Award, the Benavides Outstanding Achievement Award, the Pope Leo XIII Community Service Award, or the St. Albertus Magnus Award, either during the same academic year or within the whole duration of their program. The award is not open for application as it is the University Student Award Screening Committee that automatically determines if there is an awardee. However, the nominating Unit can formally communicate with the Committee if they have a sure candidate for the award.

- I. **Tradition of Excellence Award:** This award is conferred upon student organizations that have shown exemplary performance on a sustained level by being granted the same award for five (5) consecutive years.