

CELSA Service to Society Awards

CELSA, as a consortium of European universities working together on research and education, wants to honour those colleagues of our universities who have performed way beyond their duties in order to service their community and mankind in general. In this way, CELSA stresses the importance of service to the community as a main task of universities.

Every year CELSA will award one to three CELSA Service to Society Awards. To **qualify for the award**:

- one has to be nominated by professors of at least two CELSA member universities;
- the nominee has to be a member of the academic staff¹ of one of the CELSA member universities;
- nominees are in principle individual persons; exceptionally the award may be given to a limited number of persons. Institutes and organisations do not qualify.

Nominations have to be entered jointly by at least two members of the academic staff of at least two CELSA universities, using a standardised [application form](#). The nomination contains the names and coordinates of the nominators and of the nominee, as well as a motivation of the nomination not exceeding 2000 words.

The CELSA secretariat will screen the nominations upon their formal admissibility. Admissible nominees will be informed and asked for permission to proceed with their candidacy.

A Committee consisting of the previous and the actual President of CELSA and the Secretary-General of CELSA will rank the proposals and will make a motivated proposal of the selection of the winners of the award(s). Each university will have the possibility to comment in written upon this selection proposal. The final decision as to the winners of the award(s) will be made during the yearly CELSA Board meeting on the basis of the proposal and the provided written comments. The decision of the CELSA Board is final and cannot be challenged.

Following **criteria** are taken into account in this selection process:

1. the nominee has to have carried out excellent research and/or excellent academic teaching;
2. the nominee has performed this research and/or this teaching paying a more than average attention to the need to service the community. Doing research or teaching which by itself (due to the subject matter e.g. medical research) has a positive social impact is not sufficient. To qualify, the nominee has to have gone beyond the professional exercise of his/her duties; a significant extra social dimension of service to the community has to be demonstrated.

¹ Academic staff is to be understood according to the definition in each of the member universities.

The service to the community can consist of special attention for the social, economic or cultural impact; special care for the weakest segments of the population; special efforts for broadening and deepening the information provided to the population and the related democratic decision making; it can amongst others take the form of a detached commitment to the service to the community, even if that is not beneficial to the own career or material conditions.

Timeline

Nominations are to reach CELSA secretariat before April 25, 2022. [Application form](#).

Nominees will be asked permission to proceed with their candidacy before April 29, 2022.

The Committee consisting of the previous and actual President of CELSA and the Secretary-General will make a motivated proposal of the selection of the winners of the awards by May 6, 2022.

The Universities will have the possibility to comment in written upon this selection proposal until the day before the CELSA Board Meeting.

Award

The award is honorific and does not imply any financial reward. A certificate of the award will testify the honour. CELSA and/or the member universities will make that the award(s) will be given due attention at a formal academic celebration.