Distinguished Contribution to Chemistry Education Awards

This award, inaugurated in 2010, was set up to recognize outstanding contributions by a chemistry educator to improve the teaching and learning of chemistry at local and international levels over their career. The intention of the award is to honour both research and practice in chemistry education. In recent years the requirement was added that the recipient should also contribute to the chemistry education community, both local and international and contribute to the work of IUPAC.

The award is made every two years and presented at the ICCE conference. Up to three awards can be made at each conference. The award is recognised by a certificate and a plaque. All members of IUPAC-affiliated countries may consider nominating a leading figure in chemistry education research and practice or professional service to chemistry education in their countries or elsewhere.

Past award winners are:

2010: Peter Atkins, Oxford University, England
      Lida Schoen, CCE Young Ambassadors of Chemistry, Netherlands
2012: Peter Mahaffy, The King’s University, Canada
      Bob Bucat, University of Western Australia, Australia
2014: Morton Hoffman, Boston University, USA
2016: Kazuko Ogino, Tohoku University, Japan
2018: Supawan Tantayanon, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand

In reviewing the documentation for the award since its inauguration, three criteria emerge.

- Outstanding contribution to improve the teaching and learning of chemistry (research and practice or professional service) at both local and international levels over their career
- Contribution and active participation in international chemistry education activities
- Contribution and service to IUPAC (CCE).

Evidence will be presented that documents the international impact of the educator’s overall contributions to chemistry education, including both research and practice, or professional service, their participation in international chemistry education and contribution to IUPAC.

Up to three awards can be made at each CCE conference.

*It is important to note that the award was intended for educators who have made an impact on chemistry education in both research and practice or professional service over a long period of time. It was also specifically intended that their contribution has impact internationally as well as locally.*

Decision: Approved by CCE
Date: 24 Jan 2023
Procedures for the Distinguished Contribution to Chemistry Education Awards

Award Committee

A titular member is asked to chair the DCCE Award committee and two other TMs are invited to serve on the committee.

Award Process

The chair of the local ICCE committee will be advised of the need to make time for the presentation of the award at the conference.

An award announcement is made in October/November of the year before the ICCE conference with the deadline for submissions being February /March of the conference year.

The award announcement will be sent to NAOs of all IUPAC-affiliated countries and to members of CCE. The committee will meet to review the nominations and decide by consensus the awardees. The committee chair will liaise with the chair of the local ICCE committee and the chair of CCE regarding the presentation of the award/s.

The committee will arrange for the preparation of a plaque and certificate for the award.

Award Announcement

All members of IUPAC-affiliated countries will be encouraged to consider nominating leading figures in chemistry education research and practice, or professional service to chemistry education in their countries or elsewhere who, over the course of their career have also contributed to international chemistry education initiatives including IUPAC projects, the CCE and CCE conferences.

The announcement will list the criteria for the award and the nomination process.

Nominations will require:

- An official nomination form (available from CCE website)
- The nominee’s curriculum vitae (max 5 pages)
- A nominating letter from the primary nominator describing in 750 words or less how the nominee’s contribution to chemistry education aligns with each of the criteria for this award
- Up to two supporting letters (max 400 words each) from other relevant persons may also be included

Please note that anyone can nominate someone for the award, but self-nominations will not be accepted.

Award review

A review form will be used by the committee to assess whether the nominee has met the award criteria, considering each of the criteria against the evidence provided. The committee will decide the weighting of each aspect of the three criteria. If sufficient evidence is not available to show how the nominee has met all the criteria then the nominee will not be considered for an award.

Decision: Approved by CCE
Date: 24 Jan 2023