

ORDER ON ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCTION OF ANNUAL COMPETITION FOR “EXCELLENCE AWARD IN TEACHING AT YEREVAN STATE UNIVERSITY”

1. GENERAL ASPECTS

1. The current order is approved by taking as grounds the provisions of 1.2 objective - “Improvement of Teaching, Learning and Assessment Processes” of the 1 Strategic Goal – “Quality Education” of “YSU Strategic Development Plan 2016-2020”.

2. The current order specifies the rules of organization and conduction of annual competition (hereafter Competition) for “Excellence award in teaching at YSU”, the aim of which is to assist in improvement of teaching methods, up-to-date techniques’ application, as well as dissemination of best practices.

3. The current order is confirmed, as well as amendments and additions are carried out by the resolution of Academic Council of YSU.

2. ORDER OF COMPETITION ORGANIZATION

4. The Competition is organized and conducted once per year.

5. The full-time, part-time and contracted teachers of YSU may take part in the Competition who offer at least 2 professional courses at YSU for the given academic year. The members of the Competition Committee, as well as teachers winning awards in previous year are not allowed to participate in the Competition.

6. The Competition is carried out by 2 stages:

a) On the first stage, in the academic year of the competition, the selection of candidates and the Competition organization is done. The Competition outcomes are summed up on May 16 each year.

- b) Aiming to disseminate best practices, the Competition's second stage involves a video-recording of the full cycle of one classroom course introduced by the awardee, which is conducted during the academic year following the first stage.
7. The Competition is held with the following nominations:
- a) 2 awards nominated for Physic-mathematical specialties (including the following subdivisions - Faculty of Informatics and Applied Mathematics, Faculty of Mathematics and Mechanics, Faculty of Radiophysics, Faculty of Physics, IT Centre)
 - b) 2 awards nominated for specialties of Natural Sciences (including the following subdivisions - Faculty of Biology, Faculty of Geography and Geology, Faculty of Chemistry, Institute of Pharmacy)
 - c) 3 awards nominated for Philological specialties (including the following subdivisions - Faculty of Armenian Philology, Faculty of European Languages and Communication, Faculty of Russian Philology, Faculty of Oriental Studies, Faculty of Journalism)
 - d) 3 awards nominated for specialties of Social Sciences (including the following subdivisions - Faculty of History, Faculty of Economics and Management, Faculty of Theology, Faculty of Law, Faculty of International Relations, Faculty of Philosophy and Psychology, Faculty of Sociology)

3. THE COMPETITION COMMITTEE TEAM AND THE TERMS OF ACTIVITY

8. The Competition is organized and conducted by the Coordination Committee (hereafter Committee) of Annual Competition for "Excellence Award in Teaching at YSU", in which Vice-rectors and Faculty representatives are involved. Each year the nominal list of the Committee members is verified by YSU rector.

9. The Committee defines its work-order and elaborates the candidates' evaluation standards.

10. For effective implementation of its activity the Committee is eligible to conduct listening and involve experts in the Committee works.

11. The Committee may hold meetings to complete organizational tasks on candidates' nomination, winners' election, the Competition conduction (award ceremony), etc. The Committee session is authorized to adopt resolutions if 2/3 of the list members are present. The decisions are made by the votes of present members with the principle of simple majority. The Committee's choice of the Competition winner is not a subject to publication until the day of the award ceremony.

4. COMPETITION PARTICIPANTS' NOMINATION ORDER

12. The Committee announces the terms of the Competition conduction and information on nominated candidates by 1 March of the given year. The candidates nominations are made by submission of a relevant application form (approved by the Committee) filled out paper-based or electronically (on-line).

13. The deadline for application submission is 31 March of the given year.

14. The Competition applicant has to provide the following documents:

- a) Application form
- b) CV
- c) List of the courses taught in the given academic year
- d) Models of classroom activities, e.g. interactive learning techniques and innovative methods application
- e) Students' scores (if available) of the given courses and academic year as feedback outcomes
- f) Examples of students' works presented during the course
- g) Letter of reference from the Faculty Dean or Head of the Chair
- h) Letter(s) of reference from other colleagues (not involved in the Committee)
- i) Letter(s) of reference from students attending the candidate's classes during the last two years

5. ORGANIZATION OF AWARD-GIVING CEREMONY AND AWARD PRESENTATION

15. The rewards of the teachers who have won in the Competition are done during the award-giving ceremony. The format of the ceremony is set out by the Committee.

16. The Competition winner is awarded a certificate along with a prize with the amount of 1 300 000 Arm Drams, including taxes provided by the RA legislation. 300 000 Arm Drams is paid within 3 days after signing a relevant contract, whereas the rest of 1 000 000 Arm Drams is endowed during the corresponding semester.